



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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Griggs Park – Play Area Replacement

February 13, 2013 6:00 p.m.

Minutes – Meeting Two

In attendance:

Staff

Bryan Murphy
Mary Ann Hagen, Rec Services

Public

Larua Savolainen
Faith Krogstad
Mike Rausch
Meghan Manhatton
Christine Gorman

Benita Warns
Sara Bogie
Krista Hanson
Steve Jevning

Meeting began at 6:05 p.m.

1) Meeting 1 Recap

- a) Last meeting we discussed:
 - i) Project introduction
 - ii) Design process
 - iii) Analysis and Programming
 - iv) Additional park needs
- b) Traffic calming at Hubbard Ave and Dunlap St.
 - i) Accident report
 - (1) Four accidents in 20 years – 2 in last year
 - (2) Highest speeds were on Hubbard between Lexington and Dunlap
 - (a) Average of 24 mph
 - (b) 85% speed at 31mph (85% of traffic drives that speed or lower)
 - (3) Research shows that adding stop signs motivates drivers to accelerate faster and drive faster between stop signs in order to try to make up for real or perceived lost time.
 - (4) Suggestions
 - (a) Paint the Pavement – www.paintthepavement.org
 - (b) Contact Elizabeth Stiffler
 - (i) Elizabeth.Stiffler@ci.stpaul.mn.us
 - (ii) 651-266-6210

2) Concepts

- a) Concept Base
 - i) Safety – orient young kids away from roads...toward building
 - ii) Circulation – Remove mid-block entrance. Relocate walk to front door of building. Connect four corner of play area site
 - iii) Natural features
 - (1) Trees – are a distinguishing feature of the park and provide lots of shade. Preserve as best as possible.



- (2) Storm water Management – drainage issues from building runoff, play area is lowest point on block. Stormwater should be managed as best as possible on site.
- b) Concept A
- i) Equipment for 2 – 5 and 5 – 12 year old children in same container. Separate ‘pods’ across main walk to include items such as swings, sand play area, teter-totter, etc.
 - ii) Rainwater from the building roof could be captured in gutters and directed to a ‘dry’ stream with plantings and boulders. Stream could run through the site before entering storm sewer.
 - iii) Expand tree buffer
 - iv) A seating area could be located near the 2 – 5 year old side of the play container
- c) Concept B
- i) Separate play areas for 2 – 5 and 5 – 12 year old children.
 - ii) Create a ‘short-cut’ route through the equipment
 - iii) Stormwater could be managed with rain gardens at south and east side of site
 - iv) Expand tree buffer
 - v) A couple seating areas could be provided
- d) Concept C
- i) Separate areas for 2 – 5 and 5 – 12 year old children symmetrically oriented to a central water and sand play area.
 - ii) Provide a shade structure/ pergola/ arbor for seating area
 - iii) Art could be located at east end of play area as well as additional benches
 - iv) Expand tree buffers
 - v) Stormwater could be managed in rain gardens at the south side of the site
- e) Comments about concepts
- i) Keep chain link fence
 - ii) Like the 2 – 5 year old play area on the south – away from roads
 - iii) Like the pergola
 - iv) Concern about removing mid-block walks and directing openings to corners. Leads to conflicts with traffic and kids?
 - v) Like the idea of preserving existing walks, play curbs, and other items
 - vi) Like more trees
 - vii) Prefer sitting on benches, not rocks
 - viii) Picnic tables under trees would be nice
 - ix) Need activities for 12+ including items that adults can enjoy
 - x) Art in the raingardens would be nice
 - xi) Like the bench swing at Newell Park
 - xii) Want the park to be pretty
 - xiii) If art is visible from street, maybe that will help slow traffic down.
 - xiv) Areas under flexible bridge or decks is a nice place for kids to ‘hang out’
 - xv) Like the intimate feel of Griggs...maintain
 - xvi) There is concern about standing water
 - xvii) There is concern about having water in the sand play area
 - xviii) Like sand chutes
 - xix) Wet sand would be fun
 - xx) Need more shade in the play area
 - xxi) Like climbing wall at Teddy Bear Park
 - xxii) Friendly Streets on Charles Street has examples of traffic calming
 - xxiii) Planted swale may get trampled. An eastern stream may be more appropriate
 - xxiv) Perform a soils test
 - xxv) Maintain visibility at park

3) Next Steps

- a) Refine play area plan
- b) Identify Play Equipment
- c) Next meeting – March 6th