



CITY OF SAINT PAUL

Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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July 27, 2009

**Baker Recreation Center Play Area  
Analysis and Programming  
Meeting Notes – July 22, 2009  
Baker Recreation Center**

**Meeting Attendees:**

*Sharon Hendrix – Cherokee Heights Elementary; Maria McNamara and Carita Mariani – All Around the Neighborhood; Derek Johnson; Amanda Felion, Bev Wittgenstein, Dave Ronzani, and Kathleen Anglo – St. Paul Parks and Recreation*

- A. Kathleen Anglo of Parks and Recreation passed out the meeting agenda and then proceeded with introductions.**
- B. Kathleen Anglo presented existing conditions, site analysis, goals and objectives, and current play equipment trends.**
- C. Discussion/Comments/Questions:**
- a. Site Issues**
    - Concern was directed at the concrete courtyard between the gym and the pool (school district owned property) and how to make that space more usable as concrete is heaved and creates numerous tripping hazards.
      - a. Who ultimately is responsible for maintenance/ renovation of the concrete courtyard/ greenhouse area?
      - b. Kathleen will e-mail Hitesh Haria at School District to determine possibilities for renovation, ***but note that this is beyond the scope and budget of the current project.***
    - Steep slope: landscaping to minimize the slope on the steep hill to the north and east of the existing play area.
    - Concern about the drainage issue at the base of the building and extending down the sloped sidewalk and adjacent hill. Area becomes sheer ice in the winter and limits children's playing options and is the #1 safety concern.
  - b. Use**
    - Need to address the requirements of children involved in both the RAP/Head Start program and students at the school.
    - School has a 15 minute rotating recess schedule with 60 students per period.



- Construction schedule needs to be discussed to minimize conflict with school schedule with the last day of school on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Try to minimize impacts with summer school program.

**c. Community Involvement**

- Due to low meeting attendance, other options were discussed to encourage community involvement such as:
- Cherokee Heights is a bilingual school, 50% of student's families primarily speak Spanish. An interpreter would be required for a meeting with a parent/teacher organization.
- Home visits - Sharon volunteered to visit student's homes with some concepts and play equipment examples.
- Promoting the new play area by setting up boards and informal Q&A sessions at events at upcoming recreation center gatherings.
  1. Kathleen will setup a presentation of play area concepts and play equipment examples at the All Around the Neighborhood BBQ on Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M. at Baker.
- Providing children the opportunity to view boards and place "post-its" on equipment they would like to see in the new play area.

**D. Next Steps:**

- a. Meeting #2 – Concept Design – Presented at the BBQ at Baker on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 P.M.
- b. Meeting #3 – Design Development, end of August, date TBD.

**PLEASE REVIEW THESE NOTES AND CONTACT ME (651-266-6368) IF COMMENTS ARE INCORRECTLY NOTED OR MISSED COMPLETELY.**

Kathleen Anglo  
Project Landscape Architect