



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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August 9, 2016

McQuillan Park - Play Area Improvements

August 8, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

Minutes – Community Meeting #3

In attendance:

Staff:

Bryan Murphy, Parks Design and Construction Division
Alice Messer, Parks Design and Construction Division

Public

Ellen Anderson	Patrick Deignan	Jens Werner, Summit-
Mark Tande	Erika Herrmann	University Planning
Marilyn Natz	Steve Morse	Council, Executive
Ann Brockman	Charlotte McQuillan Strom	Director

- 1) Bryan expressed his apologies for confusion regarding the meeting date. He will make himself available for any questions on the concept plan and will continue to post information on the project website.
- 2) Project Review
 - a) The primary purpose of this project is to replace play area equipment. However, this is an opportunity to look at the entire park and provide other park improvements including walkways, benches, landscaping, and/or signage as funding allows. This will sustain the park for the next 20 – 25 years
 - b) Recap of community engagement process
 - i) Survey – Use of park, what needs updating, what people like, direction for type of equipment, indicated significant interest in tennis court
 - ii) Meeting #1
 - (1) Concept plans without tennis court – per Parks and Recreation’s System Plan
 - iii) Meeting #2
 - (1) 1 concept with tennis court and 1 concept without
 - (2) Play equipment options – interest in traditional equipment
 - (3) Preference to keep the tennis court
 - iv) Meeting #3 goal
 - (1) Review overall park improvements/play container layout
 - (2) Review play equipment plan
- 3) Review direction on artFinal Concept Plan
 - a) Keep tennis court

- i) Repair cracks
- ii) Repaint surface
- iii) Remove vines on fence
- b) Play Area
 - i) Bump out area at entrance for picnic table – Good visibility
 - ii) Bump out area to SW
 - iii) Selective removal of trees
- c) Additional landscaping at entrance
- d) New Ornamental trees
- e) Remove sidewalk entrances from Laurel and Mackubin to create central entrance
- f) Ornamental railing on Mackubin and relocated ornamental railing on Laurel
- g) Two of the Linden trees at the entrance can be removed in order to allow the others to fill out
- h) Preliminary Construction cost estimate

Site Preparation	\$ 15,000.00
Tennis Court Repair	\$ 15,000.00
Play Equipment and Surfacing	\$ 90,500.00
Site Furnishings	\$ 52,000.00
Landscaping	\$ 19,500.00
Total	\$192,000.00

Comments:

- **It was questioned whether the additional trees were necessary**
 - **The additional ornamental trees will help define the edge of the play area and provide shade for the benches on that side of the play area**
- **It was questioned whether a picnic table is necessary**
 - **Picnic tables were requested and supported in earlier discussions. It was also requested to add a grill. Parks operations staff indicated 1 grill would be sufficient and acceptable**
- **It was questioned how people would access the green space along Laurel**
 - **The ornamental railing would be relocated to the east along the Laurel side of the park. This will provide definition of space near the play area and open up the green space to the street. This may encourage more use of the open space in the southwest corner of the park.**
 - **The ornamental fence would extend the full length of the park on the Mackubin side of the park.**
- **Do the new trees encroach on the existing open space?**
 - **No**
- **Is there still a drinking fountain?**
 - **Yes. It is understood that the flow of the drinking fountain and hose spigot is low. John McQuillan of McQuillan Brothers Plumbing and Heating has contacted Bryan and expressed his interest in helping with the project. Bryan will reach out to McQuillan Brothers to see if this is something they may be able to assist with.**
- **Are any of the garden spaces being removed? Or moved?**
 - **None of the existing garden spaces are being impacted. Bryan will work with volunteers prior to construction. Volunteers will be in touch to schedule a meeting to coordinate efforts**
- **Where does the funding for this project come from**
 - **The funding for this project is from the Capital Improvement Budget sale of bonds. Maintenance funding comes from the General Fund (funded in part from taxes). Of the \$261,000.00, approximately 190,000.00 will go toward**

construction. The other portion of the funding is for design and engineering and a portion is retained for contingency. All funding will be invested in McQuillan

- 4) Play equipment
 - i) Traditional style
 - ii) Symmetrical layout with arch bridge between two towers
 - iii) Other bridge options between two other decks
- 5) Public Art Discussion
 - i) Literary options –
 - (1) F. Scott Fitzgerald
 - (2) August Wilson
Grace Flandrau
 - ii) Sidewalk Poetry
 - iii) Bryan will touch base with community when there are proposals to review. It would be nice to have a couple community members on the artist selection review panel

Comments:

- **One suggestion was made to highlight the process of how hard work has created the community.**
- **One suggestion was to include Garrison Keillor as part of the art**
- **It was confirmed that a literary theme to the art should be pursued for McQuillan Park**

- 6) Next steps
 - i) Construction documents
 - ii) Bid – January/February
 - iii) Construction
 - (1) We plan on 2 -3 months of construction and prefer to start in spring. This will leave the remainder of the summer for use of the new play equipment.