



CITY OF SAINT PAUL
Mayor Christopher B. Coleman

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Scheffer Community Center Community Advisory Committee Meeting #1

November 30th, 2016
6:00pm - 7:30pm
Scheffer Recreation Center Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

1. Community Advisory Committee Introductions
 - a. Roles, Responsibilities, and expectations of the committee members – See Agenda on last page for more information
2. Project Introduction
 - a. Project Goals
 - Expanded programming and opportunities for all ages and diverse interests: social and recreational spaces
 - Welcoming and inviting aesthetic
 - Improved safety
 - Flexible and adaptable spaces to help ensure a timeless building
 - Environmentally responsible design
 - b. Schedule – A result of funding allocation timeline
 - Design, Testing,
 - Building Construction will begin in 2018
 - Site Completion will follow in 2019
 - c. Tentative Budget
 - 2016: \$250,000
 - 2017: \$1,037,000
 - 2018: \$6,860,000
 - 2016: \$1,323,000
 - d. Community Involvement Results to date
 - Safe Summer Nights June 6th, 2016
 - Pop-up Cart August 8th, 2016
 - Project Open House November 16th, 2016
 - Most popular activities of interest: Family Parties, kitchen space, football, basketball, fitness space, track, soccer, multipurpose rooms
 - e. Preliminary Program Ideas
 - Building: Full Gym, Teen Space “Createch Studio” possible, Rec Check Space, Community Gathering Space, Kitchen –Commercial Kitchen being explored, Walking Track, Fitness room, Senior/Arts Space, dance/yoga, others?
 - Site: Football/soccer field with lighting, outdoor basketball, new play area, gathering space, horse shoes, kato, volleyball, tuj lub, others?

3. Initial Site Analysis:

Four site plan concept studies were discussed. Concept 2 was chosen as the most viable. Community Discussion regarding Concept 2 resulted in the following comments, ideas, and concerns (presentation slides attached for reference)

- Soccer balls go everywhere, protective fencing is preferred
- How to cross the street? People need to cross the street at Marion/Como intersection
 - Parks and Recreation has met with Public Works and communicated with Ramsey County exploring better solutions.
 - Como Ave and Marion Ave are county roads and maintained by Ramsey County.
 - The Como/Marion intersection is under study by the county although funding has not been allocated for changes
 - A crosswalk at Thomas is suggested as a way for people to cross safely
- Capping Galtier St. at Como is of interest to the city as it would slow traffic near the park and prevent people from avoiding the traffic light.
 - It also allows safer connection to the horseshoe courts
- Stormwater retention photos would help the committee understand look and what happens after a rain event
- The football field is planned to be grass, but synthetic turf is of interest to the group to lengthen seasonal use and decrease wear and tear.
 - Cost of a synthetic turf field of this size could be near \$1 million
- New fields would include site lighting, including for the fields and building.
- There are concerns about loitering
 - New lighting, security cameras, and basketball surveillance will be included in the building
- Frogs and frog habitat were discussed as part of the rain garden
- Dog walkers and lack of owner pick-up have been a problem
 - It is city policy to pick up after your dog and they must be on a leash
 - There is interest in a bag station like at a dog park
- Bleachers to watch football were suggested. There will be berms to deal with the elevation and grade change at football. This is a spot where seating could be integrated. There will be a sidewalk along the football field and the opportunity to set up chairs. The City does not maintain moveable bleachers for exterior spaces
- Fitness room is important. The fitness space will be similar in scope to Palace and Arlington, recent community center projects
- Larger meeting rooms and multipurpose rooms are important, seniors with wheelchairs and walkers need to be considered
- Multipurpose rooms adjacent to the kitchen is desirable
- Zoning allows recreation center / community center in this zoning district without adjustments
- 11-12 horseshoe courts are used and meet twice/week. Members park on the north side of Blair and Elfelt St.
- The new building will likely be 3-4 times as large as the current building
- Food service to football teams was discussed. Preparing food inside with a table outside would work. An electrical connection outside is preferred
- Storage for football equipment is important to keep the gear in good condition and organized
- Concessions were discussed. It would be desirable to have a window to the outside that is close to the kitchen to help fundraising efforts
- Commercial level kitchens were discussed. DSI and MN Department of Health licensing and regulations will be discussed further

- Cooking classes are of interest to the neighborhood and are popular in other neighborhoods. Hazel Park is an example of a successful program
 - Raising additional money was discussed
- Operating Budget was discussed. Longer hours, additional programming, and more staff are anticipated. The center is expected to be open 7 days/week
- Security cameras should be adjustable as other centers have blind spots. Consultation with vendors, parks staff, and police will happen to assist design
- 20-22 parking spaces are expected based on zoning code. Spaces may be decreased based on bicycle parking numbers
- A drop off/pick up zone close to the building is desired as an easy and safe way to access the building
- Baseball striping was discussed, keeping baseball was discussed
- Football and soccer will be in high use. The grass will be damaged early and have a hard time recovering
 - Grants from the NFL/Vikings/USA Football/Twins Community fund were suggested
- Access to a restroom from the outside when the building is closed is important to the neighborhood
- Diaper changing stations will be provided in both men's and women's restrooms, and a family restroom.
- Jimmy Lee facility charges for some programs. City recreation staff has not determined yet how daily programming and offerings will be run.
- A concern for the existing facility is that the basketball court on weekends is a disturbance. There is no staff surveillance and drugs are a concern.
- Programming will be based on community desires
- There has been interest in lacrosse at other centers, perhaps could be played at the new Scheffer
- How is the building kept in good condition when completed? Who is going to make sure the building is maintained and theft and vandalism are minimized.

4. Further possibilities for future engagement

- a. Seniors meet every 3rd Friday of the month at 11. Perhaps a 15-30 minute discussion
- b. Frogtown Neighborhood Association will put this on the agenda for a future meeting.

Community Advisory Committee meeting #2 is **Monday, December 19th, 6pm-7:30pm at Scheffer.**

www.stpaul.gov/scheffer for more information



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City in America

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**Scheffer Community Center
Community Advisory Committee Meeting #1**

Agenda

November 30th, 2016

6:00pm - 7:30pm

Scheffer Rec Center Community Room

- 6:00-6:10: Welcome and Introductions
- 6:10-6:15 Role and Expectations of Community Advisory Committee
- a. Meeting Process
 - b. Meeting schedule
- 6:15-6:35 Project Introduction
- a. Project Goals and Objectives
 - b. Funding and Schedule
 - c. Community Involvement Results To-Date
 - d. Preliminary Program
- 6:35-7:10 Initial site analysis
- a. Zoning and Site Conditions
 - b. Concept Studies
- 7:10-7:30 Listening Session, Q/A and Follow Up

Next Meeting: December 19th, 2016. 6pm-7:30pm

Visit www.stpaul.gov/scheffer for more information

See next page for goals, roles, and expectations

**Scheffer Community Center
Community Advisory Committee
Role and Expectations**

Project Goal: To create a safe and welcoming place for the community, that provides opportunity for people of multiple ages and interests. Scheffer should be visually inviting and connected, adaptable, flexible, accessible and environmentally responsible.

Objectives:

1. Who, what, why, how

The role of the Community Advisory Committee:

- Help to determine the community needs and desires for the site
 - *Action item- communicate with group(s) you are representing and solicit input*
- Review plan concepts and provide input on major design elements and themes
 - *Contribute constructive and respectful suggestions and feedback*
- Bring suggestions from community, stakeholders, and respective organizations to the attention of the project team
 - *Communicate via email and/or at meetings*
- Help communicate project progress to community members
 - *Act as the liason between project and community*
- Provide guidance to City staff on final design recommendations for the project
 - *Actively contribute through discussion at committee meetings*
- Ensure that the full range of issues are discussed during the design process

Expectations for Committee members include:

- Represent and communicate the community needs and desires for the site
- Respect for different perspectives
- Courtesy of one another
- Contribute in a positive way
- Attend every meeting or send a representative