



## CITY OF SAINT PAUL

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## Parque de Castillo : Community Advisory Committee #3 : Meeting Notes

January 27, 2016, 4-6pm - Room 212#, Wellstone Center

### Attendee (per sign in sheet):

Gail Merriam, Neda; Virginia Hernandez, Resident; MolliAnn Hernandez, Resident; Marjie Castillo and Lolo Castillo, Resident; Analita Silva; El Burrito Mercado; Tom Legeros, Westside Community Clinic

City staff: Dave Danielson, Wellstone Center Recreation staff; Ellen Stewart, Parks and Recreation; Bianca Paz, Parks and Recreation; Anne Gardner, Parks and Recreation; Karin Misiewicz, Parks and Recreation; David Ronzani, Parks and Recreation; Cheeneng Yang, Parks and Recreation; Randy Graff, Park Security

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Anne Gardner, project manager, started the meeting. Attendees introduced themselves
  - b. Project Goal reviewed: **Create a concept plan for improvements to Parque de Castillo to improve the play area and create a vibrant public space.**
  - c. Meeting Goals
    - i. Discussion with Park Security and police officers
    - ii. Review updated play area layout
    - iii. Review and discuss public artist applications
    - iv. Update committee on project status and Gilbert de la O Field project
  - d. Meeting schedule
    - i. The next meeting will occur in late March to have a public art workshop and open house
2. Concept Plan update
  - a. Anne presented to Cinco de Mayo committee January 12
  - b. Engineer RFP is out- we will determine final selection in early February
  - c. Updates to plan
    - i. moved walkway 5' so there is 15' space between the curb and path
    - ii. added more seating for picnic space (reduced the size of the splashpad)
    - iii. added more benches
    - iv. increase visibility – remove some of the plantings around the existing memorial
  - d. Comments: It was proposed to show the distances of the walking paths, mile signage for people that like to keep track of walking and running distances.
    - i. Anne replied that walking the proposed circular path at Parque de Castillo 11 times is a mile.
3. Gilbert de la O Field Project -David Ronzani, project manager, reviewed the Gilbert de la O project updates.
  - a. Soil testing on the test pits have been completed and a small amount contamination has been found in a soil sample from one of the pits. The soil clean-up will impact the project budget, but we will not be able to determine the specific impact or the extent of the clean-up until the construction process begins.



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- b. Mid Block Crossing: Determination to eliminate the bump out and replace with a marked crosswalk. The crosswalk will provide an ADA path between the Gilbert de la O fields and Parque de Castillo
  - c. Construction on the Athletic Fields to begin after the Cinco De Mayo Celebration.
4. Park Security Conversation – Randy Graff and Commander Hallstrom
- a. Review of site analysis and goals
    - i. Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPED) tools and guidelines are being used for Parque de Castillo to create a safe public space
    - ii. Randy Graff explained the role of Parks Security (Patrol 180 + city parks and respond to minor disturbances).
    - iii. Call 911 if there is an emergency. For non-emergency police line- 291-1111
    - iv. Committee comments were discussed about the frequent presence of people hanging out at the park with alcohol and at times acting disorderly. Call parks security if people are there after hours and conducting illegal/inappropriate behavior
    - v. Parks security recommended to install a Parkwatch sign with phone numbers
    - vi. Randy’s cell phone number is available to community (Contact Anne for details)
    - vii. People bring the dogs and don’t clean after them.
    - viii. It was suggested to install motion lights. Police officer approves the idea of motion lights.
    - ix. Police are available to come to the open house and any other community meeting.
    - x. Goal is to have more activity in the park to reduce the negative activities occurring
5. Play Area update
- a. Bianca Paz reviewed the three previous options
  - b. Based on committee preference and community feedback, she developed the concept described as “Colorful”
    - i. Play equipment is traditional for the age 2-5 structure
    - ii. Play equipment includes traditional elements such as spinning bars, climbing equipment, and spinners for age 5-12 on a modern structure
    - iii. Additionally, the colorful option includes a shade element that projects a colorful pattern on the ground
    - iv. Swings will be an alternate due to increasing construction costs
    - v. Colorful, sculptural benches and musical drums will be added into the 2-5 play area
  - c. Question about the rubber surfacing (poured in place) if it gets warm with the sun
  - d. There is some concern that the colorful benches are going to be used by the people coming from the liquor store and not by the children.
  - e. No additional comments about the play equipment
6. Artist Applications -
- a. Three artists responded to the RFQ which was sent to 15 artists. The list of artists came from suggestions in the survey, committee members, and artist in residence.
  - b. The three artists are: Craig David, Caprice Glaser, and Lori Greene.
  - c. All three artists have worked with our department in previous projects and are very good candidates
  - d. Committee Discussion
    - i. Caprice Glaser’s art work is playful and fun and relates to the play area and she is a Westside resident.
    - ii. Craig David, also a Westside resident, has very beautiful work, but may not be as colorful as the desired aesthetic

- iii. Lori Greene has very beautiful, colorful work and has many work examples that appear closer to the actual budget. She is the owner of a St Paul business, Mosaic on a Stick.
- iv. Participants expressed concern for what the end result will be with our budget
- v. Committee would like to see art that pays tribute to Nicolas Castillo
- vi. Committee also expressed that they would like to make sure that art work lasts a very long time- the current memorial has not held up very well over time. Anne assured that we will require the artist to use engineered drawings and have a conservator report on the art installation per the RFQ
- vii. Committee requested additional information on artists to see examples that are closer to the budget
- viii. Anne will follow up with the artists and ask them to give more specific examples of work that are in line with the Parque de Castillo budget. Anne will send the new submittals to the committee for online review and voting.

#### 7. Furnishings

- i. Anne briefly showed images of proposed benches and tables for Parque de Castillo

#### 8. Next steps

- a. Design staff will follow up on additional work examples from the artists and email out to the committee
- b. Parks staff will select an engineer for the splashpad and begin more detailed splashpad design
- c. Next meeting will be late March, 2016 to review the progress on art, splashpad details, and final play equipment selection
- d. Upcoming events –
  - i. May 7 – Cinco de Mayo
  - ii. Mid June – Bike, Walk, Roll-Westside tour

Visit ([www.stpaul.gov/parquecastillo](http://www.stpaul.gov/parquecastillo)) for more information and presentation graphics.

***This document shall serve as the official record of the community meeting and information shared. If there are additions or modifications that are required, please contact Anne Gardner via email [anne.gardner@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:anne.gardner@ci.stpaul.mn.us) by Wednesday, February 11.***

Notes by Anne Gardner, Dave Ronzani, and Bianca Paz- 1/29/16