

Minutes

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WATERFORD PARK PLAYGROUND PLANNING GROUP WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE WILLOWBROOK VILLAGE HALL, 7760 QUINCY STREET, WILLOWBROOK, ILLINOIS

CALL TO ORDER at 7PM

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP & ROLL CALL

Present: Ron Kanaverskis, G'nee Andrulis, Ramona Weigus, Wally Righton. Absent Jessica Fandre, Rich Cobb. Rich Cobb arrived at 7:20 PM.

BACKGROUND

Superintendent Righton discussed the following:

- Parameters of the project, including the budget of \$74,000 which has been included in the proposed FY09-10 Parks and Recreation Department budget.
- The six major play elements of that the best playgrounds include climbing, perching, bouncing, swinging, balancing and sliding.
- Recent trends in playground design now lead to addressing the childhood obesity epidemic. Trends are leading away from extensive decking in which kids climb up and slide down but rather encourage "accidental fitness"
- The fact that neighborhood playgrounds typically attempt to serve the needs of the 5-12 age group, though we are fully aware that children of younger and older ages will use it as well.
- Linking structures, allowing many entry points, encouraging use of imagination rather just rely on the thrill of high structures.

DISCUSSION – PLAYGROUND COMPONENTS

- The group reviewed information from the three catalogs from vendors in which the Village of Willowbrook has purchased playground equipment in the past: Landscape Structures, Game Time and Miracle Equipment Co.
- Mr. Righton indicated his desire to have the "footprint" of the new playground to be somewhat smaller than the current playground.
- The group expressed a general support for future consideration of the following components: stepping pods, ground level panels, multiple slides, climbing walls or steps, 1-2 swings, ground level balance beam, shade considerations and sand diggers. There was consensus that a whirl should not be considered in the project.
- Following discussion, the group agreed to further review the catalogs individually and be prepared for additional discussion and reach consensus on which two vendors to invite to make a presentation to the group in the near future.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Wednesday February 18, 2009 at 7PM

ADJOURNMENT

8:30 PM