



Watertown Park Commission Meeting

DeAnna Clemens
Terry Gallagher
Danette Painschab
Joel Skoog
Brad Kipp
Adam Pawelk

7/15/2020 - Minutes

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

Chairman Painschab called the Watertown Park Commission meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Wednesday, July 15, 2020 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Park Commission members present: Chairman Danette Painschab, Terry Gallagher, Joel Skoog, and Brad Kipp. Council liaison: Adam Pawelk. Staff members present: City Administrator Shane Fineran and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Christine Dammann and a representative from Flagship Recreation; Brady Pate. Absent: Commission Member DeAnna Clemens.

KIPP MOVED, SKOOG SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2. New Business

2.A. Approve June 17, 2020 Park Commission Meeting Minutes

SKOOG MOVED, GALLAGHER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 17, 2020 MEETING AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2.B. Sugarbush Park Playground Design Discussion

Fineran opened the meeting with a background on the Sugarbush Park Playground Design:

In the fall of 2019 the Park Commission held an open house regarding the planned replacement of the Sugarbush Park playground equipment. In the community feedback received, it was desired that the city explore the potential relocation of the playground container, improve pedestrian access, and desired amenities for the playground were discussed.

Over the winter staff worked with engineering and Flagship Recreation on a possible re-visioning of the park space that would relocate the container to higher ground on the west side of the park and provide trail access between Dutchman's Way and Madison Street SE.

The concept reviewed by the Commission in February could accommodate a container large enough to accommodate play features for children ages 2-5 and 5-12. At that time the Commission felt that the

concept developed at this stage was not reflective of the desired amenities that was discussed at the fall workshop and desired to work with interested residents some more. It was the direction of the Commission to host another open house or design workshop regarding what ultimately shall be installed as part of the playground replacement.

Some of the theses that came up on the fall open house were to keep the playground "simple" and "classic". It was desired to have items for younger children as well as older, have swings, and specifically a tire swing like feature, green space for play, monkey bars or climbing feature, no large "fort" like structure, but places to hide for imaginative game play, shade area, and seating.

A community input session was then opened. Community members Michael & Barrett Rupp & Rob Hanson attended the meeting. The Barrett family gave numerous ideas to items they would like to see in the park area; as discussion took place Fineran noted that the City may choose to install equipment and/or playground structures in phases according to budget allowances as the overall container size for the project is quite large at 3,000-4,000 square feet, also noting that the \$115,000.00 set aside for the project also includes excavation costs, which were estimated by Mr. Pate to be roughly \$30,000.00.

The overall opinion was that of previous meetings; seating, swings, climbing features, tire swing, a bike parking structure, and "old school" playground equipment such as slides and twirling features.

Painschab noted that the overall feel of the park should cater more to the 5-12 age group, with a small focus on younger age groups.

Mr. Pate suggested that the Commission continue to think about five main points for the age groups when deciding on which equipment to ultimately proceed with, ages 5-12:

1. Flow of continuous play
2. Slides
3. Height
4. Climbing
5. ADA Compliance

Ages 2-5:

1. Panels/Learning areas
2. Ground play and spinners
3. Height-low to ground
4. Small climbers/slides
5. ADA Compliance

Mr. Pote noted that most equipment should have a 20-25 year life expectancy. Mr. Pote also noted that he will be taking the notes from tonight's meeting and will be bringing a presentation to the August 19, 2020 Park Meeting so that Commission members will be able to review some of the items that were discussed today, as well as pricing.

3. Updates From Staff

Fineran noted that progress was going quickly on the disc golf course; grass seeding is taking place, signs are ordered and baskets are being installed.

4. Adjournment

GALLAGHER MOVED, SKOOG SECONDED A MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:36 PM.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DRAFT