

**APPROVED**

GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT  
999 Green Bay Road  
Glencoe, Illinois 60022

SPECIAL PROJECTS AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
7 p.m.  
Monday, December 17, 2012

Minutes

Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. and the roll was called. Present were Committee members Trent Cornell (Chair) and Andre Lerman. Also in attendance were Commissioners Bob Kimble (Treasurer), and Hilary Lee. Staff present included Interim Executive Director/Secretary Steve Nagle, and Director of Parks Rick Bold.

Members of the public in attendance include Glencoe residents Tom Ennesser, 253 Valley Road; Steve Gaines, 655 Greenwood; Barb Padiak, 1170 Terrace Court; and Seth Palatnik, 1191 Fairfield.

Matters from the Public There was no one present wishing to address the Committee at this time.

Discussion of Friends Park Renovation Committee Chair Cornell stated this meeting is a continuation of discussion of the renovated Friends Park which the Committee held a couple of weeks ago. Interim Executive Director Nagle began his presentation by showing how Friends Park is designed for two age groups. He stated staff has also had discussions with representatives from WritersqTheatre, a neighbor of Friends Park. Mr. Cornell stated replacing the equipment Friends Park with similar play experiences now require larger drop zones and swing areas.

Mr. Nagle continued his review of two designs, the Train, and the Globe. The Train design would let a child imagine traveling starting at a beach and then adventuring to mountain climbing apparatus. He stated the surface for both designs would be rubberized. The new design would not include a sand surface. Mr. Nagle stated much of the open space is on Woman's Library Club property. Mr. Nagle stated both designs include accessible play equipment. With the expanded footprint, trees will have to be removed and several evergreens will be planted at the renovated park. Discussion ensued.

The Globe concept was theme-based with WritersqTheatre as a neighbor. This design incorporates a U-shaped performance area for children to play on. With this design, a parent will always be able to see his child. There is also a rubberized surface in the Globe concept. Discussion continued.

Shade elements were included in designs. To a question from Commissioner Lerman, Mr. Nagle stated the rubberized surface is easier to navigate for children in wheel chairs and makes it easier for children to transfer to other accessible play pieces.

Mr. Nagle provided cost information for both of the designs. Mr. Cornell stated at this time there will be no fund-raising for the renovation of Friends Park due to the timing of the renovation. Mr. Lerman stated it was important to have the park renovated in the spring. Mr. Cornell stated Friends Park is a central location in Glencoe. Discussion continued regarding fund-raising possibilities and it was the consensus of the Committee that fund-raising after the project is completed is usually not successful.

President Retsky arrived at 7:31 p.m.

Mr. Cornell stated the rubberized safety surface would add approximately \$95,000 - \$105,000 to either concept. Mr. Nagle stated there are other charges which would need to be included, such as curbing and any contingencies.

Discussion ensued regarding the costs of the project and the useful life of the renovated park. Mr. Nagle stated the material used for new parks is different and should last 10 . 15 years. Discussion continued that the project could be done over a period of time.

To a question from Commissioner Lerman, Committee Chair Cornell stated there the fund balances have excesses and have each park renovated on a rotating basis. Mr. Nagle stated staff is currently working on the fiscal year 2013/2014 budget and still reviewing capital projects which could be deferred. He stated he has had conversations with the Executive Director of Northern Suburban Special Recreation Association with regard to special recreation funding which could be used. Mr. Nagle stated once a concept is approved by the Board, the project could take up to four months. Mr. Cornell felt it was important to have the project done correctly which will probably add completion time for the project. Discussion continued.

Mr. Kimble stated if the Board has a dollar amount then concepts can be developed according to a price point and possibly not having all the play pieces included.

Discussion ensued with regard to various aspects of each concept which the Commissioners would like to include in the renovated park. Mr. Cornell felt it was important for the Board and staff to have a preferred plan and then have that plan shared with the community. Mr. Cornell felt it was important to focus on one design and the play pieces and designs along with the budget. President Retsky stated it is important to have play pieces for children to spark their interest and not necessarily to recognize an architecturally significant building in Glencoe that would be incorporated in the renovated park.

Discussion ensued with regard to natural berms to make it easier to have the children stay in the park rather than having them run into a nearby street.

Mr. Nagle stated the next step would be to review the budget. He would like to review with the landscape architect budget numbers. He stated in recent conversations with

representatives with WritersqTheatre, its new building will be a much larger two story building and will be white. There is a conservation easement between Friends Parks and the Womanq Library Club property. The proposed WritersqTheatre new building will include new parking, service entrance and bays, and pedestrians' walkways.

Mr. Cornell stated he would like the staff to take the train footprint concept and get the budget numbers for individual pieces of equipment so some of the play pieces would not be completely customized pieces.

Ms. Lee stated synthetic rubber surfaces can get very warm. Mr. Bold stated rubberized surfaces can be made to adapt to weather and temperature fluctuations. Discussion ensued with regard to design elements for children will different disabilities and abilities.

Mr. Kimble stated this is an important project and the Committee and staff should consider what an appropriate budget entails. Mr. Bold stated there are some parts of the current Friends Park which can be re-purposed, such as the border and flagstone.

Mr. Cornell stated he felt the Committee should have one more meeting with budget numbers and then present it to the Board and community for further comment and discussion. As the process moves forward, it was important to have children look at the possible play pieces for their review.

Mr. Cornell requested that the next Committee meeting be on Monday, January 7, 2013 for further discussion with a focus on the train concept design.

In the center of the Globe design is a circular seating area; it was suggested that a seating area be incorporated in a revised concept.

Other Business There was no further discussion.

Adjourn With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m. on a motion from Commissioner Lerman and a second from Commissioner Cornell.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven T. Nagle  
Secretary