



Elk Grove Park District Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Vice President Biedke called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance: Vice President Biedke, Commissioner O'Malley, Commissioner Cooke

Absent: Commissioner Carlson, President Walz

Staff: Ben Curcio, Kelly Carbon, Tiffany Greene, Mark Kosbab

DISCUSSION ON NEWBERRY PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

Director Kosbab explained that the district's playground equipment is replaced on an 18 year cycle. This year the playgrounds at both Newberry and Clark Parks are on the list to be replaced. A survey was sent to the neighbors surrounding Newberry Park that illustrated three different playground equipment options and three different color schemes. The results for the playground equipment were equally divided with 14 neighbors choosing each of the three design structures. Option 1 was ultimately chosen for its climbing areas and play value. The color palette CK (Option 3) was overwhelmingly chosen by the survey respondents. The 2-5 playground has a playhouse feel and includes a shaded area. The existing playground structures will be donated to Kids Around the World. One neighbor did express a concern in the survey in that they liked the existing structure and hoped it would be replaced with something similar. However, a comparable design was not able to be found and no contact information of the resident was given for the district to provide feedback. Equipment and installation will be provided by the contractor.

DISCUSSION ON CLARK PARK PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT

When surveyed, 61% of the neighbors surrounding Clark Park chose Option 2 with its climbing features for the new playground equipment. The survey also resulted in color palette BH (Option 2) being chosen which complements the existing 2-5 structure. Clark Park is the larger park of the two being replaced this year and thus will be more expensive. The 2-5 structure was replaced in 2020. Director Kosbab explained that the plan going forward is to adjust the timeline and replace both playgrounds at the same time. Installation will be done in-house as well as some re-grading of the area to remove a retaining wall. Existing sidewalks will remain. An engineered wood fiber mulch, specifically used for playgrounds, will be used. Double swings will be part of the new equipment being installed at both Clark and Newberry Parks.

Commissioner Cooke requested that Director Kosbab provide more detail and specifications with regards to ADA in future proposals.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner O'Malley opened the discussion on a request to provide more pickleball courts for patrons. Director Greene responded that she held a meeting with staff to review and revise the open gym procedure. In the absence of an open gym attendant, an additional check in at the customer service desk will be required for patrons. Four (4) time slots are allotted to pickleball throughout the week. Staff conducted counts at various times and found that there were approximately 5 to 6 people waiting to play pickleball at any given moment which is generally less than staff sees for basketball or volleyball. Therefore, more courts for pickleball appear unnecessary at this time. Volleyball and basketball bring in more open gym patrons than pickleball. Non-resident rates are priced at more than 20% of resident rates. Director Greene noted that 3 players recently became fitness center members solely to play pickleball.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee of the Whole meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.