

Leisure Services Subcommittee

June 16, 2016

Enfield Room 7:30 pm

Roll Call: 7:34

Donna Szewczak, Mark Gahr, Amy Witbro, Bryan Codkowski, Kerri Montefort, Julie Moody, Sarah Correls, Jolene Boffman, Tom Arnone, Mary Keller, Shelby Kosa, Ashley Lebeque, Scott Rider, Scott Kaupin

Splash Park: Two Moms on a Mission

Reported back to the parent group that they needed a 501 C3 and then present to Council in order to start collecting donations.

Collaboration with town organizations KITE and Healthy Enfield.

Company they would like to work with is MCG/Raindrop Productions-they created a rendering

Water used on Splash Pad will be re-used

“Enfield Plays On” Increasing opportunities for play-Playful City USA (recognized cities)

The application is in April and KITE’s play campaign starts in September

Will get highway signs “playful city”, assistance from KaBoom and eligible for grants sponsored by them

Location is important – Enfield Central Library Playground is optimal-in conjunction with existing playground, can create another pavilion and kitchen that can be rented. Also thinking about plans if Library moves, turn the building into an early learning play center.

Challenges-baseball fields will have to move, not be eliminated.

Young people are going to Agawam, spending their summers out of town. It is time to focus on the youth.

The softball teams fought for those fields and they are difficult to relocate due to size. Girls’ softball are attached to their “home” fields. Maybe some of the areas that looked at for the Splash Pad Park could be used for the fields.

The price to move these fields can run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars due to the engineering.

Square footage-park can be done on the baseball fields 208 ft x 500 ft

The actual pad is 2500 sq feet.

Need to get moving on this project, splash parks have skyrocketed in popularity. Enfield is missing out on the commerce that one could bring in.

Bryan please have a conversation with the Shlatz family and see what their intention is with their property.

Brainard Park-roots of trees are starting to push the playground out of balance. It is not safe enough for small children because teenagers are causing problems.

Moving the 3 softball fields to Mancuso Park? Unreasonable money wise.

Cost is \$270,000.

Operating costs \$2-3,000 per year-includes maintenance.

Town are investing in future repairs.

Equipment can possible last 20 years

Enfield is in a tough financial spot due to budget cuts. We are thinking to offer a free park vs. a pay to play pool.

There are "Friend of the..." groups that help keep money coming in for the park. The rental money from the pavilion will also benefit the project.

The group wants the town's backing in the community for support and drive.

The group needs to partner with the softball community and work with them. They are very strong and the project will not get far without their support.

Mary Keller with planning looked at two other locations: Behind Stowe and where the old Green Manor Pool is.

Residents are also requesting cricket and lacrosse fields. Priorities and locations for need to be considered.

Looking at have to haves vs want to haves will help put together a plan that can work out well.

It will take a substantial amount of time to complete the project.

Back to Brainard-if it is redone and paid the correct amount of attention it could be a possibility

Eli Whitney and the Library are on the same parcel.

Many locations have been vetted. The list can be gone over again to see if any match the splash pad criteria.

Partnering up with a "Friends of" like other towns-they help maintain the parks, and that can help the town. The splash pad group should also consider a 501c and become a committee, able to replace members as time goes on, to make sure that the park lasts in good condition year after year.

Timeframe is 2 year plan.

Available land options can be figured out before next meeting-need engineer input.

Frequency of Leisure Subcommittee meetings is not decided.

Who will buy the land for the Splash Park? Enfield is on a very tight budget.

Privately funded has worked in other towns.

Adjourned