



**PARK SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE  
McNALLY PARK - PLAYGROUND DESIGN PUBLIC HEARING  
AT WEBER LEISURE CENTER  
ON  
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2015  
6:30 PM**

Present from Skokie Park District

Mike Reid	Park Board President
Susan Aberman	Park Board Commissioner
John Ohrlund	Executive Director
William Schmidt	Superintendent of Business
Mike Rea	Superintendent of Parks
Michelle Tuft	Superintendent of Recreation & Facilities
Stephen Ames	Landscape Supervisor
Jon Marquardt	Asst. Superintendent of Recreation
Ann Perez	Executive Administrative Assistant
Dima Kirland	Park Services Office Manager

Others Present:

Eva	Sam Rhodes	Seth
Crystal Johnson	Carmen Maldouado	Aaron
Jon Tichota	Saba Shahiel	Courtney
Damaris Ochoo	Gary Dolinko	Mary Schnabel
Kate Donegan	Jennifer Tichota	Cecilia Schnabel
Paul Ruffino	Jon Tichota	Kevin Schnabel
Syhia Mardonado	Lukas Tichota	Colin Schnabel
Nancy Mardonado	Lucas C.	

Commissioner Susan Aberman called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm, followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. Commissioner Aberman welcomed and thanked everyone for attending.

Executive Director John Ohrlund welcomed and thanked everyone for attending. He introduced Skokie Park District staff in attendance. He said all present will have an opportunity to comment on the playground designs presented.

Superintendent of Parks Mike Rea thanked the Middleton School children for submitting their ideas for a new playground design. Mike displayed the drawings and essays of the children at

the meeting. Mike stated the children had many different creative ideas that included zip lines, mini baseball fields, jet packs, ice cream stand and NEOS interactive system. The common theme was the kids wanted equipment to help them exercise and build muscle. Most of the kids asked for rubber safety matting. Mike then introduced Joe Brusseau of Brusseau Design Group, design consultant for the McNally Park playground.

Mr. Brusseau thanked everyone for attending. Mr. Brusseau said that the designs include 4 separate play areas. The options presented offer different variations; there are 6 different options from two playground equipment companies. The site plan will stay the same. The Skokie Park District staff recommends the design not include sand surfacing. The existing surfacing will be removed and replaced with rubber safety tile. Rubber tile is a protective surface and has a 10 year warranty, is easy to fix and is also fully handicapped accessible.

Mr. Brusseau said the old playground will be removed by KATW, a Rockford based company that donates the recycled playground equipment overseas, where it is refurbished and reinstalled in underprivileged areas.

Mr. Brusseau discussed the schedule of this project. Permits are required from the Village of Skokie and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRDGC) for approval. He stated that MWRDGC passed a new storm water ordinance for new construction last May. The ordinance has very strict guidelines and it may take 4 to 6 months to receive a permit. While waiting for the issuance of the permit, bids can be prepared and submitted and demolition can be scheduled. Once the permit is received, the construction should take 4-6 weeks from start to completion which will likely be in October.

Mr. Brusseau then discussed the 6 options displayed and asked if there were any questions. A question was asked if the kids' comments and designs were considered in the options presented. Mr. Rea said that they were. Someone asked if shade canopies can be added to the Landscape Structure and Mr. Brusseau said this could be done. Another question was asked about benches and Mr. Brusseau stated there will be benches all around the playground.

Mr. Brusseau then invited everyone to come close and view the boards and drawings of the 6 options. Comments and recommendations were made. Option 2 of the Landscape Structures was the most favored. Recommendations were to remove the climbing structure and replace with swings and to add shade canopies to the structure.

Commissioner Aberman thanked the citizens and assured the people that the different options will be discussed and a recommendation will be made at the Park Board meeting immediately following this meeting.

Commissioner Aberman adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

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Michael Reid  
President

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John V. Ohrlund  
Secretary