

Park and Recreation Commission
Corey Hill Playground
Design Review Committee

Thursday, April 28, 2016
Site Walk

Committee Members Present: John Bain, Daniel Lyons, Antonia Bellalta and Jean Stameris

Committee Members Absent:

Staff Present: Jessie Waisnor, Landscape Designer, Jessica Zarni, Administrative Assistant

Guests Present: see attached

- J. Waisnor thanked everyone for coming. The goal for today is to walk the site, J. Zarni will take comments and for everyone to feel free to point out concerns or ideas they have for the park.
- J. Waisnor stated that a tree inventory of the park was done by the Town Arborist Tom Brady. The only tree that will need removal is the fruit tree in the back side of the park behind the play equipment side of Corey Hill. J. Waisnor mentioned that some trees may need to be removed for design purposes, but it is not a definite.
- The site walk started on the active side of the park (where the play equipment is), the group walked through the entrance (without the water fountain).
- Ralph Spears pointed out a tree that should be removed, the 5th tree down. Tree has a few large limbs missing. (starting at entrance near water fountain).
- There was discussion on both sides for trimming down the trees blocking the view. People stated that it blocks the 4th of July view and other likes the trees and enjoy the bird life it brings to the park. Viewing of the 4th of July fireworks is on the overlook/sundial side There was a request for a flat grassy area. Something with no roots, just a flat spot for kids to be able to play ball.
- There was talk about maybe having a little basketball square of the kids. Some of the neighbors talked about how there once was one but it gets too noisy. That people come up here to enjoy the view.
- One resident wanted to stress how 7-14 year olds don't have a place to go in this park and maybe J. Waisnor could think of some things for them to do in this park or a place to hang out. The park currently the way it was designed is for younger kids.
- A resident discussed how the dogs get into the sand and maybe a fence could go around sand to protect it.
- There was a request to add two gates to the existing front fence on the playground side, she isn't suggesting gating the whole park but just the playground area. The

kids run out of the area and cars drive very fast down Summit Ave. There was a suggestion to call the Transportation Board and request a speed bump. There was talk about maybe painting the area green in front of the parks instead of a speed bump or even putting up those yellow people (slow down) up.

- A resident stated that this is a location people come to for the fourth of July, sledding Hills, people came to watch the Total eclipse, this park has a lot of potential and she would like to see a mixed age group to enjoy this park.
- The group moved along the back of the (active side) of the park towards the left side when facing the park. A resident stated that this is where she enters the park, when coming in from Mason Terrace. The group discussed the erosion blocks. There was talk about maybe incorporating a path into this area and maybe keep it erosion blocks but redoing the area.
- There is a request to stress natural play in the design.
- There was a request to maybe have a community garden.
- The group walked across from the left side of the hill to the right side. The group walked to where the small wall with granite blocks and has a very steep drop off. Another resident stated he uses this as an access point to the park.
- Some of the residents discussed keeping the rock in the middle of the playground; a lot of kids enjoy playing on it. The kids love nature. There was stress again on the point of natural play.
- There was a request for water play and keeping the water fountain. J. Waisnor discussed the new water fountains that also have a bottle filler and dog filler.
- The group walked across the street to the passive side of the park. The dirt area before the hill is where people meet to conjugate. There was talk about the November project meeting there. This area has a lot of wear and tear and the group discussed different options of what could go there. There is a need for something that can withstand wear and tear. There was talk about pavers or stabilized stone dust for that area.
- Some of residents discussed the issues with dog off leash at all hours of the day.
- The group walked down the hill to the bottom.
- Sledding was discussed. There was a request for doing something at the bottom of the hill to stop/ slow down the sledders, maybe continue the berm that is on the right to along the bottom. There was stress on this being a safety issue.
- There was a request for reseeding in this area.
- There was a request to keep the apple trees on the bottom of the hill near the stairs. The apple trees have a historic reference; they had apple orchards in this area.
- The group walked to the sundial.
- There was a suggestion of maybe using some type of resilient grass seed that can stand up to heavy foot use.
- There was a desire to have picnic areas on both sides of the park.
- There was a request to have some type of work out equipment in the park for adults to use.