

Park and Recreation Commission  
**Emerson Garden**  
Design Review Committee

**Two Site Walks**

Saturday, October 8, 2016 (1pm) and Monday, October 17, 2016 (8:15am)

**Present:**

Committee Members present over the two dates: John Bain, Nancy O'Connor, Joel Pedlikin, Stephen Burrington  
Staff present over the two dates: Erin Gallentine, Parks and Open Space Director, Kathleen Fasser, Landscape Designer, Jessica Zarni, Administrative Assistant  
Approximately 30 residents were in attendance over the two dates

**PRESENTATION**

The group met at the splash pad and K. Fasser gave a brief summary of the status of the project.

K. Fasser presented two Concepts which reflect the input received to date; baseline improvements that will be included in the final plan; and specifically for each concept the entrance designs, gathering/seating areas, play space and approach to fencing/gates, and spray pad. K. Fasser explained that the concept plan elements are interchangeable and the community input will determine the final elements to be included.

K. Fasser showed examples of the possible play pieces grouped into the following general types: rocks and ropes; tree houses; boats; ages 6 months to 5 years old; natural play; sculptural/imagination play; and swings and spinners.

**SITE WALK**

The group walked the site and discussed some specific alternatives and different aspects of the design including:

The splash pad – discussion about needed renovations; access path re-grading; and the alternative for a new spray pad

The entrance at Emerson and Waverly – discussion about the alternative of moving the entrance to be centered on the garden plant bed with fencing along the road

The memorial benches – discussion about them being kept and remaining in or close to their current locations

The Waverly side of the park – discussion about seating areas, picnicking and furnishing options

The entrances along Davis – discussion about improvements to include a short 14” ht fence and new, simple, lower garden plants to open views and keep the character of these signature spaces

The area along Davis – discussion about existing trees and plants; and general approach to new plantings

The Emerson and Davis corner – discussion about signage and the careful location of new signs; about the kiosk; and about the tight turn in the walkway

The playground area – discussion about the existing extent of the play space and one location for possible minimal expansion; and the enjoyment of the plants by the children

**Closing:**

Everyone was encouraged to attend the upcoming **Design Review Committee Meetings:**

**Monday, November 7, 2016** at 7pm-9pm, Town Hall: 5<sup>th</sup> Floor School Committee Room

**Tuesday, December 6, 2016** at 7pm to 9pm, Town Hall: 5<sup>th</sup> Floor School Committee Room

END