

Ridgely's Recreational Park Summary from March 30th meeting

Meeting started at 7:15 with 15 community members and Ethan Cohen and Sarah Hope. Summary of any modifications and clarification of original plans.

- Reopen back entrance at the northeast corner as long as it includes a heavy gate to match the other entrances.
- Move exercise/stretching equipment to other side in the back. Cap of the existing planter bed and take out triangular bed and wall to accommodate equipment. (Optional to have additional equipment added in the original location?)
- Bigger tree pits-----6 x 6 instead of earlier specs.
- Picnic tables under trees instead of small tables and individual chairs. Picnic tables should be heavy enough so they don't walk away if not secured.
- The long bench in the back must be either partitioned or have separators to not invite homeless to sleep there at night.
- Ping pong table is within the casino budget because it does not need a concrete base since it will be sitting on existing concrete.
- A new water line will be added to make the current spigot usable. (Old water line has leaks.) Spigot will have a locking device. Water is needed for the plants.
- No new water fountain will be installed because we can't ensure that the water is safe for drinking.
- Remove first wall on the left side when you enter the park in the southwest corner. (It's the tall wall before the brick planter bed along the walkway.)
- Lighting still needs to be explored. We like the federal lights but are they too dim? Currently there are two light fixtures but if one is the only one that they can get to work, is that enough light? Can we see other options. More research is needed. (If second light is not working, it will be removed.)
- The current plan showing a "wavy wall" where there is currently a brick wall has several options. Brick wall will be removed to the expansion joints. Even though a climbing wall is not feasible because of space requirements for safety, a musical fence or some interactive element without a need for soft padding below is preferred. Option is to put seating there because it already has two levels. Needs exploring.
- We did not discuss the sculpture in the center of the playground. Sarah mentioned that area could be left open for now with the thought of adding another playground item down the road? Is the soft padding poured over the concrete? If so, would that be an easy thing? Or we can revisit sculpture that is kid friendly. Needs exploring.
- Plantings will follow original plan, but Sarah could simplify them a little, if necessary.

All of the above improvements should be accomplished with the \$50,000 worth of city services paid for with the neighborhood casino funds.