

## Minutes of the Playground Design Committee Meeting – 10/1/2024 at 6:30pm at NL Town Hall

### Present:

Paul McCreary, Town Engineer

Stacey Breads

Beth LaGrange

Courtney Potter

Hannah DeLisle-Stall

Tistrya Houghtling, Town Supervisor (arrived at 7:08pm)

### Absent:

Peter McCagg, Highway Superintendent

Casey Lambert

Chris Ward

Craig Skerkis, Town Board Member

Alia Muadin

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Paul McCreary. There was no quorum at the time the meeting was called to order.

The committee discussed the following items from the agenda:

#### Item #1

Originally the plan was actually to move the playground. This was based upon the Master Plan that was developed. At the last meeting of the Town Board, one of the Town Board members brought up the idea that we leave it where it is. The basis for this is to limit modification of existing playground equipment to the best practical extent. This is now the direction that the Town Board wants to go. We can further discuss at the meeting.

#### Item #2

Gregg Carrol, LVCC Treasurer has been researching grants for the Playground. There is a grant from the Reeve Foundation that has the possibility of getting \$40,000 for the playground. Gregg decided it would be better to just apply for \$40,000 toward the playground resurfacing, instead of waiting for a decision on other equipment. A quote for the cost of the playground surface is required. I am working on that currently.

This grant cannot cover the building of a new playground but can cover the renovation of an old playground. This plays directly into Item #1.

Again, we can discuss other details at the meeting.

#### Item #3

Given what is already known about the costs associated with new/modified/updates/improved playgrounds, we may be monetarily limited to a single new piece of playground equipment and some modifications to the existing playground. Given that, and given our discussions to date regarding inclusivity, attached to this email is a piece of equipment for consideration. We can discuss this and other potential modifications of the existing playground at the meeting.

Tistrya arrived at 7:08pm, which made a quorum present.

The committee agrees with the recommendation from Councilmember Kroboth to keep the playground in its current location instead of moving it to keep costs lower and not have to move the current equipment that will be renovated or continued to use as is, freeing up more budget for new accessible equipment. The committee agreed that we should try to use as much of the budget as possible for new accessible equipment after the surfacing budget, parking spot creation and current equipment renovation budget and possibly have phase 2 and 3 for things like fencing, picnic tables, lighting, shade, etc.

It was discussed that the old splash pad is unsafe and unusable and the Town Board determined that the cost was too high to renovate it to bring it into compliance with current standards. The committee recommends demolishing the old splash pad and creating playground parking spots (with at least 2 ADA spots) along the road where the splash pad is between the fence line and the stream with cars nosing in towards the playground. The committee agreed that the ADA spots should be by the fence line, allowing access as close as possible to the ADA accessible surfacing of the playground from the parking spots instead of having to create an accessible path to get to the playground, or keeping the path as short as possible to decrease costs.

The committee discussed the shade gazebo that was budgeted in the 2024 town budget and the TB went out to bid for. The committee recommends the gazebo be ADA accessible with a ramp in and part of the gazebo with no benches for wheelchair access. They agree that in the triangle of maples is a good spot for the gazebo and possibly some tables and BBQ grills. The walking bridge should also be ADA accessible and in a similar area. The committee members will meet at the playground on Thursday, 10/10 at 6:15pm to walk the area and make a recommendation for placement of the bridge and gazebo. (Tistrya will invite Pete McCagg who will be helping prep the area and Charley Sears, park manager to the site visit – this wasn't discussed at the meeting but Tistrya thought of it while typing these minutes and it would get all parties at the table at one time to streamline efforts).

Tistrya will send Paul all gazebo bids received and he will review them for ADA accessibility and make any recommendations on bid addendums to make them accessible if they are not already.

Hannah DeLisle-Stall made a motion to approve the following minutes as typed: 5/7/24, 6/4/24 and 9/3/24. Beth LaGrange seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously (Peter McCagg, Casey Lambert, Chris Ward, Craig Skerkis and Alia Muadin absent).

Tistrya asked that all committee members email her as soon as possible with all volunteer hours put in thus far (minus meetings as Tistrya can get these hours from the minutes) for all research, document preparation, etc. done outside of meetings so she can include them as in-kind matches for the Town when putting in for the first grant reimbursement with NYS.

Tistrya Houghtling made a motion to adjourn at 7:40pm. Paul McCreary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (Peter McCagg, Casey Lambert, Chris Ward, Craig Skerkis and Alia Muadin absent).

Respectfully submitted, Tistrya Houghtling