

Parks & Recreation Commission meeting, September 8, 2016

Commission members in attendance: Joanne Baecher-DiSalvo, David Downs, Gene Calamari, Angela Reeve, John Dailey, Samantha Merton, Kendra Garrison

Presentation:

- (David introduces presentation) 9A project money allows us to address other projects and to decide what we want to do with the 9A space.
- We rejected original 9A proposal and have decided to address: tennis courts at Chemka which are in severe disrepair; Uniontown ball field (expanding the fences) and to address safety issues as well as number of parking spots; and to decide what we would be best for community to do with space on 9A.
- We are proposing a multipurpose grass space/field for sports on 9A.
- Achieving simultaneous movement of these three plans may not be possible depending on Trustees discretion; additional money may be needed.
- We have discussed with school administrators to understand limited use of Reynolds Field and Burke Estate – limited or no use through September 2017. The new tennis courts at Reynolds are in full use.
- The Hillside tennis courts were built in 1966 and have been patched and painted numerous times.
- (Gene presents Uniontown) History of Uniontown renovations and improvements
- Safety of children is number one priority: playground next to parking lot has been a hazard; in addition, we can try to relieve some of the stress on the neighborhood.
- Field is undersized and therefore cannot be used in tournaments and official games.
- The removal of playground from current location will at least double the number of spaces there now; the playground equipment is also in need of repair and renovation.
- (David presents 9A proposal)
- We are proposing a multi-use grass field which will be large enough for Youth soccer (U12/U11/U10/U9) as well as other field sports; space is not large enough for high school play.
- Public comments:
- What are the next steps? The Trustees need to approve the proposal, likely in December or January. We may also need to obtain additional money to complete the projects, which is estimated to 10-20%.
- HLL: Uniontown should be a priority/safety of children first.
- What is entrance/exit to parking lot? Drivers will circle through lot to drop off child and exit and/or park.
- Shannon Rooney: volunteered to make renovation plans; has designed parking lots through her life; not convinced that plan will help safety. More people coming to field; need to address parking lot turnover; address time between games; what about parking shuttles to/from the field? Do we have a guarantee that we will be able to host tournaments after renovations? 200' clearance in outfields are a must.
- Residents of Rose Street are concerned about traffic; while the plan may not completely eliminate congestion issues, it should help relieve parking as well as resolve safety issues.
- Get input for parking lot design.

- Upgrade playground and include best flow possible.
- Renovating the park will benefit the community substantially.
- Let's not get caught up in multiple iterations and instead let's move the projects forward.
- PRC: we believe that everything that we have put forward is from the village through input, so hopefully trustees will hear that. We have approved this proposal
- We live on Rose St. and we really want you to move the playground away from the parking lot.
- Let's make sure we think about the parking lot and let's not rush into this. We need to make sure it is done right even if it takes additional time and considerations.
- You have done a good job pulling together a good plan on the three projects – don't split hairs on how many additional parking spaces we get.
- Is it possible to make Prince Street a drop off area for the field?
- The simplicity of the Uniontown plan is really ideal.
- The whole area is a terrible area for walking.
- It's all going to come together – this is not the time for ironing out details.
- Let's come up with ideas to encourage parents to ensure safety of kids in the community.

Next Parks & Recreation Commission meeting: Thursday October 20, 2016