



MEETING NOTES

DATE: April 30, 2014

PROJECT NAME: Lafayette Playground Renovation

PROJECT #: 2014027

MEETING LOCATION: Lafayette Elementary School

PURPOSE: Community Input Meeting

SUBMITTED BY: Susan England, LandDesign

ATTENDEES: See Sign-In Sheet

MEETING NOTES:

Kenny Diggs and Ella Faulkner introduced the project, explaining the Play DC Initiative, the anticipated process and timeline, and brief overview of the project background to date. Ella walked through the existing site plan highlighting areas that will be part of the scope of work, then Kenny opened the floor to questions and input from the community on desires for the space. Following is the record of that input. ANC Commissioner Rebecca Maydak and a representative from Council Member Muriel Bowser's office also offered support for the project.

- No lights after dusk (consult ANC task force)
 - Appropriate safety lights – no glare
 - Dark Sky
 - What type of lights? Show samples
- Tot lot enlargement
 - Tot lot – age appropriate signage
 - Rubberize the ground surfaces
 - See 39th & Newark for example
- Natural theme
- Adventurous - Cabin John as example, zip line, higher slides
- Expand the area for older children
- Keep natural tactile surfaces
- Like Bovior as a good example
- Keep real trees vs. creating shade structures
- Natural surfaces –
 - erosion control,
 - Rock creeks
- Multi-generational
 - Adult fitness equipment
- Incorporate stormwater in design, make it playful, eg rain garden, etc.
- Playground should be dog-free – possible fencing
- Walking paths – maintain and expand
- Vehicular access walkway is creating water and erosion problems
- Access road – asphalt alternative
- Balance between open park space and playground equipment
- Erosion frames context – restore and maintain park
- Tennis/Basketball area – needs to be resurfaced- prefer softer surface
- Working water fountain
- Gates at the tennis court swing too fast – danger when windy
- Steps at the tennis court



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- Dangerous
- Kids slide- longer/taller
- Basketball/tennis area – year round, multipurpose
 - Roof
 - Seniors
 - Yoga
 - Weatherize
- Separate uses – dog parks and playground
- Kenny: Advance Rec. Center conversation
- Upper field – keep grass, trees, and paths- keep open
- Lighting – park is dead in winter
 - Selective lighting would allow kids more time to play
 - Maybe light just space between courts
- Upper field – multi – purpose sport area
 - Astro turf
- Upper field: now = dirt, mud when raining
- Quesada and Broad Branch – maintain open space
- Rec Center is the only place for children whose parents can't pick them up after school
- Heath of older trees – assess, maintain, replant
- Restrooms for families
- Responsible use of tennis court lights
- Maintain “open” qualities of the park
- “Rock Creek” theme?
- Friends of Lafayette Park- wish list
 - Erosion
 - Upper play area – artificial turf
 - Upkeep, replacement of existing walkways
 - More/expanded play areas
 - Safety lights
 - Resurface courts
 - Tree maintenance, new plantings
 - Refurbish gazebo– painted, pointed, repair light
 - Maintenance
 - Rec Center upgrade
- Quesada and 33rd @ tennis court
- Current project underway to install permeable paving and rain garden on Quesada adjacent tennis courts
- Natural play spaces and materials
- Risk-based play
- Maintain park
- Appropriate staffing for rec center- engage the kids
- Track resurfacing- softer material but something also ok for bikes
- Artificial surface @ community center is too hot
- Zoysia grass at Upper Field (tough species)
- Interpretive signs
- St. Columbus Park as natural examples
- Limit use of grass areas in rain/wet
 - Let field rest, “self police”
 - Field usage/rules sign
- Engineered “natural” surface for playground (not just mulch)
- Joint maintenance – FOLP, DGS/DPR



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- Tennis court signup posted (DPR permitting)
- Outside water fountain
- Stage park closure to coordinate with other local construction projects
 - Park
 - School modernization
 - RiverSmart project
 - Quesada street
- Permeable materials for paths
- Restrict parking access at alley
- Existing light at Rec. Center is too bright
- Vehicular access is misused and used by unauthorized vehicles
- Protect play areas from use by dogs
- Adjacent lots should get weighted input on tennis court lighting decision
- Canvas envelope
 - Dog park
 - Lights at tennis and basketball court
- Manage trash- additional pickups, better timed pickups
- Trash education campaign
- Use softer surface materials at tennis court area
- Rock creek theme
- Mike Q (school)
- L. P. team
- Street team
- Question about project duration
- E-sign or app for coordinating tennis court availability
- Solar panels to light tennis courts
- Recycling cans – accessibility
 - Pathways
 - Swings

These notes reflect the author's interpretation of the events at the referenced meeting. Any changes or additions required should be submitted to the author in writing.