



**TOWN OF DARIEN
PLAYGROUND WORKING GROUP
MEETING MINUTES
June 29, 2023
CHERRY LAWN PARK**

ATTENDANCE: Patti Bumgardener, Curtis Butler, Susan Daly, Jim Farrell (guest-Parks and Rec Commissioner), Pam Garrity, Sarah Hunberger, Cathy Mulrow-Peattie, Ruth Zaccaria

ABSENT:

STAFF: Pam Gery, Director of Parks and Recreation

The group reviewed the playground designs and narrowed it down to 5 designs: 3 for 2-5 playground area and 2 for 5-12 playground area.

For 2-5 area: Creative Recreation, Burke, and GameTime.

For 5-12 area: ME O'Brien and Burke.

The general feedback was that these playground designs addressed the scope of work we provided and the committee is ready to begin finalizing the design for both spaces. Curtis Butler helped greatly with the accessibility component and provided useful feedback for us to consider, especially the width of the pour in play paths and the amount of general space to allow easy mobility within that space so that these guests can be present if not involved in the play.

There was other feedback about the importance of swings in both areas -- ME O'Brien design did not include swings in their design and the committee liked the structure but did not want it to come at the expense of this key feature. The same design did not have long slides, preferably two in the 5-12 area.

Committee members also cautioned the use of tube slides because the often are climbed on the outside and can be blocked inside both of which are potential hazards.

Because time was limited, the group opted to allow its members to provide feedback on an online document that was created on google docs.

No minutes were approved at this meeting.

Ms. Daly reported to the committee that some of the McGuane Playground parts are back ordered and that they are proceeding with the build and those parts are expected around 7/21/23.

Ms. Daly reported on the Lion's Club willingness to donate the post and rail fence to delineate a picnic area at McGuane Park and to gift an additional \$5K to go toward a shade structure.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Pamela Gery, Director, Parks & Recreation

DRAFT