



**TOWN OF DARIEN  
PLAYGROUND WORKING GROUP  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
July 20, 2023  
8:45 A.M. VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING**

**ATTENDANCE:** Patti Bumgardner, Susan Daly, Ruth Zaccaria, Pam Garrity, Alyssa Mahoney, Curtis Butler, Sarah Baldwin; Sarah Hunsberger  
**ABSENT:** Cathy Mulrow-Peattie  
**STAFF:** Pam Gery, Director of Parks and Recreation

Ms. Daly called the meeting to order at 8:54 AM.

**APPROVE MINUTES OF APRIL 27, JUNE 8 AND JUNE 29, 2023.** The Committee approved the Minutes of April, June 8 & 29. Sarah moved the approval of the minutes; and Ruth seconded; all in favor.

**FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION ON POWERPOINT OF ALL PLAYGROUND**

**DESIGNS AND NEXT STEPS.** Ms. Daly asked the group if they had used the google doc that she created – this was to simplify finding information rather than trying to locate multiple emails. Ms. Daly encouraged the group to provide their feedback on the google doc to help narrow down our choices as we need to move forward in the most efficient way possible. Ms. Zaccaria preferred the in-person meeting to compare the big picture of the different playgrounds and feels this group needs to be more productive during our zoom meetings. Ms. Bumgardner will make a big effort to put her feedback on the google doc.

Ms. Daly reminded the group that at the in-person meeting they narrowed their choices to Burke & ME Obrien for the 5-12 playground designs and GameTime, Creative Recreation and Burke for the 2 -5 playground designs. She stated that this is not final but we need those that were not at the meeting to make suggestions and comments on the google doc. Ms. Gery suggested that she would reach out to all the vendors to get locations of where their current playground equipment can be seen in person. This will give the committee members the ability to get a good visual of the vendor's style of equipment.

**UPDATE ON THE PICNIC GROVE AND INSTALLATION OF FENCE IDEAS**

**FOR LION'S CLUB.** Ms. Gery stated that she spoke to the President of the Lion's club and they are willing to install a split rail fence at the McGuane Playground to keep children from

wandering into the parking lot. They will also donate \$5,000 towards a shade structure in the picnic grove that we suggested to them as an idea. Ms. Gery stated that shade structures can vary in price from \$15,000 to \$50,000 and that her current operating budget does not have additional money so she would have to budget for it in the FY25 Capital improvement projects. The Lion's Club said that there is no deadline on the donation.

**NEW BUSINESS**, No new business.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Next regular meeting July 27, 2023 8:45 a.m. by way of zoom meeting

Next regular meeting August 17, 2023 8:45 a.m. by way of zoom meeting

Respectfully submitted, Pamela Gery, Director, Parks & Recreation

DRAFT