



**TOWN OF DARIEN  
PLAYGROUND WORKING GROUP  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 28, 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 8:48 AM.

**8:45AM PRESENTATION BY MIKE STANKINA FROM GAMETIME, ON THE PLAYGROUND DESIGN SUBMITTED FOR CHERRY LAWN PARK**

Mike Stankina from GameTime first displayed pictures of the existing playground structures and landscape at Cherry Lawn Park playground, adding that the existing gazebo in the ages 2-5 playground will be removed. He noted that the two existing Kompan structures would remain, in addition to the two Kompan spinning cup elements. The spring riders would also remain but be relocated next to the spinning cups along the right-hand side of the pathway. He confirmed that there would be no room inside the fence for picnic tables. He also noted that installers prefer not to install under the drip-edge of a tree so an existing overhanging branch would need to be trimmed. He presented the GameTime playground designs for ages 2-5. He displayed renderings on the screens highlighting various aspects of the proposed design. The swings would be ADA accessible. New equipment includes ADA zero G swings, a sensory wall, a merry musical, spinning seats, a merry-go-round structure, a discovery cave and a main composite unit, which would be ADA accessible through a small patch of poured-in-place surface. He noted that colors are customizable.

There was discussion regarding relocating the merry music element to an ADA accessible poured-in-place location. There was also discussion regarding adding a small amount of poured-in-place to one side of the main composite unit to create an ADA accessible area to the components on the exterior of the unit.

Mr. Stankina then presented the age 5-12 playground design. Elements include a main composite unit installed over poured-in-place, a main composite unit installed over mulch, an existing tire swing, a rock-climbing wall, and an ADA accessible swing set.

**9:20AM PRESENTATION BY NICK MCGUFFIE FROM CHILDSCAPES  
PLAYGROUNDS (BURKE) ON THE PLAYGROUND DESIGN SUBMITTED  
FOR CHERRY LAWN PARK**

Nick McGuffie presented the age 2-5 design, which includes the main composite unit with three slides, a four-seat rocker, a small climbing unit, a musical instrument component and a swing set. The poured-in-place routes to the ADA accessible swing, a spinning cup and the main composite unit. There was discussion regarding moving the poured-in-place to the musical element instead of the spinning cup.

Mr. McGuffie then presented the age 5-12 playground design, which includes a large main composite unit, an ADA accessible swing set and a climbing structure. The main unit includes three slides, a cargo bridge feature and multiple climbing areas.

Mr. McGuffie answered various questions from the group. He added that the playground equipment holds a 100-year warranty.

**DISCUSSION ON PRESENTATIONS**

The group discussed the design presentations highlighting various aspects of each presentation, noting that they will need to work on elements no matter which vendor is chosen. A decision will be made at a special meeting held on October 5, 2023 at 8:45AM.

**UPDATE ON MCGUANE PLAYGROUND**

The group discussed potential dates for the McGuane Park playground ribbon cutting and settled on Saturday morning, October 28, 2023.

**NEW BUSINESS** No new business.

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned at

Respectfully submitted, Tamara Eberhardt Office Administrator, Parks & Recreation