



**TOWN OF DARIEN
PLAYGROUND WORKING GROUP
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
October 26, 2023
8:50 A.M. Zoom meeting**

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

Ms. Daly called the meeting to order at 8:45 AM.

UPDATE ON CREATIVE RECREATION'S PLAYGROUND DESIGN AT CHERRY LAWN PARK.

Ms. Daly asked the group for their feedback on the proposed playground design. She also noted that she added multiple pictures of the Fred Wolfe playground in Orange, CT to her google document. Ms. Daly went through each update in the 2-5 year old area. Benches and picnic tables were added to the design. The group discussed various spinners because of the whirl that is off-line at McGuane. There is concern because the same spinner is in the proposed Cherry Lawn playground design. Ms. Mahoney also noted that Mr. Hollerbach would look into various other bouncy pieces of equipment. Ms. Zaccaria suggested having some sort of balance beam design or hop scotch decals on the rubber surfacing.

Ms. Daly discussed the idea of creating a patio and the extension of the brick walkway. She noted that John gave us quote of \$32,000 to create this space and that a brick fundraiser would set up to help pay for this additional space. We would also like to add a more accessible space for wheelchairs.

The group then had a lengthy discussion about the 5 -12 year old playscape called the Extreme Generation that Mr. Hollerbach is proposing. They also discussed changing out a bay of swings to implement a tire swing or saucer. They all agreed there are more questions that Mr. Hollerbach needs to address.

VOTE ON NEW MEETING DATES FOR THE YEAR ENDING 2023 AND BEGINNING OF 2024. Ms. Daly suggested that we meet weekly rather than bi-weekly because so many questions need to be addressed. Ms. Bumgardner suggested another on-site meeting with Mr. Hollerbach. We agreed to November 2 (on-site at Cherry Lawn) and November 9, 16 and 30, 2023 for the next meetings.

NEW BUSINESS, No new business.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Next Special meeting November 2, 2023 8:45 a.m. at Cherry Lawn in-person

Next Special meeting November 9, 2023 8:45 a.m. by Zoom meeting

Respectfully submitted, Pamela Gery, Director, Parks & Recreation

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