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Roberts Field Advisory Committee (RFAC) Friendship Park Playground Design- First Draft Public Input Session Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/12/18

Time: 6pm

Location: Chelmsford Town Offices [Room 205 50 Billerica Rd Chelmsford, MA](#)

Committee Attendees: Bill Askenburg, Elisabeth Bobrow, and Denille Ruth

Chelmsford Telemedia recorded and re-broadcast on Verizon 37/Comcast 39

Link to Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4BUENsFoGc0&feature=youtu.be>

Link to Agenda (prepared by Bill):

<http://www.townofchelmsford.us/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/02122018-3483>

Meeting Presentation Doc (prepared by Bill): <http://www.robertsfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/February-12-Public-Input-Session-Presentation-Document.pdf>

Bill convened the meeting of the Roberts Field Advisory Committee (RFAC) at approximately 6:01pm. Meghan O'Brien from O'Brien and Sons (OBS), the selected playground vendor and Steve Jahnle from DPW were both in attendance.

Meghan gave a brief presentation on the current design of the playground, including the thinking behind the design and many of the equipment choices, as well as her firm's approach to accessible & inclusive design. She provided numerous 3D renderings, an overview (CAD) design, updated equipment list, and current catalogue.

Steve Jahnle of DPW presented the current projected timeline & milestones were presented to those in attendance. DPW & OBS in agreement with RFAC they are all feasible and can/will be met.

- Has always been goal of DPW & RFAC to have open prior to school recess over summer

The meeting was opened for public input regarding the design & timeline.

Mostly positive feedback was received with some questions in regards to timeline feasibility, accessibility to and within playground (walkways & height within towers for adults to access 5-12 tower), why no lexan "bubble" to look out top of 5-12 tower (Meghan: doesn't wear well), life expectancy (Meghan 20+ yrs always able to renovate, retrofit & repair- OBS did Center school ~1999), capacity (Meghan 150-200), and PIP life expectancy & maintenance (Meghan: PIP does not require annual or biannual sealing, just replaced (in patches) when failing), desire for flat and "molded" seats so parents could more easily swing, if playground would be fenced (yes, similar number of openings- no gates as old playground, only gate would be in back for DPW large equipment access)

- Community members in attendance included but were not limited to Barry Jefferson, Ali Barnes, Len Olenchak, and Sean Sousa

The meeting was adjourned approximately 7:07pm. A regularly scheduled meeting of the RFAC to follow.