Roberts Field Advisory Committee (RFAC) Meeting Minutes

Date: 5/22/18
Time: 7pm
Location: Chelmsford Town Offices Room 204 50 Billerica Rd Chelmsford, MA
Committee Attendees: Bill Askenburg, Elisabeth Bobrow, Adelle Stavis, and Denille Ruth

Chelmsford Telemedia recorded and broadcast on Verizon 37/Comcast 39

Link to Agenda (prepared by Bill):
https://www.townofchelmsford.us/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_05222018-3663
Link to presentation (prepared by Bill):
Link to Meeting Video:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgSsdqrQde0&feature=youtu.be

Bill called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

No public input.

Update from Steve Jahnle/DPW:
- Site prep and contractor install going well
- All in agreement to flip hillside climber and rock area
- All in agreement to move covered bridge to outside the fence line
- Issue with trees in rear impeding gate access so DPW would like to remove 3 trees (2 elm and 1 oak), did offer to replant 3 new ones elsewhere in Roberts Field
  - Community member Jim Martin ok with elms, but not oak
  - RFAC members Bill & Elisabeth saw issue in person and are ok with removal, Adelle and Denille in attendance tonight in agreement to remove also
- Current plan on shade structure mock-up may not be to scale & won’t be moved.
  - Delay: est. arrival week of 18th
- Front entrance with old brick path least used and will have a swing-closed gate as it is nearest to road
- Old wooden benches are apart and DPW has them to be refinished/repurposed
- Committee to ensure he was able to match bricks for path
  *Elisabeth made a motion to accept all of DPW proposed changes, Adelle seconded and all committee members in attendance were in favor

Natural Play Area
- Most likely won’t be ready for playground opening on June 23 as installers are at the peak of their “busy season”
  - Irrigation sleeves should be laid based on design, don’t have finalized
  - Is Friends of Roberts Field (FoRF) fundraising all money for this “phase 2”?
-Community member Barry Jefferson in attendance expressed his concern this feels premature and FoRF needs to clarify with donors who wanted their donation to go specifically to this project within the park

Signage Update
- Little sign “living with wildlife” a possible title/theme?
- Rules sent to town to edit/approve
- Story
  - Multiple versions reviewed, feedback to Denille to do another version
  - Community member Amanda Goyette in attendance voiced her desire for signage kiosk to have a welcome and inviting nature

Log/Stone Steppers (To go in next to hillside climber in next phase)
- RFAC members feel the money spent purchasing GRFC stones ($18k) DPW would like for this area is too high and the same purpose would be better achieved using real rock
- Bill visited Le Masurier Granite Quarry Inc and scoured playground safety regs in MA - can use real rock, only have to account for fall zones based on size, estimated cost savings easily $10k (final price dictated by size, shaping, and installation

Natural Play Area completion to be added to timeline (July?). Want to ensure community knows it is not forgotten and in progress

RFAC member terms end June 2018. Discussion over need to continue, who wants to continue. Those in attendance agree more work needs to be done and continuity is a good thing.

Fundraising Update and Discussion
- Which sponsors to list on community build t-shirt & signage?

Review/discussion of community build
- T-shirt design
- Logistics & planning

Next meeting set for June 8 at 7pm.

Review of meeting minutes from 4/19 - motion to approve (Elisabeth) seconded by Adelle and passed unanimously provided Denille make spelling change.

Motion to adjourn (Adelle), seconded by Denille, and all in favor.

Meeting adjourned 9:39pm