

Minutes

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WATERFORD PARK PLAYGROUND PLANNING GROUP WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2009 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE WILLOWBROOK VILLAGE HALL, 7760 QUINCY STREET, WILLOWBROOK, ILLINOIS

CALL TO ORDER at 7PM

ROLL CALL

Present: Ron Kanaverskis, G'nee Andrulis, Ramona Weigus, Jessica Fandre, Rich Cobb, Wally Righton

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Meeting of February 11, 2009

DISCUSSION – PLAYGROUND COMPONENTS

The committee reached consensus that it was not interested in:

- Whirls
- Slalom glider slide as pictured in the NuToys 2009 catalog on page 40.
- Single spring bouncer units.
- Talk tubes
- Roller slides

The committee reached consensus its general interests for the playground as being a central climbing unit with additional play items on its periphery such as regular and tot swings, (either in separate bays or as separate units) and one tire swing. The committee was very interested in stressing a fitness component in the central unit in getting kids to engage in having a lot of fun while still getting a lot of exercise. An example of this was they were not interested in traditional overhead climbers but were intrigued with climbing apparatuses that could “trick” kids into getting a lot of upper body work while having fun in the process. The Ozone Climber in the Landscape Structures catalog on page 45 and net climbers and rock climbers like the ones in the Game Time catalog on pages 134-135 generated great interest by the committee.

Central climbing unit preferences

- Climbing rocks, climbing walls, climbing nets structures all generated a lot of interest.
- If tunnel(s) were part of the design, we preferred not having solid tunnels unless they were very short.
- Ground level pod stepping stones (varying heights) that link components of the unit were heavily favored.
- At least three or four ground panels – exact types to be determined, though steering wheel and shopping panels were clearly favored. Your suggestions on the more popular types are most welcome.
- Two slides – one somewhat higher. Mogul-type slides were not desirable.

- Innovative climbing apparatus such as Game Time Wave climber on page 97 and Vertical Ascent Wall on Landscape Structures page 95.
- One tire swing as either a separate unit or part of the central unit

Since shade is scarce at the park, the committee expressed interest in considering a treatment of providing shade with canopies (Landscape Structures pages 118-119) and (Game Time page 54, 123).

Periphery items preferences

- Swings – two belt swings and two tot swings – either as separate units or as one unit of four. We prefer single post swing units, like Game Time's on page 149 or Landscape Structures' on page 178.
- Balance beam/balancing component– either as a separate unit or part of the central unit

Also receiving support and possibly to be included as periphery items or part of the central unit

- Stand up seesaws
- Track ride – either as a separate unit or part of the central unit that are not connected to decking Two handed track rides.
- Units like the Stationary cycler (Landscape Structures page 175); Stand up Spinner on page 168 and GT Xcelerator (Game Time page 104).

The committee reached consensus that it wanted Mr. Righton to invite presentations from the local playground representatives from Game Time and Landscape Structures at our next meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE – March 11, 2009 AT 7 PM

ADJOURNMENT