



BRIGHTON PLAYFIELD PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENT
Minutes - Community Meeting #2
Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Aki Kurose Middle School

Meeting Purpose: To update the neighborhood on design development and to solicit final input on design elements.

Attendees: Parks: Randy Robinson (Landscape Architect), Virginia Hassinger (Project Manager),
Audience: Seven citizens.

Overview: A quick recap was provided of the previous meeting, and meeting minutes were distributed. The final concept was presented. It includes a new swing area for tots and younger: big kids”; a parent plaza, a large play area with play equipment clustered by age grouping with a large artificial climbing rocks and a separate sandbox. The play area has an archeological theme, to play into the existing Science Park of Brighton Playfield.

Randy presented options for play equipment which include:

- 1). Sitaline’s “Game Time” (a plastic experience)
- 2) NW Playground – this line includes “bones” to discover in play area and artificial rocks for a variety of climbing experiences. (Comments – also has an overall plastic look and feel)
- 3). Play Creation – lots of play elements in a tight space, nice panels with dinosaur information, includes a game to locate dinosaurs.

Discussion summary:

- I would prefer sandbox moved closer to parent plaza
- Benches should be angled differently to each other so there are options to avoid sun.
- Is there an edge? I have concern about a two year old running into the street (Answer: yes, there will be a fence)
- The mammoth element takes up a lot of room and may not hold attention very long.
- Can the old play area be left and a new one created? (Answer – no, while the overall play area shifted it will still require use of most of the old area. Also some of the existing equipment does not meet current safety standards).
- Can you pick and choose elements from different play companies? (Answer – yes to some extent we can).
- Do any of the swings have those big bucket -like chairs? (Yes, we are considering putting two of them in the North swing area).
- How accessible is the swing area? (Answer – the sidewalk is still a problem, which we can’t address with this project, but we will open up the guard rail so people will be able to walk in).
- Are these play companies represented in Seattle now? Which ones ages the best? (Answer – yes, we have representations of all of them, aging does depend on play element. Generally it has been good).
- I like the paleontology theme in Play Creation line.
- Is there an option for more than one slide for small tots? (no but we can do side by side slide)
- We like spinning toys on the edges of play area.
- Kids like a little cradle like space.
- I’d rather have a climbing rock than the mammoth.
- The mammoth would be fun to put along a pathway or entry, or tucked into the forest.

- I like “Wish bone” shaped swings from Gametime.
- Gametime's spinning toy takes up a lot of space.
- Two concerns are overall playability and maintaining child’s interest.
- I like the overall design of Landscape structures.
- Do kids use climbing nets?
- I like the rocks connecting the 2 big structures.
- I am surprised there is not seesaw. It is such an equalizer for age groups and sizes.
- Meadowbrook uses a tree theme, which could be used here. (In a future project it may be possible to link the science park theme and the forest, but it is not within the current scope for this project.
- I am comfortable with the metal material (for picnic tables) people carve into wood.
- Does the rock in the middle obstruct parent’s views? Possible both seating also on Western side.
- The area to the south is shady in the afternoon it could be a good location for an alternate bench.
- It would be nice if the sand area had perimeter seating.
- Colors we like are blur, tan, green red.

Meeting conclusion: Design will be refined based on comments. We will complete design of the site work within the next two weeks and go to bid late June or July. Play equipment will be finalized and purchased separately. Construction is scheduled to start after the summer lunch program is finished in mid-August. Meeting notes will be on website.