CJ Playground Committee Meeting

DECEMBER 20, 2023 / 6:30 PM / ARBOR BEER LODGE

Attendees

Amanda Paglinger
Miguel Hernandez & friend Amriyon
Matt Morrison
Catherine Morrison
Mike Piña
Melissa Adams

Agenda/Notes

Topic
News & Updates: • **Welcome** new committee members, Matt and Catherine Morrison, and Miguel Hernandez! We are so grateful for your participation and passion. • The **work party** in late October was a success! Although the plant babies have been getting a bit trampled since then, the seeds are already sprouting and springtime should see a revival, especially with the protective fencing up by then. • We got the **Civic Life Grant** for the full amount requested, $4900!! Paperwork should be coming soon with guidelines and a contract. These funds, along with PTO allotment, volunteer labor and in-kind donations should enable us to complete our 4 trees project this year with ease!

4 Trees Project Development:
• Amanda presented **sketches (~1~ ~2~ ~3~ ~4~) of the design so far** for feedback from the committee.
• The big questions were:
  ○ **How does the trellis fence look?** Generally thumbs up all around
  ○ **What length, layout and amount of benches should we go with?** A variety...
  ■ 1 ten-footer at one well
  ■ 2 six-footers with a stump table in between at another, and
  ■ a variety of stump stools (like this) at the third tree. Matt has a lead on free stumps (from the city of portland?) so using those instead of a purchased half-log bench will help us save $ on materials, although we should factor in a significant amount of labor to sand, assemble and anchor any kind of DIY stump seat cluster.
  ■ Amanda will draw this new design up and share with the committee for confirmation.
  ○ **When should we make this happen and in what phases?**
  ■ Once the design is approved (Amanda will submit plans to PPS once the committee finalized its proposal) we can move forward with

procurement…e.g. the ordering of benches and submission of requests for material donations.
    - Looking at the calendar, shooting for the long weekend at the end of **January (27th-29th) to install fencing** sounds good to most. It's not likely benches would be ready by then, but that can happen in a later phase.
- **Signage:** Miguel's mom is an artist who may be able to help. Melissa's got the knowledge on what themes would make sense to interpret at each well. Maybe we can get teachers involved, too? (Need staff liaison)
- **Oak Tree Fencing:** The grant application proposed using its funds to upgrade the existing border fencing around the oak tree well. There's not much excitement about this amongst the committee, and there was even a suggestion to just remove the fencing there since it's already got benches for protection.

Other Projects:

- **Fundraising:**
    - **PTO** will be hosting a playground-specific fundraiser in the spring. Playground Subcommittee ought to play a significant part in helping to make this successful. More info to come.
    - Melissa wants to do a custom **plant sale** and no longer thinks the Sparrowhawk program would be a good fit for us.
    - We may want to re-apply for the **CWSP Grant** if we can think of what to use it for. The pre-application is due Jan. 22.
    - **Learning Landscapes Grant:** Matt has a connection and has been moving this forward. He and Amanda and the former LL director will meet on site soon to discuss, and Amanda will check in with PPS ahead of time. It would be good to submit an application as early in the year as possible.
- **Rain Garden:** Amanda has reached out to the Estuary Partnership and it sounds like our big rain garden project (#4 in the Vision Plan) is a go for *late* Fall 2024! Nothing for us to do on this yet, but design and planning will likely start this spring.
- **Asphalt Art:** Miguel's mom can likely help with this! Amanda will connect with them to transfer ownership if it's a good fit.

Closing:

- Let's add a **January meeting** to the schedule…**Wednesday the 17th** would not conflict with the PTO's next general meeting.
- Summary of next steps:
    - Amanda
        - Revise sketches of 3 Trees as per design evolution at this meeting and share for feedback/design finalization
        - Connect Miguel and his mom with signage and asphalt art projects
        - When final design is ready, present to PPS for approval
        - Meet with Matt and SIL to tour campus and talk about adding trees
    - Matt & Catherine
        - Pursue acquisition of a variety of stumps for seating at one of the trees (8-10 rounds, 16-20" tall x 15-24" diameter? Better for them to be longer/larger and us have to cut them down than be too small to use)
        - Set up a meeting with your sister-in-law to walk the campus with Amanda and talk about the LL tree program.

- Miguel
  - Coordinate art project development with mom, Amanda and Melissa (stay tuned for briefing/transfer of ownership)
- Melissa
  - Plan for a spring plant sale fundraiser
  - Create content for signage at all tree wells

Relevant Links

- CJ Playground Project Website
- Draft PDR for '23-'24 Project Proposals (Update to come)
- Civic Life Small Grants Program (revisions to come)
- 3 Trees Sketches
  - **~1~**
  - **~2~**
  - **~3~**
  - **~4~**