

To be presented at Committee
meeting scheduled for 9/17/18



Roberts Field Advisory Committee
September 17, 2018 Meeting

9/16/18

Meeting Agenda

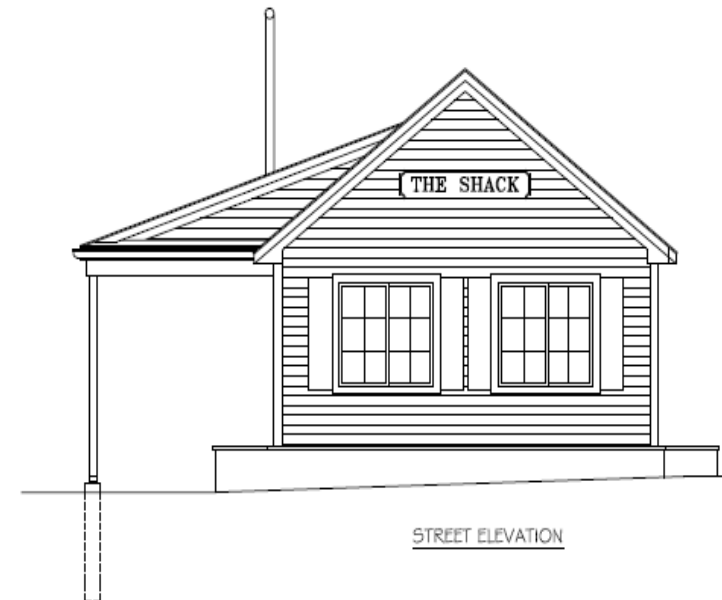
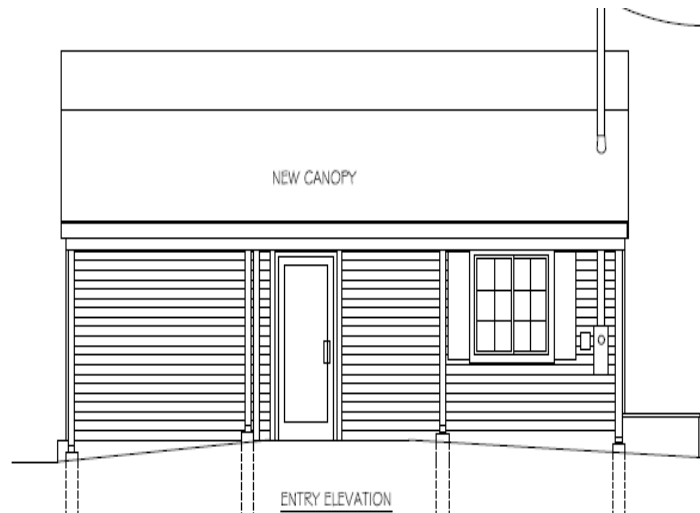
- Public Input
 - New Store Update
 - Little Library Kiosk
- Environmental Bond Bill
- New Playground Project Update and Discussion
 - DPW Update
 - “Natural Play Area” Design Update
 - Engraved Brick Inventory Update
 - Adding Shade Discussion
 - Tree Watering Update
- Budget Update & Discussion
- Maintenance Plan Discussion
- Upcoming Committee Meeting Schedule
- Meeting Minutes Approval
- Adjourn



FRIENDSHIP PARK
A T R O B E R T S F I E L D

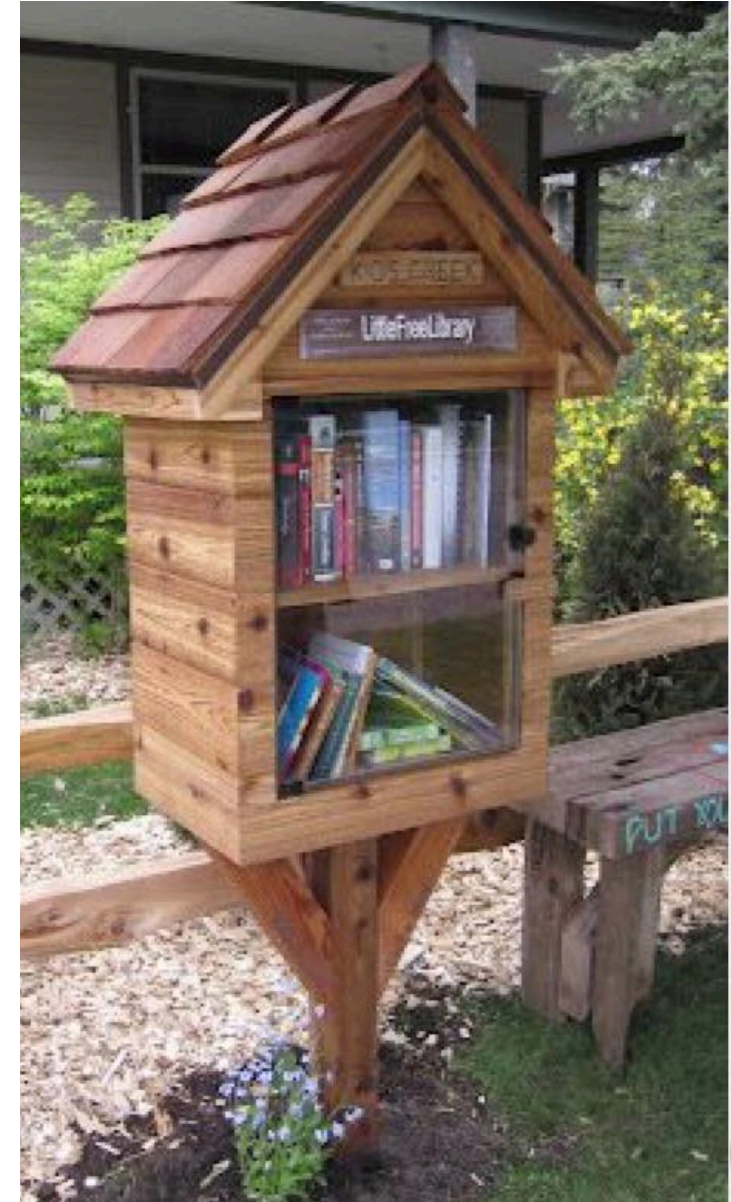
New Store Update – The Shack

- Laura Lindberg, new owner of **The Shack**
 - **Opening late October.**
 - We are excited to offer high-quality, fair trade coffee, locally made baked goods, premade sandwiches and salads as well as snacks, candy and beverages.



Little Library Kiosk

- Volunteer Built Project – Tip Rawding
- Neighborhood book exchange.
- People are encouraged to take a book and/or donate a book or both.
- The Little Free Library can be registered online so people know where it is.
<https://littlefreelibrary.org>
- I would like to use scrap material to make the structure. Need:
 - Pressure treated or cedar 4"x4"x8' post
 - Two bags of concrete
 - Plexiglass (for the window in the door)
- “Take a book, leave a book or both”



Environmental Bond Bill

- State Environmental Bond Bill (EBB) with earmarked funding of \$500k for Roberts Field.
 - \$2.4 billion total, with amounts dispersed over “years”
- Next Steps – Lobby to add earmarked amount to State’s 2019 Capital Plan
 - Decision Maker - Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
 - State is gathering information for Capital Plan early Spring 2019 and releasing the funds July 1, 2019
- EBB Advocacy – Coordinate with Representatives and Senator, Public Letter writing campaign: Winter 2019, Funds released July 2019



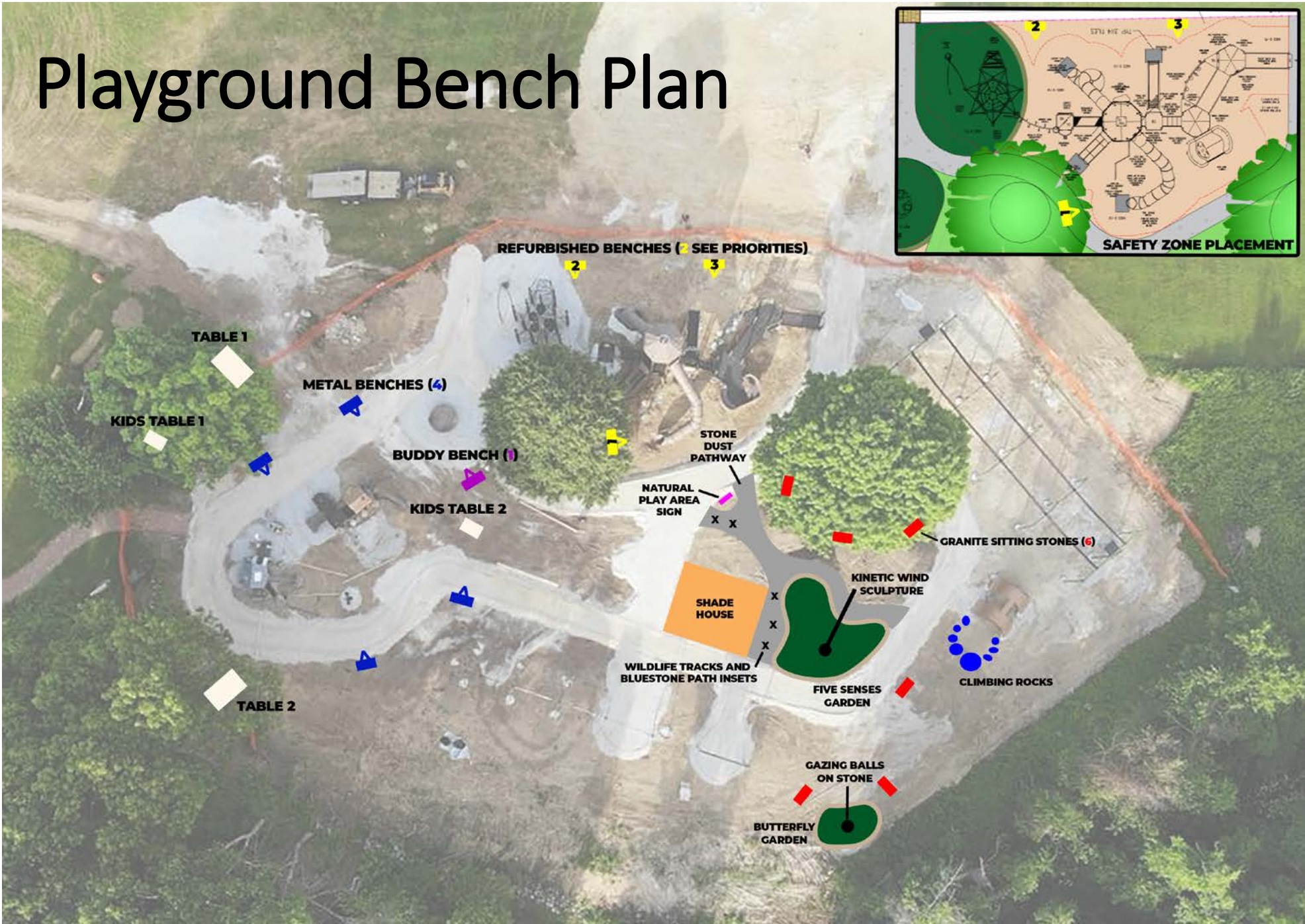
Playground Project Updates

- *For the meeting, can you please provide an update regarding work on the playground including:*
 - *Installation of the Fence and Gates*
 - *Grading and clearing of bittersweet*
 - *Installation of the abutter berm*
 - *Shade Structure, tables and metal bench installation*
 - *Replacement brick installation*

Updates From Steve Jahnle, DPW

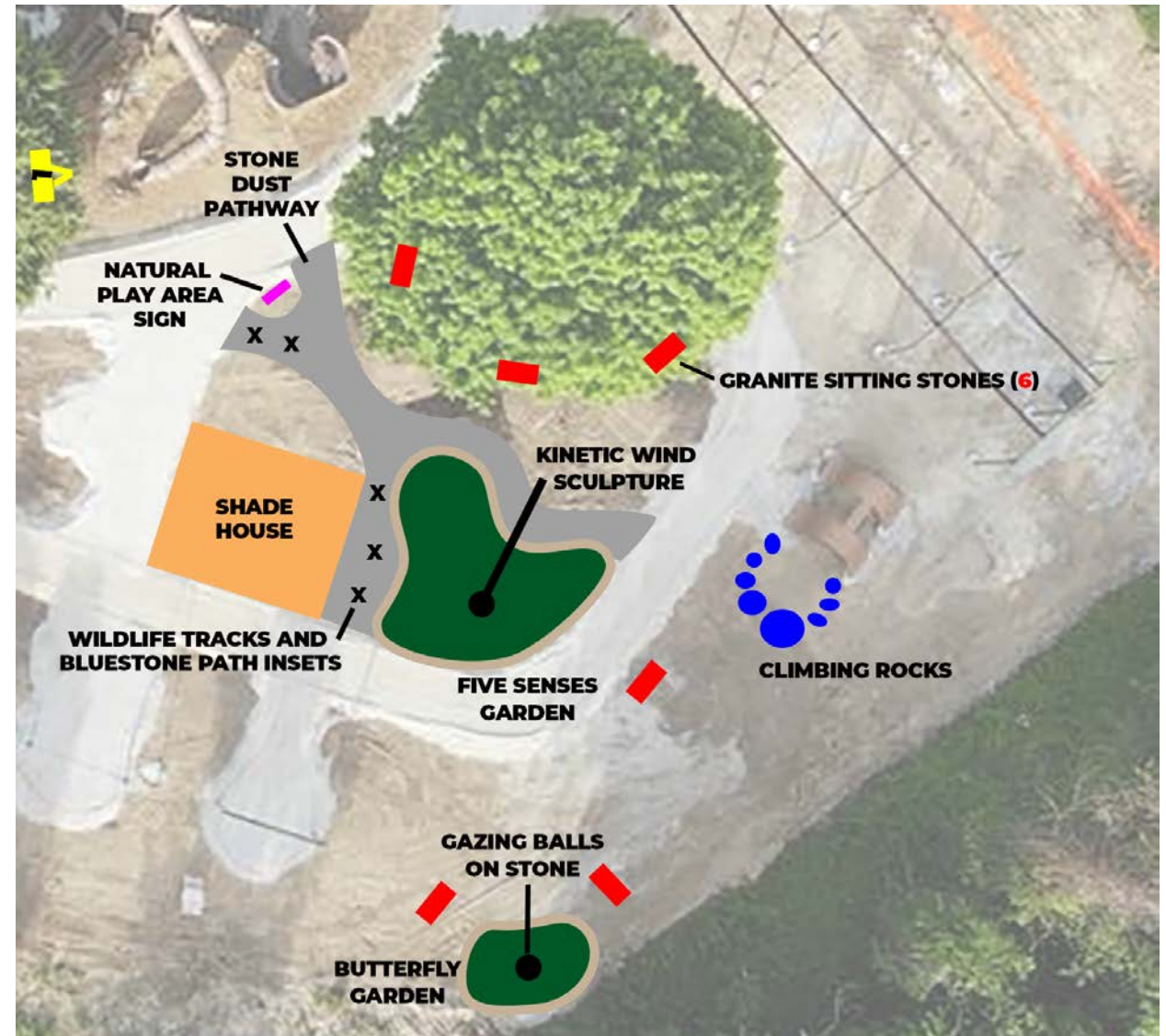
- Everything is tentatively planned for the first week or 2 of October at this point.
- I'll try and get the replacement bricks by the end of the week.

Playground Bench Plan



Natural Play Area (NPA) Update

- Wall and path work starts week of 10/2
 - Earthscape and Lawn to coordinate with Town to close areas when working.
 - Committee to provide design placement and selection of Climbing Rocks
- Granite Benches ordered
- Kinetic Sculpture being designed
- Animal Tracks
- Gazing Balls
- Tree Tags
- Natural Play Area Sign



Bench Update

- Six granite sitting stones ordered
 - All sponsored
 - All with recessed area for sponsor plaques
 - One with recessed area for scavenger hunt plaque
- Four metal benches to be installed
 - One sponsored
- One refurbished bench to be installed (sponsored)
 - One more pending sponsorship



Chelmsford MA Rocks

- Design and Locate Container
 - Temporary “basket” between sign posts
 - Counter sunk below ground to prevent movement
 - Long term placement in 5 Senses Garden



Tree Walk

- 3" x 5" tag added to a dozen varieties of trees at the park and playground
 - QR code linked to Town website hosted "Tree Species Fact Sheet" pdf
 - Updatable with multiple pages
 - Coloring Page/Fun Facts?
 - Engraved by R&R Trophy on Fletcher Street (\$10 each)
 - Attached with a screw and a spring
 - Color?
- Natural Play Area Sign
 - Grid of Twelve trees (photo, leaf drawing, QR code, and number)
 - Map of park with trees identified by number with QR code



ROBERTS FIELD TREE WALK #4
 Sponsored by the Chelmsford Tree Committee

Silver Maple (*Acer Saccarinum*)

INTRODUCTION
 Silver Maple has a vase shape and is a rapidly-growing, fairly weak-wooded tree which reaches a height of 80 to 100 feet with a 5 to 6 foot diameter trunk on a moist site (Fig. 1). The tree is useful in wet areas, transplants easily and can grow where few others can. It should be saved for planting in wet areas or where nothing else will thrive. Roots often grow on the surface of the soil making mowing grass difficult under the canopy. They also are aggressive, growing into septic tank drain fields and into broken water and sewer pipes. It is also hard to plant shrubs and other plants beneath the branches due to the dense root system.

GENERAL INFORMATION
 Scientific name: *Acer saccharinum*
 Pronunciation: AY-ser sack-uh-RYE-num
 Common name(s): Silver Maple
 Family: Aceraceae
 USDA hardiness zones: 3 through 9 (Fig. 2)
 Origin: native to North America
 Uses: reclamation plant; shade tree; tree has been successfully grown in urban areas where air pollution, poor drainage, compacted soil, and/or drought are common
 Availability: generally available in many areas within its hardiness range

USE AND MANAGEMENT
 Silver Maple will grow in areas which have standing water for several weeks at a time. It grows best on acid soil which remains moist, but adapts to very dry, alkaline soil. Leaves may scorch in areas with restricted soil space during dry spells

DESCRIPTION
 Height: 60 to 80 feet
 Spread: 40 to 60 feet
 Crown uniformity: irregular outline or silhouette
 Crown shape: vase shape
 Crown density: moderate
 Growth rate: fast

FOLIAGE (Fig. 2)
 Leaf type: simple
 Leaf shape: star-shaped
 Leaf type: deciduous
 Leaf length: 4 - 8"; 2 - 4"
 Leaf Spring color: green
 Fall color: yellow
 Flower color: red
 Fruit shape: elongated
 Fruit length: 1 to 3 inches
 Fruit covering: dry or hard
 Fruit color: brown; green

More information:
www.missouriherbarium.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?taxonid=275382

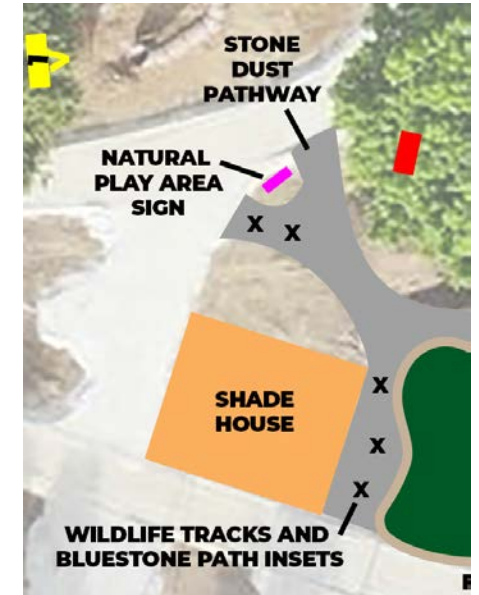
www.RobertsField.org




- 1) Apple Tree (unknown variety)
- 2) Sugar Maple (2 trees).
- 3) Little leaf Linden
- 4) White Walnut
- 5) European larch
- 6) Shag bark hickory
- 7) River birch
- 8) European Alder
- 9) Princeton Elm
- 10) Red maple
- 11) Black oak
- 12) White Pine

Animal Tracks

- A dozen varieties of animal tracks embedded in concrete forms, set in bluestone pathway
 - Stamped impression of four animal feet and letter corresponding to sign grid
- Natural Play Area Sign
 - Grid of twelve animals found in area (photo, footprint, QR code, and letter)
 - QR code linked to Animal Fact Sheet.pdf
 - Updatable, with multiple pages
 - Coloring Page/Fun Facts?
 - Hosted at Town website





ROBERTS FIELD ANIMAL TRACKS

How many animals have you seen at Roberts Field?



C

Common Raccoon
Procyon lotor
 Family: Procyonidae Omnivore / Prey

Raccoons are common and abundant throughout Massachusetts, with the exception of Nantucket where they are not found. These highly adaptable mammals thrive in a variety of habitats.

DESCRIPTION
 The raccoon, a medium-sized mammal, is easily recognizable, with a bushy tail with alternating black and gray rings, a black face mask outlined in white, and a distinctive humped posture. Raccoons can vary in weight from 12 to 36 pounds, with some exceptionally large individuals reaching 50 pounds. They range in length from 23 to 38 inches, including a 7-16 inch tail. Tracks left by raccoons are easy to identify, as they are quite similar to human handprints and footprints, with five toes and a comparable shape. Raccoons are known for their dexterity. They are capable of turning doorknobs and opening containers.

LIFE HISTORY
 The mating season of raccoons runs from January to March. Raccoons have a 63-day gestation period and will give birth to a litter of 3-7 cubs (4 on average) in April or May. Mother raccoons give birth in dens typically located in a hollow tree, but they may also use brush piles, caves, culverts, woodchuck dens, barns, chimneys, attics, or similar structures. Cubs weigh about 2 ounces at birth, open their eyes at about 3 weeks, and are active by about 7-8 weeks of age. They are weaned by late summer and are independent of their mother after 20 weeks. They become more independent by late fall, but continue to den with the family group, especially during severe winter weather. Cubs disperse in early spring at the age of 9-10 months.

FOOD, HABITS, AND HABITAT Raccoons will eat whatever is easiest to find and readily available, including insects, crayfish, crabs, mussels, turtles and their eggs, injured waterfowl, and muskrat kits. Raccoons raid bird nests consuming eggs and nestlings, and feed on plant material such as berries, nuts, and seeds. Additionally, raccoons are well known for raiding garbage cans. Raccoons are active year round and do not hibernate. Raccoons are mostly crepuscular (active at dawn and dusk) and nocturnal (active at night), however, they may be active during the day if food is available. Daytime activity does not mean that the raccoon is diseased. Raccoons can be quite vocal and make a variety of sounds from screams, hisses, growls, snarls, chatters, whimpers and even purrs


More information:
<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/learn-about-raccoons>





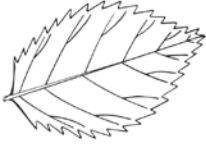


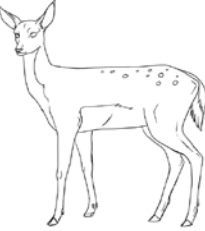

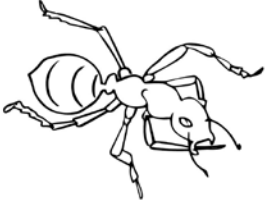

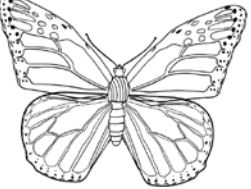
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- A. Black Bear
- B. Skunk
- C. Raccoon
- D. Fox
- E. Squirrel
- F. Wood Chuck
- G. Porcupine
- H. Musk Rat
- I. Rabbit
- J. White Tailed Deer
- K. Woodpecker
- L. Pheasant

Nature Scavenger Hunt

- Natural Play Area Sign
 - Identified on sign
 - QR code linked to Nature Scavenger Hunt pdf
 - Hosted at Town website
 - Updatable with multiple pages
 - Age Appropriate pages
 - Stylized park map

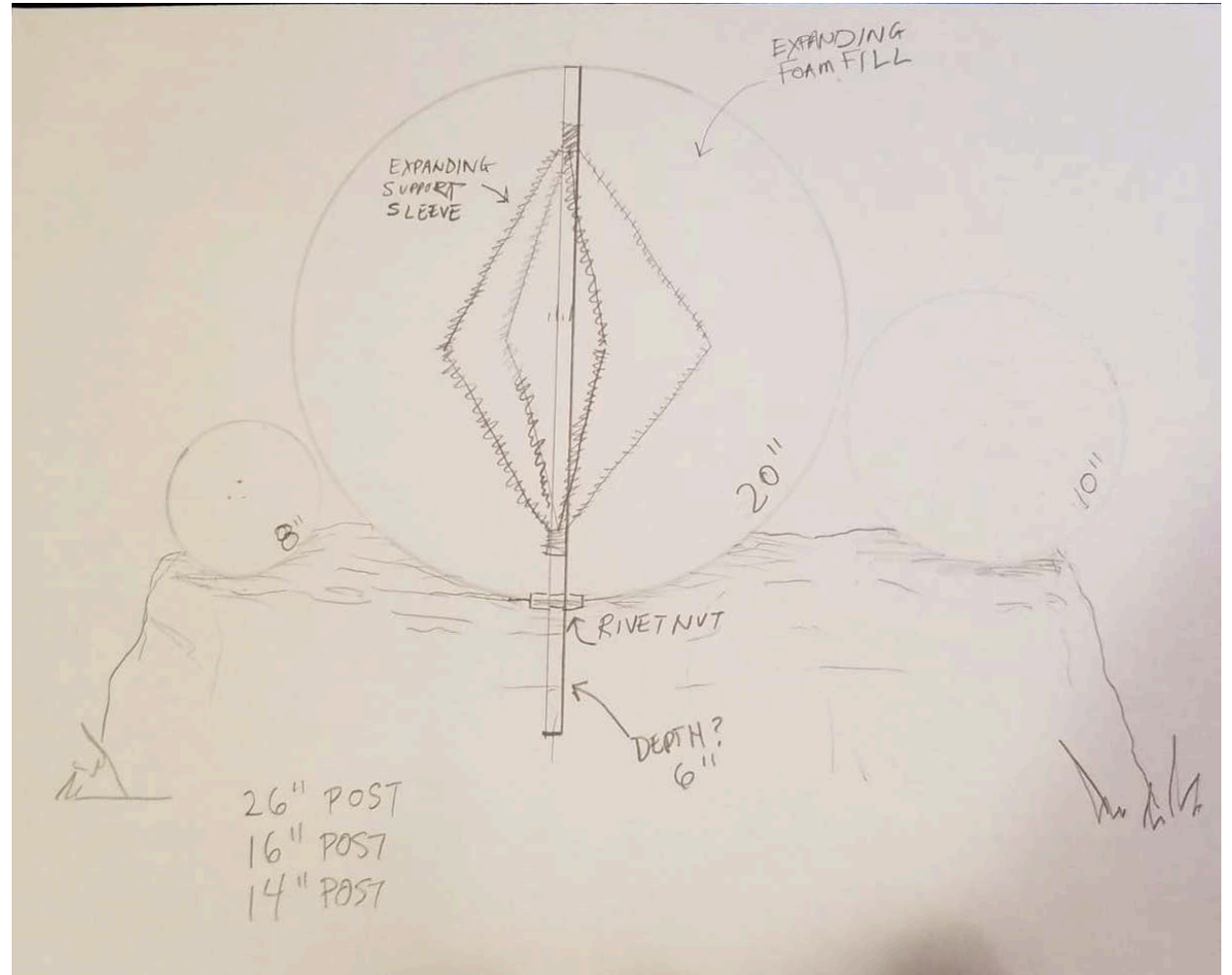
 **Nature Scavenger Hunt**
How Many Can You Find And Name At Roberts Field?

 _____	 _____	 _____
 _____	 _____	 _____
 _____	 _____	 _____
 _____	 _____	 _____

Word Bank: Deer, Frog, Clouds, Squirrel, Ant, Flowers, Rabbit, Bird, Butterfly, Tree, Bee, Leaf

Gazing Balls

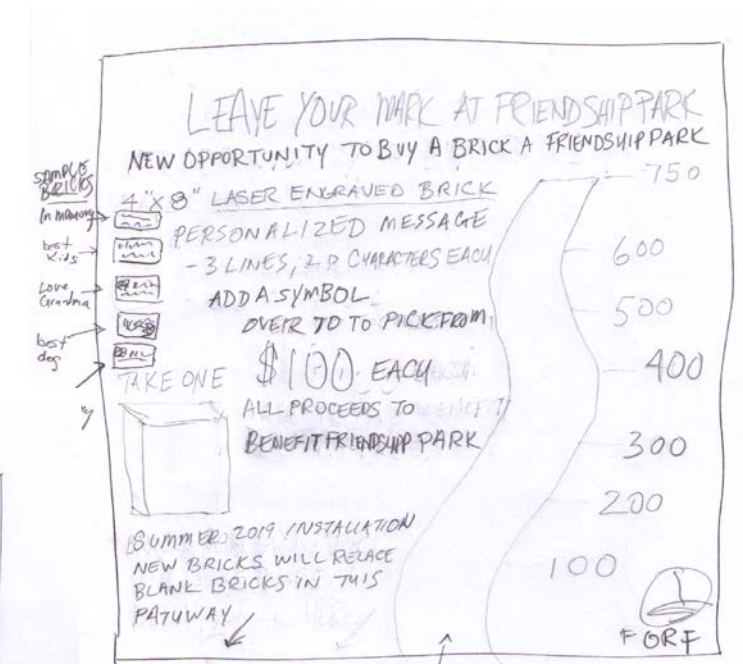
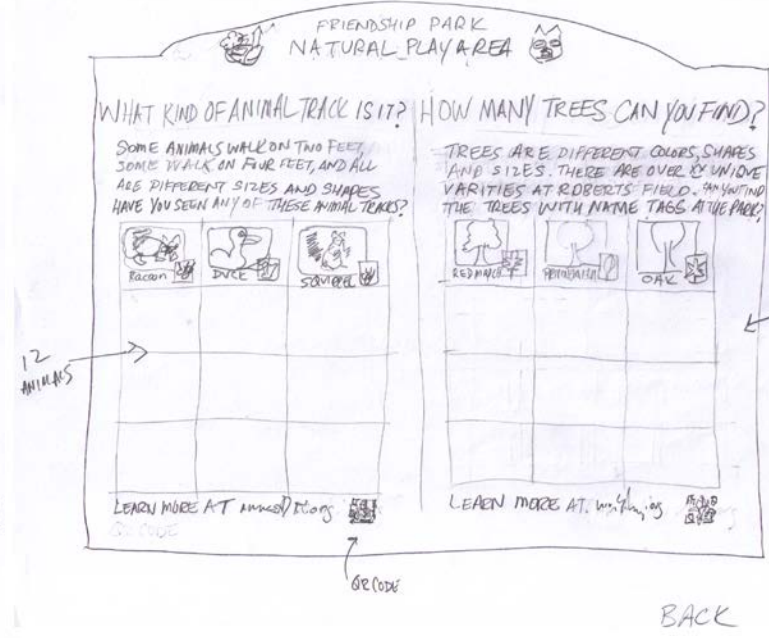
- Three stainless steel gazing balls mounted on top of stone(s)
- 20", 10" and 8" balls



Kinetic Wind Sculpture

Signage Update and Discussion

- History Of Friendship Park
- Natural Play Area
- New Brick Campaign



PRINT MATCHING RED BRICK PATHWAY TO CUT AND GIVE TO SIGN.

BRICKS

History Sign Info

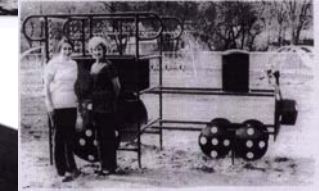
Roberts Field was originally farmland, and in the late 1960's the Town of Chelmsford purchased the property known as "Roberts' Land at Old Westford" to build a school. The school was ultimately located elsewhere, and a 1970 Special Town Meeting voted to build a fire station on the property and designated the remaining area for recreational purposes.

In 1973 the Parents' Association for Recreation for Children (PARC) gifted the Town with the first playground at Roberts Field. The metal playground was paid for by donations from Chelmsford businesses and featured a tall witch themed structure with slides, climbing dome and swings.

In 1995, a new playground, upper parking lot and brick pathway were built. The volunteer group Friends of the Park worked with the Town of Chelmsford to build the new playground. It featured large wooden, steel and plastic play structures, slides, swings, climbing areas, a sandbox and wooden car. The original engraved brick pathway and stone marker feature the names of donors and supporters of the playground. The playground was named through a community contest, ~~where eight year old Lisa won with the name "Friendship Park". She chose this name because she felt the playground would be a great place for kids to make friends.~~

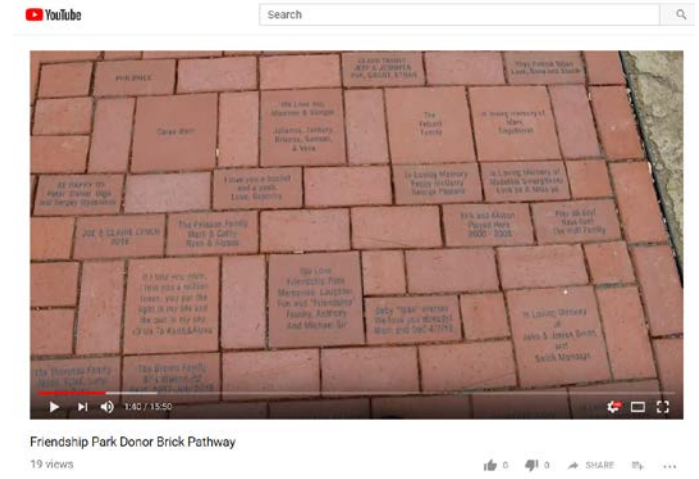
because

The 2017 Fall Town Meeting approved the use of Community Preservation Funds to rebuild a new *inclusive* Friendship Park. The Friends of Roberts Field were charged with fundraising and the Roberts Field Advisory Committee led a community-driven design and build effort to create a playground that is accessible for all. In 2018, the new inclusive designed Friendship Park playground opened. This new playground was once again created through a partnership among the residents, local businesses, and the Town of Chelmsford. In keeping with tradition, an engraved brick pathway and stone marker feature the name of donors and supporters of the new Friendship Park.



Engraved Brick Inventory Update

- Brick Inventory Results (12 installs needed)
 - Brick Pathway Video - youtu.be/b3_RS3SuZE8
 - 4 missing 4x8 bricks (from original installation)
 - 5 installation damaged, 1 customer reorder, 1 replacement of 1995 path, and 1 new order
 - All received and pending install by DPW
 - 765 (+/- 1%) horizontal 4" x 8" blank bricks
- New Brick Campaign (ends 3/31/19 or 750 bricks sold)
 - 4" x 8" bricks \$100 each (one size brick)
 - Option to add a laser engraved symbol
 - New bricks will replace blank bricks



Adding Playground Shade

- Manufactured Shade
 - Sail Structures
 - Single Post Structures
 - Pergolas
- American Academy of Dermatology Shade Grant
 - Grant cycle open now ending in December 2018, is awarded March 2019 and funds up to \$8k on structures with UVR of at least 94%
- New Tree Plan

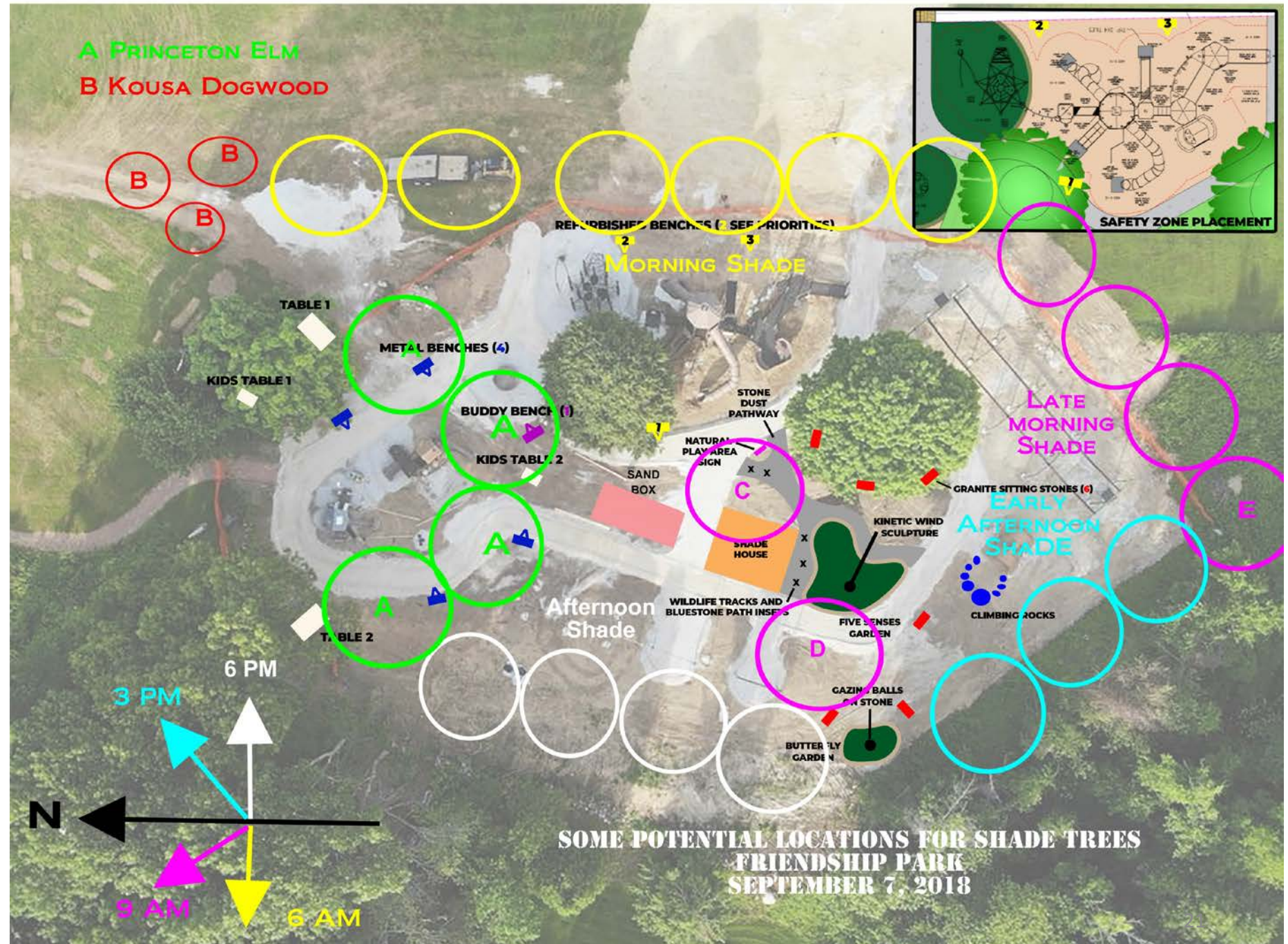
Shade Structure Rough Costs

- Single post shades with removable canvas
 - \$6,180 each delivered and installed (\$3,780/\$2,400 install)
 - 12' x 12' canvas life expectancy
 - Taken inside seasonally: decades
 - Left outside: 10-15 years
 - Est. \$1k canvas replacement cost
 - Can be placed inside sand box (ASTM)
- Single post cantilever shade
 - \$8,580 each (\$4,980/\$3,600 installed)
- Sail Structures
 - RI sample structure \$40k (35' x 18')
 - Estimated \$20k equip/\$20k install
 - ASTM guideline – 84" above structure
 - Require HUGE footings
 - 8' x 4' footing in some cases
- Pergola
 - Roughly \$10k (Kits would be more cost effective)
 - Meets ASTM guidelines if 6' from and 84" above equipment



Shade Trees

- 26 possible locations for shade throughout the day
 - 1"-2" caliper
 - Avg cost \$300
 - Total \$7.8k



Playground Tree Watering Update

- Jim Martin leading a team to water the playground trees.
- Two Maples and Linden watered.
- Expects weekly watering until leaves fall.
 - Meet at Friendship Park at 6:45am
 - Email jimtrees@aol.com



Friendship Park Budget Estimate

DPW Budget (Prepared by: Steve Jahnle, Assistant Director DPW)		
	Total Est Cost	Sponsored
Shade Structure	\$ 10,199	
Wood chips	\$ 8,500	
Border	\$ 11,000	
tables	\$ 1,300	
benches	\$ 1,500	\$ 500
abutter screening	\$ 5,000	
perimeter fence	\$ 15,000	
walkways	\$ 12,000	
O'Brien	\$ 381,160	
	<u>\$ 445,659</u>	



Friendship Park Budget Estimate

Not Budgeted (Prepared by Roberts Field Advisory Committee)						
	Est Cost	In kind	Sponsored			
Covered Bridge Entryway	\$ 5,420	\$ 5,528	\$ 5,528	Timber Framed, Cedar Shake Roof	Heritage Construction	Install
Sign and Seating Kiosk	\$ 1,529	\$ 1,472	\$ 1,472	Timber Framed, Cedar Shake Roof	Heritage Construction	Install
Playground Signage	\$ 500		\$ 500	Bridge, rules, tackboard, History, Natural Play Area	Volunteer	install
Permanent Sponsor Plaque & Stone	\$ 3,500			Plaque = \$2500, Rock = \$1000	DPW	Install
Natural Play Area						
5 Senses Garden 24" 55LF Stone Wall	\$ 8,500			Town providing plantable soil	Earthscape and Lawn	Install
5 Senses Garden Plants	\$ 1,000			Paid and donated plants	Volunteer	Install
Metal Kinetic Wind Sculpture	\$ 500		\$ 500	Design TBD	Volunteer	Install
Butterfly Garden 24" 25LF Stone Wall	\$ 2,300			Town providing plantable soil	Earthscape and Lawn	Install
Butterfly Garden Plants	\$ 500			Paid and donated plants	Volunteer	Install
Gazing ball(s) on Stone(s)	\$ 350		\$ 350	20", 12", 10" stainless steel globes mounted on stones		
Stone dust pathways	\$ 1,500			Town providing pack sublayer materials, Earthscape = other	Earthscape and Lawn	Install
Animal Tracks and Bluestone	\$ 750			Track stamps = \$250, bluestone, concrete and forms = \$500	Volunteer and Earthscape	
Climbing Rocks		\$ 2,200	\$ 2,200	Approximately 12 glacier tilled stones (2 large, and stepping	Earthscape and Lawn	Install
Granite Benches (6)	\$ 2,400		\$ 2,400			
Engraved Brick Pathway	\$ 10,960			estimated installation cost	DPW	install
Buddy Bench	\$ -			Girls Scouts buidling and funding	Volunteer	paid and install
Two Sandbox Diggers	\$ 2,068				Volunteer	install
Original Picnic Table Rehab	TBD				DPW	install
Original Bench Rehab	TBD				DPW	install
Total Budget	\$ 41,777	\$ 9,200	\$ 12,950			
Available For Payment	\$ 36,277					

Fundraising Update & Discussion

- Fundraising will continue through April 2019
 - Town's Fiscal Year 2019 ends in June

Friendship Park			
Fundraising Recap			
8/19/2018			
Campaign	Amount		
Buy A Brick	\$ 49,200.00	(\$19,635 proceeds)	
Sponsorships			
Equipment	\$ 17,330.00		
Premier	\$ 27,500.00		
Other Fundraising			
Go Fund Me	\$ 126.00		
Restaurants	\$ 128.98		
Merchandise	\$ 284.40		
2018 Country Fair	\$ 137.32		
Flower Arranging	\$ 50.00		
General Fund	\$ 839.45		
Grants	\$ 2,979.20		
Pre-Existing*	\$ 8,042.00		
In Kind Donations	\$ 10,200.00		
Total Fundraising Value	\$ 116,817.35		
*\$2500 KDK Silver Sponsorship in Premier Sponsorship amount			
*\$2000 Chelmsford PAL in Equipment Sponsorship			

Maintenance Plan Discussion

- Jim Martin handouts

Next Meeting Date

- Next Steps: Complete Signage, Natural Play Area Plan and Installation, Maintenance Plan Document, Roberts Field
- October meeting available dates:
 - Wednesday, October 3rd
 - Thursday, October 11th
 - Tuesday, October 23rd
 - Thursday October 25th
 - Tuesday, October 30th

Meeting Minutes Approval

July 10, 2018