

To be presented at Committee  
meeting scheduled for 12/11/18



Roberts Field Advisory Committee  
*December 11, 2018 Meeting*

12/11/18

# Meeting Agenda

- Public Input
- Playground Project Update and Discussion
  - DPW Update
  - Fence Installation – Possible Vote
  - Sandbox Redesign and Rebuild Discussion – Possible Vote
  - Sitting Stones
  - Kinetic Wind Sculpture
  - Girl Scout Tree Planting
- Next Committee Meeting Date
- Adjourn



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

# DPW Updates

- Can you please provide an update including timing, regarding the following:
  - Installation of shade structure
  - Installation of metal benches and concrete pads
  - Grading of front and back areas inside the fence line
  - Installation of fence gate near 2-5 year old area
  - Creation of pack pathway from parking lot to playground
  - Process considerations of committee hiring contractor to fix the sandbox and gate if necessary (ie DPW involvement, contract, RFP and award considerations)

*From Steve Jahnle, DPW (from November 20 and 26 emails)*

- Everything is weather dependent at this point. Grading won't be until the spring. Trying to gather quotes for hiring someone to erect the shade structure. We clearly just do not have the time.
- Does it matter on the shade structure if the shingles are cedar shakes or regular asphalt? Shakes might look better and match the entry....
- Gate was not part of the contract and we will not be installing one.
- There are various thresholds, under 10k, 10-50k and over 50k. All have different requirements. Under 10 is best management/business practices, 10-50k minimum 3 quotes and work advertised on the various web outlets, but not sealed bid. Over 50k advertised project with sealed bids. All require prevailing wage, bonds etc. That's the quick, simple version.



# Fence Installation – November 5<sup>th</sup> Photos





# Sandbox Redesign & Rebuild

# Current Configuration

- Issues to resolve
  - Slippery sidewalks due to over flow of sand from the bordering edge.
  - Flooding from rain water and lack of drainage
  - Seating
  - Shade



# Slippery Sidewalks Due to Sand

- Potential solution (1)

- Add buffer zone of grass between sandbox and sidewalk

- Would require the following:

- Dig new sandbox area
      - Add grass between sidewalk and sandbox.
      - Relocate black border and expand to fit around the entire sandbox
      - Both diggers would need to be moved. Would also include concrete work for both.

Approximate Measurements



## Conclusion:

- Based on measurements, there is space for this option.
- This option would allow for buffer zone around sidewalks but would require digging around all areas and filling in the space between the sidewalk and new edge of the sandbox.

# Slippery Sidewalks Due to Sand(cont.)

- Potential Solution (2)
- Add buffer around the entire sandbox
  - Would require the following:
    - Purchasing additional black edging and installing it in between the sandbox and sidewalk areas. Current edging would be able to be reused but essentially we would need to double the amount that we currently have.
  - Would this remedy the situation?
    - This should stop sand from blowing onto sidewalks but would not do much for children tracking the sand on their feet.
- Cost of equipment?  
approximate \$40/section of black edging.



# Poor Drainage in Sandbox



# Poor Drainage in Sandbox

- Potential Solution (1)
  - Add shade structure
    - The addition of a shade structure would help eliminate direct rain fall onto the sand box.
    - This will not assist rain coming in at an angle
    - Could have the dual purpose of helping keep shade on the sandbox but due to required height it would not have a large impact on shade.
    - Cost of shade structures- between \$6,00-\$10,00 depending on type.





# Poor Drainage in Sandbox

- Potential Solution (2) Install Drainage
- There are approximately 18 inches of compacted soil above the sand. This is not allowing for proper drainage and creating a bowl that traps the water. Three potential solutions have been discussed so far.
- 1. Adding underground drainage tubes leading toward the front of the playground and draining toward the creek. Rough estimate \$3,000-\$4,000.
  - This work would need to be done by an outside contractor not the town (DPW).
  - Would not require removal of the sidewalk.
  - Would require both diggers to be moved.
- 2. Removal of all sand and using post hole digger to create holes filled with gravel below the compacted soil line. These would act as basins to capture and move water away from the surface.
- 3. Relocation of the entire sandbox
  - DPW proposal of moving the sandbox to another location in the playground area would also require a drainage solution due to the compact soil in proposed location.



# Seating

- Most informal feedback from users of the sandbox area indicate that seating is needed around the sandbox.
- If placed on current grassy areas side walks could remain intact.
- Some benches could be bolted into the sidewalks but any structure put in that area would limit space in the sidewalk.
- Seating should be facing the sandbox area so parents can quickly access their children.
- Different options available prices range from \$400.00 and up depending on type.

# Seating Types



Granite sitting stones--  
\$400/stone

Both benches are currently used at the park and would keep seating consistent. Could be purchased through fundraising/sponsor-a-bench program. Two or three benches along the grassy side would be ideal.



A bench without a back would also give parents the flexibility to sit facing either way depending on where their children are playing.



Metal Bench with Back --\$500/bench

# Shade on Sandbox Area (information from Previous Meeting)

- Feedback from users indicates that the lack of shade on the sandbox, especially in the summer months, is an issue for children.
- 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 ins
  - 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





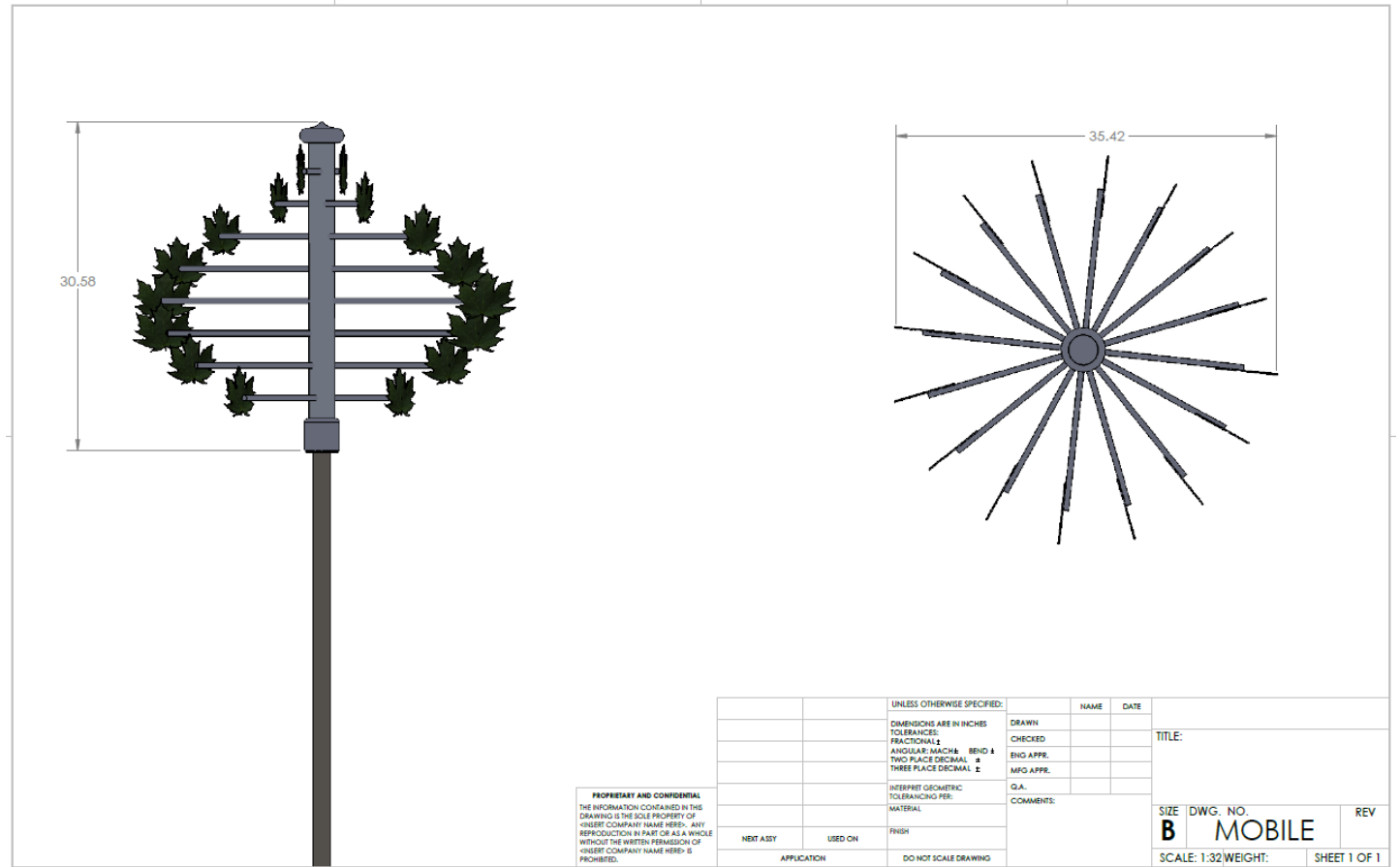
# Sitting Stones

- Remaining three sitting stones to be installed Spring 2019 after DPW completes grading in corner of Natural Play Area



# Kinetic Wind Sculpture

- Built by Chris Ferreira and Joe McCarthy
- Have the materials and the welder, and will start milling the parts prior to welding
- Cutting a few leaf designs to try for prototype
- Expect installation by second week of April 2019



# Girl Scout Tree Planting

- Girl Scout Troop interested in planting a tree inside the playground next spring. Approximate Budget - \$250

Good Evening,

I wanted to reach out to you and see if you are still interested in people donating trees? I ran into someone on your committee and they mentioned that you were looking for organizations in the area to donate trees? I run a girl scout troop and we were hoping to do this as our first project. Please let me know if this is something you'd like us to do and also what kind of tree you would like us to plant. Thank you and look forward to hearing from you.

Katie Kelepouris

Hi Katie,

At the 10/25 committee meeting we discussed the girl scouts planting a tree at the playground and everyone was very supportive, excited and appreciative. Afterwards, our volunteer arborist and liaison to Mahoney's searched inventory for a tree and could not source a good tree to plant this fall/winter. Is it ok if we plan a springtime planting? It may be too late, but Arbor Day is April 26<sup>th</sup> next year.



# Next Meeting Date

- To Do/Next Steps:
  - Signage, Sandbox Redesign and Rebuild, 2-5 Area Gate, Maintenance Plan Document, Environmental Bill Lobbying, Natural Play Area Planting Plan, Tree/Shade Plan
- January meeting available dates:
  - Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup>
  - Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup>
  - Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>
  - Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>