


JEFFERSON PARK PLAY AREA MEETING MINUTES

	TO:	Kathy Plautz	Community Member	kathyplautz@yahoo.com
		Shelly Bates	Community Member	sbates@zipcon.com
		Judith Edwards	Community Member	judedw@comcast.net
		Frederica Merrell	Jefferson Park Alliance	frmerrel@seattleschools.org
		Andrew Abian	Community Member	amabian@yahoo.com
		David Gackubach	Community Member	
		Jason Rider	Community Member	Jasonckrich@gmail.com
		Many other community members	Community Member	
		Peter Tammatta	Highwire (Kompan Play Equip.)	Peter@HighwireUS.com
	FROM:	Project Manager Andy Sheffer	Seattle Parks and Recreation Senior Capital Project Coordinator	(206) 423-19417(c) (206) 223-3949(f)

MEETING TOPIC: PLAY EQUIPMENT

MEETING DATE: 3/6/08	MEETING TIME: 7:30PM	Meeting AGENDA #1
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1.1 INTRODUCTION by *Andy Sheffer, Seattle Parks and Recreation*

- Meeting focusing on Play Area Development funded by City of Seattle Cumulative Reserve Fund to be constructed as park of the Jefferson Park Expansion project in 2009.
- Discussion Points to include:
 - 1.) Refined play equipment types and layout.
 - 2.) Physical integration with Beacon Mountain project.
 - 3.) Common design principals/idioms
- Goal of meeting is to reach consensus on play equipment design idiom and play value goals.

1.2 KOMPAN PLAY EQUIPMENT PRESENTATION by *Peter Tammatta*

- Kompan Company Vision (multi generational play / public art / complexity / sustainability)
- Environmental Statement ((highest global standards *no PVC / no paint)
- Collection has wide range of play types, dynamic elements (ropes, spinners), climbing features designed for creative, 'un-scripted' play.
- Durability, materials chosen for high performance, heavy use and extreme climates (ie; stainless steel, sealed bearings)
- Inclusion; play opportunities for all abilities, and personality types, provides access to the 'center of play' high percentage of ground level components for a wide developmental range
- Aesthetic presence in community; modern, unique, sophisticated, 'next generation' playground
- Play Area composed of two pods, Incorporating a balance of physical, social, and pretend play types
- Pod one primary structures with age specific progression of play events, increasing in complexity for toddlers to teenagers,
- Toddlers , small sculptural structure (crawling / climbing / pretending), small scale spring rider
- Preschoolers, low lying custom structure with wide range of play types / trainer in progressive challenge design concept, plus multi user spring see-saw, small spinner with pole and platform
- School age kids , large custom structure , designed for 'free-form routing' with network of climbing features, progression from ground level to tall tower , (height accentuated by low lying preschool structure), linked with stepping pods to rope/net system, full body, creative play
- Spinner Bowl and Spica spinner helps segway between age groups
- Teens - Three spinner structure with climbing / social feature at center (in Pod two)
- Low profile benches inside play area for children and adults
- Pod two – Focus on dynamics (swinging, spinning)
- Swings - single bay 8' swings with infant and belt seats, plus double bay 10' swing
- Ski Swing
- Conclusion: Proposed collection in keeping with Danish values (shared by Seattle) toward design and quality, research based play features,, unique exciting play features, socially progressive, modern approach / relevant to the way kids play and the needs of communities, encourages healthy active lifestyles.

1.3 Comments

- Great product-like sculptural quality.
- Make sure to face stainless steel slides due North
- Freddie has made a great contribution to the community!
- Slides are great but they need to be wider for adults.
- Need more attention to toddler area—sand play?
- Not enough equipment or dedicated space for toddlers
- Comments from parents at previous meetings
 1. Want dedicated vision to toddler play They want the springy animals for the kids to ride on. They want the digger toys. They want a space for little ones to dig in the sand. None of these are in this plan.
 2. Need landscape barriers to protect the little ones from wandering into dangerous areas: paths with bikes, areas where big kids will knock them down. In this meeting that issue came up again around the arrangement of the swings.
- Parks PM commented that sand needs to be separated from the play chips so they don't get contaminated. This can be done with a grade change (i.e. sunken sand area)
- The toddler swings need a separation from the larger swings and they need to be in close proximity to the toddler play area to avoid having toddlers running in front of the big kid swings
- Toddlers need a dedicated space that is safe from larger body activities:
- More adult seating near play area...most important near toddler areas. Parents of the really young need the most opportunity to sit, lay out some snacks, discuss child rearing with other parents and find engagement with other exhausted and struggling new parents.
- Is there any way to introduce some topography or anything to break-up the sea of wood chips?
- Please put meeting images on website
- Can you include a merry-go-round?
- Any equipment to simulate skateboarding?
- Like the idea of including exercise/play equipment for adults/
- Concern raised about maintaining the equipment (Kompan structures on MLK have broken) Who will repair Jefferson?
- We are always concerned about who is going to take care of things at Jefferson. That needs to be contracted out as well as the purchase of the materials.
- Need to see more connection to the larger Mountain, alter space to integrate?
- Past comments in meetings that we don't want to lose track of:
 1. Drinking fountain with lower spigot for kids to get water to mix with their sand or for dogs to get a drink
 2. Shade trees to bring relief from summer sun
 3. Shade shelter, especially for little ones
 4. Bathroom access

1.4 **Conclusion** by Andy Sheffer, Seattle Parks and Recreation

Design team will revisit general space design in order to see if topographical changes, integration with the edge of the mountain, separation of a toddler sand area from the chip area can be added. Additionally, Design team will further research landscape barriers for separation from bike paths and separation of toddler swings from big swings, add targeted seating, especially for parents of young ones. Play area manufacturer will look into digger toys and bouncy animals for little ones. Parks PM will try to get an agreement on Kompan maintenance in the purchase too. Meeting minutes and diagrams will be posted on the Jefferson Park Expansion Project Website.