

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS FOR RAEMISCH
HOMESTEAD PARK
6:00 pm Thursday, November 10,
2022 via Zoom

- Introductions – Kate Kane

- Playground Design Process
 - a. Playground Workshop – Discuss project location, timeframe, budget, general equipment selection, surfacing
 - b. Playground Meeting – Two playground concepts for playground will be presented based on input from previous meeting, select one concept, identify any changes needed

- City of Madison Playgrounds
 - a. Over 180 playgrounds!
 - b. Highest number of playground per capita in the United States
 - c. Guidelines for playground development
 - i. Develop a sustainable system
 - ii. No more than one playground area per park
 - iii. Standardized playground design process

- Playground Equipment Standards
 - a. City of Madison
 - i. Promotion of wide variety of skill sets
 - ii. Manage long term maintenance costs
 - iii. Provide quality equipment
 - b. National Standards
 - i. US Consumer Product Safety Commission
 - ii. American National Standards Institute
 - iii. American Society for Testing and Materials
 - c. Colors
 - i. Natural colors will be shown as default for manufacturer selection
 - ii. Other color options are available for posts and handrails are available
 - d. Equipment
 - i. Play Structure
 - ii. Double bay swings structure with two belt and two tot swings
 - e. Surfacing
 - i. Must meet ASTM F1292 – Critical Fall Heights
 - ii. Must meet ASTM F1951 – ADA Accessibility
 - iii. Only wood fiber mulch and shredded rubber mulch meet those requirements

- Project Location & Site Constraints
 - a. Adjacent Playgrounds
 - i. There are 10 existing playgrounds within 1 mile of Raemisch Homestead Park (1 was replaced in the last 5 years (Country Grove (2017)); and one will be replaced this year as well (Maple Prairie Park (2023)).

- b. Site Conditions
 - i. The existing playground location can generally be reused –sits in a good location relative to other amenities in the park open field/backstop area– will look to shift slightly away from the honey locust and red maple trees to preserve & protect them;
 - ii. A new accessible route of travel from sidewalk along Chelsea St will be added
 - iii. One new backed bench will be added adjacent to the new playground footprint; one of the existing benches associated with the playground is in good shape – will be reset with the project.
 - iv. Existing equipment and pea gravel surfacing will be fully removed with project – Parks staff makes every effort to reuse and recycle all components
- Project Timetable
 - a. Construction in 2023 – Parks seeks to minimize “down time” from when existing equipment is removed to the new equipment going in.
- Project Budget
 - a. Approximately \$37,000 for the playground equipment.
- **Raemish Homestead Park Equipment and Play Surfacing Selection**
 - a. Age Group: attendees reached consensus for intended age range choosing a **5-12 playstructure; want to make sure there are enough ground-level elements for 2-5 age range though.**
 - b. Surfacing: The attendees discussed the pros/cons of both wood fiber and rubber mulch surfacing but landed through **majority vote on rubber surfacing.**
 - c. Playline: After discussion & review – attendees selected the playground manufacturer **Burke** and requested the next designs to show playground structures that have a **good amount of ground-level play elements for the youngest visitors, a roof and long runs of interconnected features (the top and bottom designs from Burke were particularly attractive for this reason).**
 - d. **Nature nooks were discussed – group was uncertain if fundraising for one now would be possible; may opt to reduce equipment budget if can't fundraise or perhaps add something at a further date.**
 - e. Colors: attendees liked the natural color palettes shown in the playground options at the workshop and requested that the new designs would also be **in the natural color range (dark green / brown). Note that both designs will have tan slide beds as that is city standard for durability and heat gain minimization.**
 - f. **Fundraising was discussed but it may be a future effort as described above– attendees with interest in fundraising are advised to contact Madison Parks Foundation to discuss further.**
- Next Steps
 - a. Email Kate Kane at kkane@cityofmadison.com to share input on surfacing preference and to receive email notification of future playground meetings.
 - b. Take information from this meeting and incorporate into conceptual designs (including two equipment designs) to be presented at a follow-up playground meeting.
 - c. Follow-up meeting will be noticed via e-mail, City of Madison Parks website, and sent to alder.

If interested in receiving notice of the next playground meeting, please contact Kate Kane at kkane@cityofmadison.com or at (608) 261-9671.

The next meeting will be on January 5, 2023 at 6:00 pm via Zoom