

October 27, 2021

## Schoolyard Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Attending: Paul Harris, Dale Bedlington, Vern Meenderinck, Ron DeValois, Brent DeRuyter, Harlan Kredit

### General Discussion:

We met to review the surveys that were turned in as a result of the community meeting that was held in September. We identified the highest priority items but all agreed that we need a professional planner to ensure that the Schoolyard park is developed in the best possible manner.

Following are the recommendations that we will make to the planner:

1. Two acres of the park (east side) will be left as an open space.
2. A play area featuring several different units for varying ages in one location.
3. A restroom that is centrally located with a pavilion attached (one design) and a separate pavilion and restroom (2<sup>nd</sup> design). Discussed the merits of having a covered area close to restroom building versus a freestanding pavilion. Hopefully, the ultimate design would be a building with a "school house" look to it
4. A band shell type structure (does not need to be large) in the northwest corner.
5. Leave the backstop in the northeast corner.
6. Relocate a basketball court
7. Continue the planting of trees around the property with some trees scattered in the developed area.
8. Angled parking to be developed on the south side and west side.
9. A walkway through the developed area which could also be used for maintenance purposes.
10. Agreed the present fence should be removed with some type of enclosure to be installed to keep vehicles from driving on the property.

### Other discussion notes:

1. The planner could be the same person employed by the City to develop a plan for the Heusinkveld property. Vern will be contacting him soon.
2. Agreed that an irrigation system will be necessary.
3. Discussed a water park but due to the high expense for maintenance and installation, it was not considered to be a priority item to include.
4. Also discussed a dog park and agreed not to recommend one be included.
5. Next meeting will be called when we have several designs to evaluate. It is a reminder that we are an advisory committee to the City of Lynden and have no legal standing. However, the City seeks our input as the Parks Department moves forward.
6. Discussed the parameters and possible location of a plaque for donors who helped purchase the property as well as those who would be involved in supporting some of the infrastructure such as a play area, restrooms, band shell, etc. Mauri Ingram from the Whatcom Foundation has offered to continue to serve as the depository for gifts and contributions. (much appreciated)
7. Need to be sure we consider maintenance issues as we move forward.
8. Noted that it is our desire to make this park "special" with a unique and friendly feel and not a carbon copy of other parks in other communities.

Harlan Kredit

