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## MEETING OUTCOMES

### Action items

WHAT	WHO	WHEN
Shift meeting times to begin at 6:30	Village Hall	With invitation for next meeting (to be held Dec 12)
Reach out to emergency services (fire, police, EMS) for a representative for the stakeholder advisory group	Village Hall	ASAP
Reach out to the schools for youth engagement opportunities	Village Hall	Prior to December 12 meeting
Provide the following resources to the stakeholder advisory group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Map of recreational assets within the Village and Town</li> <li>● A list of what cannot change about the park</li> <li>● A map of the Wawayanda</li> </ul>	Village Hall and Karen Arendt	Prior to December 12 meeting
Articulate the minimum and max parking space needs for youth sports events	Brian Perez	Prior to December 12 meeting
Obtain more giant maps of the park for use with the next meeting (breakouts)	Village Hall	Prior to December 12 meeting

### Summary

- The meeting started promptly at 7:00 pm and opened with introductions. Participants shared their name, organization, favorite outdoor activity, and favorite dance move. There are some fabulous dancers in Warwick!
- Mayor Newhard walked through the history of the park, showed participants the original 1920 plan for the park, and talked through the elements that exist there today.
- Landscape Architect Karen Arendt showed the group the Stanley Deming Park master plan and talked through the components and level of detail that could be expected. The group discussed that the role of the master plan is to guide decision making into the future and to provide clarity and transparency about those decisions.

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- The group then walked through and agreed with the community guidelines, role of the stakeholder group, and schedule, with the later modification that meetings will start at 630 pm, and the next meeting will include breakouts
- Trustee Foster asked the group to review feedback that community members previously provided on the park through the May listening session, through email, as well as through the two suggestion boxes (one is at Village Hall, one is virtual), to identify key considerations based on this feedback, as well as fill in gaps from their perspectives.
- The group pointed out the following key considerations:
  - This park does not exist in a vacuum, there are other assets within and around the community that should be considered as we embark on the plan
  - We also need to consider that assets in the broader community may be car dependent and, therefore, not be accessible to some Village residents
  - The park is also occasionally used for parking for events, as well as film crews
  - It is important for the group to understand specific elements of the park that will be “fixed” - for example, the memorial purpose of the park and its role in team sports, as well as the need for the helipad and its role in emergency management staging
  - It is important to consider cost of implementation. There was a prior plan for the park, developed almost a decade ago estimated at \$8 million to construct and ended up being cost prohibitive.
  - Some of the constraints in the park are opportunities, and vice versa. For example, the creek running through the park (and its associated floodplain) could be an incredible asset that also limits what can be done in those areas
  - Implementation can take place incrementally and over time (the implementation roadmap will reflect this)
  - Recreational needs change over time; lean toward flexible and adaptive designs (for example, a space could be used as one thing one day, and something else the next)
  - Listening and emphasizing dialogue versus debate will be important to making this process successful
- The group discussed voices needed in the room:
  - It will be important to have emergency services representation in the group due to the presence of the Helipad on site, as well as potential needs for emergency services in the park
  - After the meeting, several participants remained and discussed that while the Village had succeeded in accomplishing broad age range, perspective, and economic diversity, we still need to increase racial and ethnic diversity of the group. Village Hall took the action item to conduct another round of outreach to increase the stakeholder advisory group’s representation of our community
- Engagement ideas:
  - Youth engagement:
    - Workshops in the schools (children often don’t have the same opportunities to share feedback to Village Hall, such as through suggestion boxes, phone, and email, as adults)


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- Consider sending a survey through the schools; what students want and need
- The group added the following feedback regarding what is working and not working about the park today:
  - What's working:
    - Sports bring people from out of town to the Village; bring people downtown
    - The unstructured play area is a benefit
  - Accessibility
    - The park needs public restrooms.
      - The group highlighted that the sports restrooms may be adapted for public use to provide facilities similar to Stanley Deming
      - The group cited lack of restrooms as having an impact on use - it is a large park and it is distressing for people to be "caught" there without facilities
      - The restrooms will also need to be accessible
    - Some members expressed that the park does not feel accessible to youth and families that are not directly involved in sports. Additionally, it is not clear that the sports fields can be used by general members of the community when games and practices are not ongoing. Further, space at the parks can be limited when sports are active
    - There is an overall sense that the park is not very pedestrian friendly.
      - Parking at the center of the park makes the park feel not very accessible for pedestrians. The core of the park is dedicated to vehicles and it can be difficult to feel safe walking or biking.
      - The gravel paths can be challenging to navigate safely during the fall and winter
      - Lack of connectivity for pedestrians
  - The role of the park in our community
    - The park as a place for community events, for gathering and meeting
  - Under-used resources:
    - The front of the park is not well-visited and is under-utilized. The memorials are places that people should visit
    - The "dead bleachers" hurt park flow and result in under use of that portion of the park
    - The creek and wetlands
    - Some expressed that the park overall is an under-used resource and that use has seen a dramatic drop off over the years
- The group provided the following feedback regarding the future of the park ON TOP of feedback already provided (see raw feedback on post-its):
  - Space for public / community art and sculptures
  - Consider recognizing COVID fighters and first responders in a memorial
  - What might be worth adapting from the 1920 plan?
  - The park should be inviting for youth

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- Consider multi-functional, adaptive areas
- Snack shack? Potential partnership with sports teams to expand the hours of snack shacks being open?
  - Related: Food trucks?
- A group that supports park maintenance and clean up?
- Walkway lighting
- Maximize benefits of the creek for kayaking, walking, educational opportunities (partner with library on this last one?)
- There is a need for connectivity and flow between passive and active recreational portions of the park
- Provide areas where teens can hang out safely and have a good time; provide teen oriented amenities
- Lean into the identify of the park as a memorial
  - Consider spreading veteran's memorial elements throughout the park, as opposed to just at the opening
  - Provide improvements to existing sports facilities

# ATTENDEES

 <b>Visitors Log</b> <i>Memorial Park Master Plan 2022 VB Meeting</i> <b>Village of Warwick</b>		
Date	Printed Name	<del>Signature</del> Organization
11/14/22	CARLY FOSTER	VILLAGE OF WARWICK
11/14/22	Adam Goldstein	Honestead Village
11/14/22	Bruce Peterson	Warwick Softball
11/14/22	Bill Binigaris	Park Avenue Elementary
11/14/22	Ron Ferraro	Rec Director
11/14/22	RON HENNEL	Ron Hennel
11/14/22	Brian Perez	Youth Football + Cheer
11/14/22	Emily Wilson	Albert Wisner Public Library
11-14-22	Tom Brennan	Amer. Legion Post 214
11/14/22	KIRK HIATT	KIRK HIATT@GMAIL.COM
11-14-22	Juliana Brossing	WVCLSD, YAB
11/14/22	Jenna Kaminski	Warwick Skatepark Trust
11/14/22	George McManus	VFW 4662
11/14/22	Paul Ray	Highlander Rugby
	Chris Thomas	SW. Wawayosco
	Brad Davidson	Highlander Rugby
11/14/22	Jonah Campbell	Warwick Valley HS



# AGENDA AND MEETING MATERIALS

VILLAGE OF WARWICK  
NOVEMBER 14, 2022

## Objectives:

- Introduce participants to one another
- Develop a shared understanding of the group's purpose, process, what we currently know about the park, and mutual expectations

## Agenda items:

- Introductions (30 min)
  - History and talking tour of the park
  - Role of the stakeholder advisory group and community guidelines
    - Is anything missing? Anything you might change?
  - Process, schedule for meeting
- Review of input received to date (30 min)
  - What are the key themes?
  - What are some of the tensions we are seeing?
  - Anything surprising about what you're seeing? What is missing?
  - Whose voice is missing and what do we do about it?
- Key questions for the group (30 min)
  - What are your responses to these same questions? (drop stickies, then discuss)
  - What does the group need in order to be most effective? (e.g., shared google drive, sharing contact info?)
- Next steps and next meeting
  - Any final thoughts?
  - Proposed assignment: Talk with someone who uses the park differently than you do about what they would like to see

## Next meeting (December 12) goals:

- Fill in apparent input gaps
- Opportunities and constraints at the park
- Goals and objectives for the park
- Work together to reconcile the goals and objectives with the opportunities and constraints



## ROLE OF THE STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP

Below is a list of responsibilities for nominees to consider. It will be important that the person nominated be ready to listen and participate as an equal community member with others. They will be asked to both liaison with your organization, but also think about the broader needs of our community.

- Liaison to other organizations
- Consider and accurately communicate the needs of our community (while participants will be expected to speak from their own perspective, they should expect to participate as advocates for problem solving and consensus, as opposed to for a single perspective)
- Problem solve and seek consensus toward solutions that will be best for our community
- Provide a vetting point and opportunity to refine ideas that reflect the feedback we receive from the community
- Be an ambassador for the plan and process (help people know what is happening and why)
- Communicate authentically; let the group know what is working and not working
- Listen to others
- Attend all meetings, if possible (or ensure feedback is shared in)

Is anything missing?

What does the group need from Village Hall to most effectively fulfill this role?

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## DRAFT COMMUNITY GUIDELINES

- Dialogue over debate (see table from We the People)
- Respect for our neighbor
- One speaker at a time
- Have fun!

Is anything missing?

What does the group need from Village Hall to help meet these guidelines?

**(Borrowed from We the People dialogues)**

The Differences between Dialogue and Debate

<b>Debate</b>	<b>Dialogue</b>
Assumes there is a right answer – and I have it.	Assumes that many people have pieces of the answer and that together, they can craft a solution.
Is combative – participants attempt to prove the other side wrong.	Is collaborative – participants work together toward common understanding
Is about winning.	Is about exploring common good.
Entails listening to find flaws and make counter arguments.	Entails listening to understand and find meaning and agreement.
I defend my assumptions as truth.	I reveal my assumptions for re-evaluation.
I critique the other side’s position.	I re-examine all positions.
I defend my own views against those of others.	I admit that others’ thinking can improve my own.
I search for weaknesses in others’ positions.	I search for strength and value in other’s positions.
I seek a conclusion or vote that ratifies my position.	I discover new options.

From *The Magic of Dialogue* by Daniel Yankelovich

*Listen to learn.  
 Speak to share from your own experience.  
 The goal is to learn as much as possible from others.*

MEMORIAL PARK MASTER PLAN  
STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #1

**CURRENT SCHEDULE:**

MONDAY November 14 , 7PM - VILLAGE HALL

Meeting 1 -

- Introductions and community guidelines
- Role of the stakeholder advisory group
- Process, schedule for meeting
- Review of input received to date - What are the key themes? What are some of the tensions we are seeing? What is missing? Whose voice is missing and what do we do about it?
- What are your responses to these same questions?
- Next steps and next meeting

MONDAY DECEMBER 12, 7PM - VILLAGE HALL

Meeting 2 -

- Fill in apparent input gaps
- Opportunities and constraints at the park
- Goals and objectives for the park
- Work together to reconcile the goals and objectives with the opportunities and constraints

MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 7PM - VILLAGE HALL

Meeting 3 - review and discuss preliminary draft plan

PUBLIC MEETING BEFORE FEBRUARY 19 - TO REVIEW THE DRAFT PLAN

MEETING 4

TBD, to review comments from public and necessary changes

FINAL PLAN - complete and post in March

Tentative: MONDAY, MARCH 13, 7PM - VILLAGE HALL

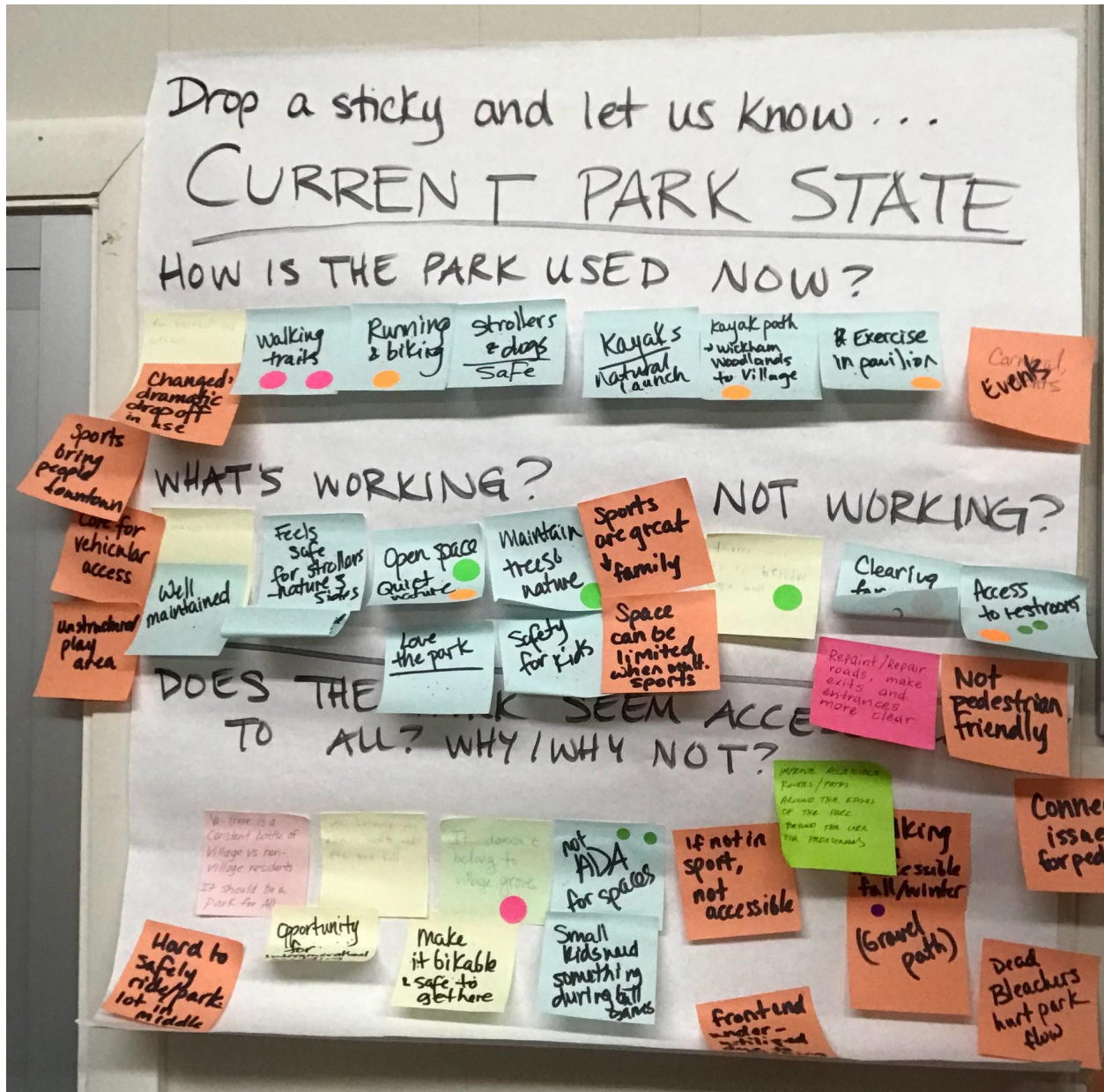
After action and learning, reflection and lessons learned for future similar processes

Does this sound right?

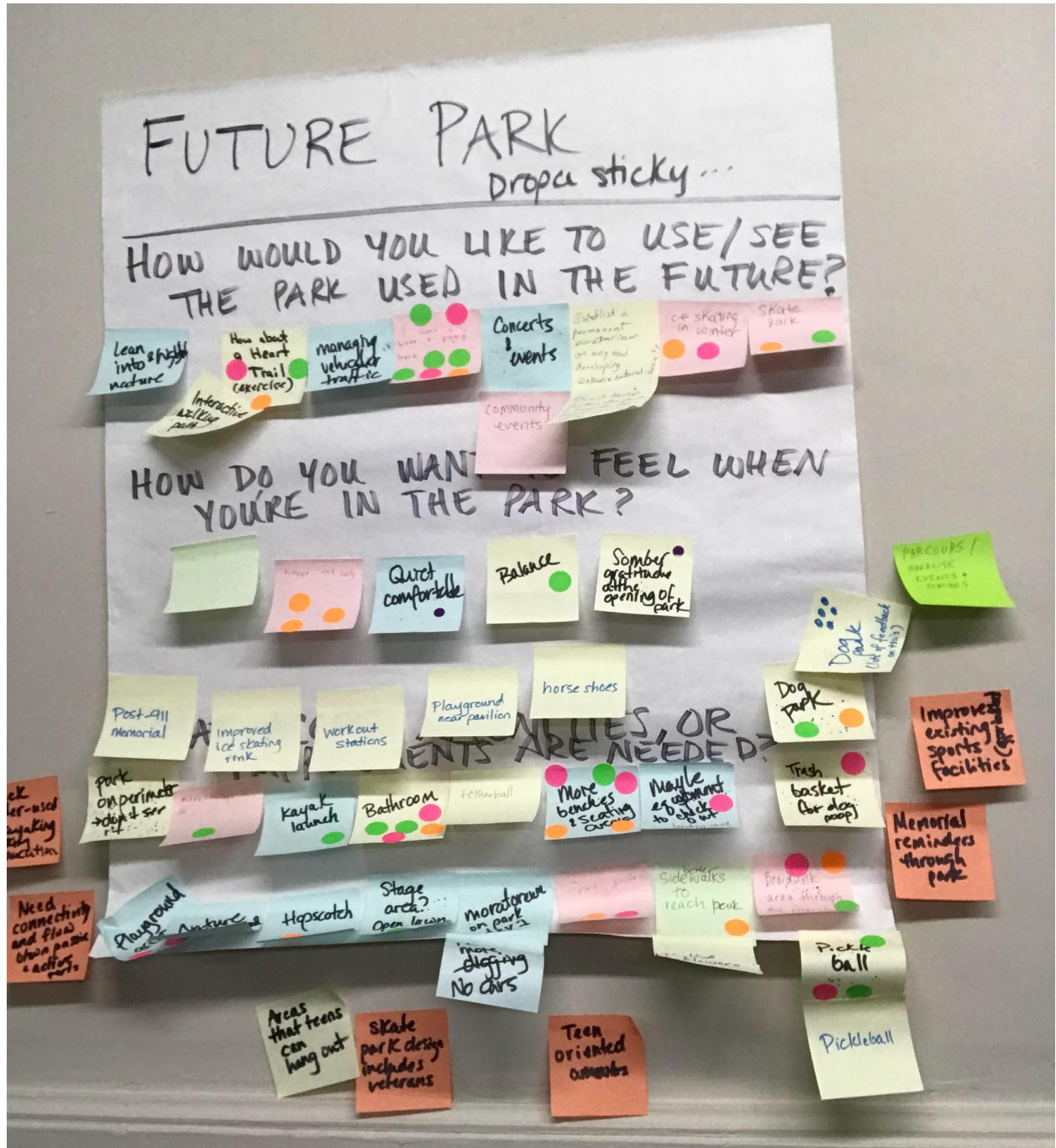
Anything you would change?

## IN-MEETING RAW FEEDBACK

Original feedback from May's listening session retained for reference. New feedback from the meeting is visible on orange sticky notes. New feedback from the virtual and in person suggestion box has also been added.



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STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP MEETING #1



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