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AGENDA AND MEETING MATERIALS

VILLAGE OF WARWICK
DECEMBER 12, 2022
630-8pm

Objectives:

- Review preliminary plan and identify areas of consensus, points of departure, and refinement related needs

Materials needed:

- 5 draft maps
- Name tags
- Post-its and dry erase markers
- Print-outs
 - Agenda
 - Questions by group
 - Skate park and pump track proposed concepts
- Sign in sheet

Agenda:

- (20 min) Gather, present early draft plan (Karen Arent)
- (40 min) Breakouts:
 - 4-5 groups with maps.
 - Seniors and teens
 - Veterans and EMS
 - Team sports
 - Other passive and active recreation
 - Questions by group
 - Mark up the maps to record the discussion
 - What should change and what should stay the same?
 - What features people have asked for are appropriate for Veteran's Memorial Park based on the goals and objectives that have been shared? Why?
 - Where are we seeing disagreement and what is the root cause of that disagreement? (to find the root, ask why 5 times, or until you cannot ask why any longer. Tip: the why will never be: because this person is just difficult. What need does the other person have that should be fulfilled?)
- (25 min) Report outs:
 - Key findings from the breakouts
 - How close / far off are we? Where was there consensus? Where disagreement? What are some of the root cause needs to be reconciled? Was the disagreement resolved?
- (5 min) Next steps and departure

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?

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?

(Borrowed from We the People dialogues)

The Differences between Dialogue and Debate

Debate	Dialogue
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 #3

SCHEDULE

COMPLETE - 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

COMPLETE - MONDAY DECEMBER 12, 630PM - 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

TODAY - MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 630PM - 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, 630PM - VILLAGE HALL

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

Does this sound right?

Anything you would change?

BREAKOUT INDIVIDUAL RESPONSES

IN ADDITION TO THE QUESTIONS FOR YOUR GROUP, PLEASE LET US KNOW:

Based on what you're seeing on the draft plan:

- What should change? Why?

- What should stay the same? Why?

- Where are we seeing disagreement and what is the root cause of that disagreement? (to find the root, ask why 5 times, or until you cannot ask why any longer. Tip: the why will never be: because this person is just difficult. What need does the other person have that should be fulfilled?)

Anything else you'd like to share?



VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK, WARWICK, NY

Action Ideas from Stakeholder Advisory Group Park Master Plan Brainstorming
Session (Jan. 23, 2023)

January 25, 2023

North side of Memorial Drive

1. Contact Army Corp and ask them to provide wetland boundaries.
2. Create an aesthetically pleasing grand entrance off Forester Ave. Show crosswalks aligned with walkway/bicycle way on sides of Memorial Drive. Enlarge the island and rework so it is more dramatic and aesthetically pleasing. Perhaps install Belgium block curbing around the island. (need approval from Planning Board for working inside Floodway)
3. Show more memorials throughout the park to commemorate various wars. Include art that references Veterans.
4. Wet Area near Waywayanda Creek: Idea for ice skating, another for green infrastructure. Idea: Why not do both? Create an ephemeral pool, 12-18" deep of so, ice skating oval. Gently slope it. Consider piping in storm water from adjacent pavement area after running it through a sand filter or grasses to cleanse of solids (might be too toxic for pond creatures. need expert advice). Carefully grade (do not grade when wet, use certain types of equipment to minimize compaction, etc). Stormwater will fill the space, like it does now. Need engineer to figure out how long it will take to fill to 12-18" based on perc and regular storm events. Some years it might be perfect for ice skating, other years it will just be a wet spot. Maybe it's a beautiful oval shape so it's beautiful even if not suitable for skating. Consider types of vegetation beneficial to the amphibians and other fauna that stays low so it can be left over the winter and will not impede skating possibility. Work with an ecologist who specializes in ponds in this area. From what I've learned over years of attending continuing education sessions about natural systems, is that it is constantly changing. You never know until you try something. In essence, create a skating area that doubles as an ephemeral pool. If perc is poor, it will need a gasket type structure that can open in spring to let water out into a bio-swale or another type of green infrastructure before it enters the creek.
5. Relocate the secondary kayak launch pad drop off pull over spot closer to the 911 memorial and guide kayakers to that location. Figure out where to put a launching dock where it will do minimal damage to stream bank. Show parking for kayakers and another launch area behind the



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Veterans Memorial Park, Warwick, NY

*Action Items from Stakeholder Advisory Group Park Master Plan Brainstorming Session on Jan 23, 2023
Date January 26, 2023*

- old skatepark. Show rock steps to traverse down the bank and sometime of dock or means for people to enter their kayaks. Apply for an Article 15 DEC/Army Corp permit about a half year before planning to build these them. Apply for Planning Board approval for permit to work inside floodway.
6. The main bathrooms and a pavilion should be located close to where the bleachers are that will be removed. Infrastructure exists here and it feels like a perfect spot for a main building. A pavilion is great here because it can service both baseball and football. These bathrooms should be on a timer, like Stanley Deming Park. Perhaps a Picnic area can be located here. Should we include some barbecue grills in the lawn? Perhaps a treed grove in left over space?
 7. Show two T-ball fields close to the parking area.
 8. Show a new fence with small enough openings that balls cannot fit through along Veterans Memorial Park Drive and along the parking area. Make sure it is low to ground. Show openings in fence for pedestrian crossings and access to the parking lot.
 9. Show trees both fences, on sides of parking lot. Show tree island between the parking lot and Memorial Drive.
 10. Eliminate the bathroom by the abandoned well since it is so close to the main bathrooms.
 11. Show pickleball courts on the soon to be abandoned skate park. Abandon idea to flood this area and use for ice skating since ice skating season is so limited.
 12. Connect a hard surfaced path from existing parking area by abandoned skateboard park to an area near the giant Oak for older and handicapped spectators.
 13. Show the approved parking lines for the above-mentioned parking area. Who do we get the design from?
 14. Remove trees in poor condition at edge of wooded area between parking lot and Oak Grove. Increase the grass field area. Keep the field mostly open to accommodate the carnival. Outline edges with trees.
 15. Plant trees along Memorial Drive.
 16. Show the exercise trail between the hero's garden and the parking lot looping around by the helipad perhaps thru the Oaks, by the bocci and pavilion to the pavilion parking. Create a shorter loop with benches every 100' or so, and a longer loop with benches further apart.
 17. Boardwalk: Walk in the general vicinity of the boardwalk and confirm the location. Prepare details and plans. Apply for appropriate permits from Army Corp, DEC, Planning Board (floodway permit). Check with Planning Board to confirm if the Lidar topo is enough to use for a permit.
 18. Remove picnic tables from Oak Grove. Consider groupings of Adirondack chairs, similar to those in nature conservancy properties. There could be a couple groups of 2, a couple groups of 4 and one of 6. Arrange in a semi-circle oriented towards the view of the park. Cut legs to accommodate the slope.
 19. Add as many bocci courts as can fit near the pavilion so there can be Bocce tournaments.

Veterans Memorial Park, Warwick, NY

*Action Items from Stakeholder Advisory Group Park Master Plan Brainstorming Session on Jan 23, 2023
Date January 26, 2023*

20. Show tether ball in this area.
21. Helipad, circle tot track: Is a 50' diameter circle large enough for a helicopter rescue operation?
Add working to honor the local vet /helicopter pilot that died in service.

South side of Memorial Drive

22. Show some picnic tables in this area, close to parking lot. Clear out invasive undergrowth and plant a groundcover to create a more aesthetically pleasing space and to expand views.
23. Locate Tether ball on west side of pavilion. Perhaps show a giant chess game close to the pavilion near one of the sheds (for storage of the giant pieces).
24. Add paths to outline sculpture garden and create large and small loops.
25. Baseball group very happy with the concession stand and bathrooms and the view of this space as one drives up. Trees along sides of baseball fields adjacent to parking lots to help keep balls in bound, keep views open and helps cool the space. Should a hedge or fence be shown to delineate edge of vehicular and pedestrian spaces and control access points? Show as much parking as possible and remove existing tree.
26. Should the bathrooms be updated or enlarged? They should also operate on a timer so Pump Track and Skateboard Park Users have close access to a bathroom. Do they need to be retrofitted so they can be open all year long?
27. Figure out appropriate amenities for the pedestrian space. Shade structures to enliven space?
28. How to improve aesthetics? New brick pavement areas instead of all asphalt? Color the asphalt? Add landscaping to soften buildings.
29. Separate bicycle and pedestrian path connecting Memorial and McFarland Drives? If not enough space, make them 12' wide.
30. Create a bird watching boardwalk into the pond. (needs Army Corp permit)
31. Grade the pump track space at 3 percent to determine area that needs to be cleared. Then coordinate with designer to see if it's acceptable.
32. Show picnic tables and a hang out space with views of these activities. Consider giant chess board or chess tables in this location. Can library loan chess sets?
33. Consider a looped path in the veteran area. Keep open grass space for event parking. Should this looped path be Patriot's Path? Should interpretive signs be placed along walking paths throughout the park denoting items of interest, sayings, or reverence for veterans? If pavements in heavily used areas such as the main bathroom and pavilion, the pedestrian space by baseball field are brick to match Stanley Deming, perhaps names of soldiers who fought from Warwick along with which war they fought in could be sprinkled throughout? Or maybe the looped walk around the veterans area is constructed with brick pavers with different symbols and soldier memorials sprinkled in? Maybe its arranged in a time line, going from one war to another?
34. Consider showing columnar trees behind fireman and veteran's memorial at entrance. Configure the grow so it appears like lined soldiers ready to march.

Veterans Memorial Park, Warwick, NY

*Action Items from Stakeholder Advisory Group Park Master Plan Brainstorming Session on Jan 23, 2023
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35. List ideas for memorials on the plan and figure out how to weave the memorial thread throughout the park. Include some type of memorial for dogs close to but outside of the dog park. Perhaps there could also be an interpretive sign somewhere that tells the story about how dogs are trained to help soldiers with PTSD and those that lost use of limbs? It's miraculous what dogs can be taught... they can even load and turn on washing machines. Unbelievable. Perhaps there could also be a book drop station for animal stories near the dog park.
36. Figure out an appropriate location for a revolutionary war memorial.

Bicycle and Walking Paths

37. Consider using red painted asphalt with white stripping on each side for bicycle paths. Consider hard surfacing that is natural looking such as chip seal for walking paths and use this pavement for existing paths as well.
38. One way bicycle paths that pedestrians will occasionally walk along should be a minimum of 6' wide. Confirm if 6' is possible along McFarland and Memorial Park Drives. Ideally there is also a 2' wide shoulder. Prepare a detail showing ideal widths. Consider icons to paint on the street to indicate direction of walkers and bicyclists.
39. Two way bicycle and pedestrian path should be 12' wide.
40. Create art moments along walking paths. Include larger pieces at path junctions and in open lawn spaces.
41. Weave in the Veterans theme.
42. Include book stations throughout the park. Site them near sitting areas.
43. Include interpretive signs along walking trails that explain the ecology, name trees, etc. Work with local ecologists for ideas.

Miscellaneous

44. Parking for Dog Park: Hopefully people can walk their dogs to the dog park as putting parking closer to this area will infringe on the Veteran's quiet/contemplative space.
45. Improved lighting was mentioned. If the park closes at dusk, which areas should be lit? Do football and baseball games extend into the evening? Should Park hours change if lighting is added?
46. Should a concession stand be added to the main bathroom building that is available after sport hours? Is there enough patronage to sustain something like this if people have to be paid to run it?

Site amenities and Furnishings

47. Benches could have a veteran's motif.
48. Veteran motif throughout the Park.
49. How to weave in reverence for veterans that are still alive