



Longfellow Park Community Meeting

Site Plan Revisit notes

March 18, 2014, Longfellow Center, 7pm

Park District Executive Director Jan Arnold welcomed the attendees and gave a brief overview of the original Longfellow Park site planning process held in 2007, the dollars allocated in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for Longfellow and the current comprehensive planning process and upcoming community survey. There is \$250,000 set aside in the CIP for ball field improvements in 2014 and \$300,000 allocated in 2017 for tennis court and lighting replacement.

Jan Arnold turned over the meeting to Darrell Garrison and Lori McCall-Vierow from Planning Resources, Inc. who completed the initial site plan in 2007. They reviewed the Phase I improvements completed in 2009 and provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding proposed future improvements to the ball fields and the tennis courts including a new backstop, player and spectator areas, reconstructed tennis courts and new tennis court lighting. Irrigation was installed in Longfellow Park in 2013. Minor regrading of the Longfellow field will be completed in 2014.

Questions and comments from the 12 attendees included:

Are the tennis courts going to be made regulation size? (Yes)

Will the field be regraded? (minor regrading will be completed)

Will the new tennis courts impact hockey and ice skating currently available? (A new liner system was tested at Lindberg Park this past year for ice. This system will be installed at Longfellow to allow the Park District to continue offering ice on the Longfellow tennis courts after the courts are renovated.)

There were several comments in support of keeping the ice and that people are enjoying it frequently.

Are the bleachers going to have backs to meet code? (No, the bleachers to be installed will only be a three-tier bleacher and will not require backs.)

Will fencing be removed? (Yes, the current fencing will be replaced with vinyl fencing around the park.)

Compared to before 2009, the park looks fantastic.

Any chance of synthetic turf on the field? (No plans at this time.)

There needs to be a stop sign at Cuyler and Adams. (Jan will contact the Village but encouraged those in attendance to contact the VOP transportation commission.)

Pedestrian crossing on Ridgeland was also suggested.

Construction to start in August at Longfellow in between the end of the baseball season and the start of soccer.