

Kiwanis Park Improvements – Public Meeting #2

February 9, 2017.

Report, February 16, 2017



Chris Aycock, facilitator



Purpose of Public Meeting 2

Public meeting 2 was held at Kiwanis Park on February 9, 2017. This meeting was held in support of the Kiwanis Park Improvements project. The purpose of this meeting was first to present the initial design and then share the results of the first public meeting and the City of Raleigh survey. Then the rest of the meeting consisted of public input on the four main elements of the design approach. These four main elements reflect the citizens input from both public meeting 1 and survey.

The Main Four Elements of the Design Approach

- New Building
- Neighborhood Connections
- Play
- Dog Run

Kirwan Architecture, lead consultant, assisted by the landscape architecture firm, DHM Design are the design firms who were present at this public meeting. Luke Wallenbeck, project manager, represented the City of Raleigh Parks Recreation and Cultural Resources. Chris Aycock, President of The Aycock Group, was engaged to facilitate the two public meetings and to create the reports on these meetings.

Public meeting 2 focus questions

1. For each of the four main elements of the design approach: What are important considerations for you moving forward as you use the park?
2. What questions do you have for the designers and the city?

New Building

What are important considerations for you moving forward as you use the park?

- Kitchen
- Can existing building materials be salvaged or recycled?
- Slope of roof on new building?
- Summer programs.
- Perhaps raise more of the site to reduce ramp length?

What questions do you have for the designers and the city? Response in italics.

1. Will there be a kitchen in the new building? *Yes, a microwave and refrigerator are part of the design.*

2. Can any of the existing building materials be salvaged? *Most cannot be salvaged, but every effort will be made to salvage what can be recycled or reused in some manner.*
3. What is the slope of the roof, will it be too flat for drainage? *The roof is designed as a 2:12 roof pitch and is planned to be a standing seam metal which is suitable at this pitch.*
4. There are many good views and windows in this initial design. Can more windows be added? *More windows are in consideration as viewed as important, however this is being balanced with issues around light, heat transfer, and costs.*
5. Will there be summer programs? *This will be a staffed facility. The City of Raleigh plans to have summer programs at this site.*
6. Can more of the site be raised to reduce ramps? *It is part of the design to meet ADA requirements and raising the new building in a flood plain does require quite a bit of ramping. The design team will look at ways to reduce the length of the ramping, reduce the slope and / or provide ramping that is integrated into the site experience.*

Neighborhood Connections

What are important considerations for you moving forward as you use the park?

- Enhance landscaping
- Nature paths
- School access
- Pave path to dog run
- Bike racks
- Clear way for getting to park from across the street
- Sidewalks to the park
- Clear delineation of the park or park entry on Noble Road

What questions do you have for the designers and the city?

1. Can natural play areas and nature paths remain and be enhanced? *Yes, many trees and natural play areas will remain. Currently the plan is to focus on the playground in regards to structured play areas.*
2. Will the playground have items for people with disabilities? Will the improved playground provide play space for our younger children? Will this play space also provide an opportunity for our older kids so they can be nearby instead of being at the nearby school playground? *Yes, there will be a variety of equipment for a variety of ages and city parks are required to have equipment for children with disabilities of varying ages.*
3. Can the path to the dog run be paved? (This refers to the mulched path shown through the trees) *There are advantages and challenges. This is being evaluated and balanced with cost to the project. There will be a paved path to the dog run from the parking area.*

4. Will sidewalks be provided to the park? *The main idea is to have the park most accessible from the street with existing sidewalks. In addition, there will be entrances as well as appropriate access from the greenway. A connection is planned between the park and the greenway.*

Play

What are important considerations for you moving forward as you use the park?

- 0-5 years more spaces
- Open spaces
- Pickleball vs more playground vs shelter
- Natural play areas

What questions do you have for the designers and the city?

1. What open spaces will be in the design and where will they be for open family play? *The existing open spaces will be in proximity to the new building as they are currently. In addition by moving the bathroom facilitates to the new building and demolishing the old bathroom building, this will provide more open space.*
2. Will the shelter be rentable and will it be durable? *Yes, to both parts of this question. The shelter benches/tables use HDPE materials and are tethered to the ground. The shelter is of the size to be rentable.*
3. What is the role of pickleball as this is a growing sport? *There will be the ability to play pickleball. Pickleball is increasing in popularity across the city. This will provide a location for playing outside.*
4. Can the basketball court be expanded? *No, there are pipes/sewer lines under the in the area where this would be expanded. A new basketball court is being provided.*

Dog Run

What are important considerations for you moving forward as you use the park?

- Hours of operation
- Water

What questions do you have for the designers and the city?

1. What will be the hours of operation? *The hours of operation will be dusk to dawn.*
2. Can there be water at the dog run? *No, due to site restrictions in the flood plain a water source cannot be provided at the dog run. However, there will be an outside water fountain on the building, in addition to the inside water fountain. The water fountain outside will be one with a bottle filler so that it is easier to fill water containers.*