

**Minutes of Jenkins Park Annual Public Hearing
February 4, 2009 (7:00 pm to 8:15 pm)**

Attendance:

Arlene Ida, Sat Ihara, Lynnette Ziskin – Jenkins Park Advisory Board members
Kim Ireland, Tim Szczepaniak – Town Council members
Fifteen community members.

Discussion Topics and Questionnaire:

S. Ihara gave a PowerPoint presentation of the following three discussion topics and explained the questionnaire coordinated with his presentation:

- Park improvement projects
- Future plans
- Revival use of #3 field for baseball

Park Improvement Projects and Community Response:

S. Ihara described fifteen park improvement projects at various stages of progress as listed in Table 1. The questionnaire asked each participant to evaluate each of the projects. The evaluations by the community were overwhelmingly positive, and people liked all fifteen projects.

Table 1. Park Improvement Projects

Completed in 2008	On-going	Starting soon	Over the horizon
1 Walking path toward Beechwood Dr	6 Flower bed maze	8 Two bike racks	12 Two standup seesaws
2 Playground play set	7 Two new seesaws	9 Two new benches	13 New pavilion
3 Stone dust for Broadway		10 Pavilion benches	14 Wild West Nature path
4 Stone dust for pavilion floor		11 Bat & Rabbit houses	15 West gates
5 Bluebird houses			

Future Plans and Community Response:

S. Ihara described plans of involving friends of Jenkins Park in planning and fund-raising for park improvement projects. The objectives are to unite the community of park users through work parties, regardless of their residencies in or out of the park district, and to decrease the park tax through successful fund-raising from users. S. Ihara made an announcement of the following three work parties:

- March 14, Saturday Brush and tree cutting party
- April 4, Saturday Raking and cleaning party
- May 16, Saturday Maze garden planting party

S. Ihara promoted three groups of friends; namely, (1) doggy friends who like to walk dogs in the park, (2) gardening friends who like to tend the maze garden, and (3) Coyote friends (Trail friends) who like to cut trail toward Scotch Bush Road from one of the west gates to be installed in the chain link fence of #3 field.

- Mr. Szczepaniak has trees available through a grant, 20 of which he could give to the park for the maze garden.
- Mr. Guyer offered assistance in fence repair and gate installation.
- Mr. Hagan offered cooperation of Boy Scouts for pavilion benches, trail cutting, dog park design & construction, and rabbit & bat houses.

The questionnaire asked participants a few questions on their interest levels. The result indicated that:

- Many people like the flower garden, willingly work, and donate.
- People like Wild West Nature trail, but not coyotes, indicating that from now on, we should promote trail friends instead of coyote friends.

Revival Use of #3 Field for Baseball and Community Response:

S. Ihara described the present state of #3 field as a fenced area for dogs and birds. The fence is deteriorating, and its repair or removal is required. It is planned to save grass cutting cost by leaving the grass grow tall for bugs and birds in the middle section of the field and cutting grass only along the fence for dogs. In order to revive the field for Charlton Black Sox to play baseball, we need (1) a new parking lot near the park entrance, (2) unbudgeted grass cutting, (3) fence repair and vegetation removal along the fence, and (4) field up keeping.

Mr. Szczepaniak expressed his concern regarding possible traffic problems arising from the baseball revival, and discussions followed.

The questionnaire asked participants to approve the revival use of #3 field for baseball contingent upon the following two conditions:

- A new parking lot shall be built near the entrance.
- The revival shall not rely on the tax money.

The response was overwhelmingly positive, and the people approved the baseball revival.