

**Town of Knox**  
**Town Park Improvement Plan Public Hearing**  
**May 17, 2017**

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Lefkaditis  
Councilman Barcomb  
Councilman Barber  
Councilman Hanley  
Councilwoman Pokorny

The meeting was called to order at the Knox Town Hall at 6:12 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilwoman Pokorny agreed to act as recording Secretary.

Town Park Improvement Committee Chairwoman Maryellen Gillis explained that the committee is made up of members of the Knox Youth Council, town board members, and interested volunteer residents. This plan is based on public input from survey results showing support for improvements to the town park.

Ms. Gillis outlined three phases of the park plan, which would be implemented over a period of 3 to 5 years:

1. Install a) playground equipment and an (approximately) 18' x 18' shade shelter, b) 18' x 32' building with bathrooms and seasonal kitchen, c) walking trail improvements
2. Remove old tennis courts and install outdoor recreational area with basketball, tennis, racquetball courts; increase parking and install weather protection enclosures for the pavilion
3. Improve play area on soccer field with practice fields and a full size field that could become a revenue source for tournaments.

Ms. Gillis introduced playground equipment manufacturing company representative Robert Pettinelli, and presented illustrations of the proposed playground equipment configuration. He also provided a sample of the painted steel material that is used. His company has extensive experience installing playground equipment in NY state parks.

Much of the funding for the plan is expected to come from grants and volunteer work to meet in kind match requirements. The committee also plans to request corporate and small business donations of money and/or materials and supplies. A "community build" would be organized to solicit help from about 30-40 citizen volunteers for installing the playground equipment in one weekend.

The committee is working to develop plans that are shovel ready to increase the likelihood of being awarded the competitive grants. A budget needs to be developed for Town Board approval, with in kind estimates from the Highway Superintendent, and a resolution or letter of

support from the Town Board is needed. Chairwoman Gillis also asked that the Town Board consider allocating funding for this project in the budget for 2018 as priorities allow.

Comments:

- The bases of the vertical support posts of the pavilion have some damage from moisture and weather.
- Structures with roof space should be designed and oriented to be “solar ready,” to be able to accept solar panels if needed.
- A well and septic system are needed.

The meeting adjourned at around 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
May 22, 2017  
Amy Pokorny