



Meeting Minutes

Dowdy Park Design - Public Input Meeting November 20, 2014, 5:30 pm Nags Head Board Room, Nags Head, NC

Design Team & Committee Members Present

Commissioner Susie Walters
Kelly Wyatt
Teresa Kerber
Kerry Sanders
Chris Dewitt

Andy Garman
Ralph Barile
David Elder
John Jennings
John Delucia

An advertised Public Input meeting was conducted by the Design Team members on November 20, 2014. The meeting began with welcomes and introductions by John DeLucia followed by brief comments by Chris Dewitt. Andy Garman then presented the Survey results and comments that were received via written and web based surveys. Over 700 responses were received by the meeting date and the results indicated that most felt that the park should have the ability for active and passive recreation, social events, cultural events and open spaces. The survey results were presented in an overall response and also sorted to show only responses from the Nags Head zip code. Both sets of results seemed to be similar in their preferences.

After the presentation by Andy Garman, the floor was opened for general public input and comments. There were approximately 25 to 30 citizens in attendance and 10 to 12 people spoke during this period. Many comments paralleled those that were suggested during the survey to include open space, performing areas, art themed facilities, farmers markets, trails, quiet areas, shady areas and the park's interrelationships with the adjoining facilities, neighborhood, school and YMCA. Several speakers requested facilities such as a skate park, dog park, basketball court, rock wall / bouldering area, tennis practice wall and even relocation of the Veterans Memorial. Many felt that the park should contain bathrooms, picnic areas, benches, tables, a multi-use shelter as well as parking and bicycle racks. The Public asked that consideration be made to lighting the park for extending the hours of usage. It was also stated that the 11-16 year olds needed a safe area to recreate. The discussion included configuring the park for all ages with a playground, benches/tables, open lawns, and landscaped areas with shade trees. Discussions of shaping the site with some topographic relief was deemed desirable as was creating a safe route to the school through the site.

Overall the conversations and discussions were very positive. The desire to identify this park in relationship to the Bonnett Street beach access, YMCA, Nags Head Woods and the Satterfield Landing soccer fields was discussed, as was the interrelationship of the new US 158 sidewalks. Some suggestion of wayshowing signage was mentioned as was the development of an overall

Town recreational opportunities document. Overall there was much positive feedback. The attendees were informed that there would be another opportunity to review the three conceptual plans that will now be developed by the consultant. The anticipated conceptual plans were to be provided to the Town before the Christmas holidays and the Committee anticipated a presentation to the Board of Commissioners of the conceptual plans at a workshop meeting in mid-January, 2015.

The meeting lasted until approximately 7:00 pm and then adjourned.

By: John M. DeLucia, PE 11/24/14