

Village of Deer Park Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda

February 16, 2023 – 7:30 p.m.

Deer Park Vehe Barn, 23570 W. Cuba Road, Deer Park, Illinois 60010

Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Approval of Agenda

Public Comments – Sign-in prior to meeting at podium; 5 minutes time limit per person

Village Treasurer Roscoe

- a. Budget Fiscal Year 2023-2024

Village Administrator McAndrews

- a. Ferndale Park **Pages 3-8**

Old and/or New Business

Consideration of Motion to adjourn to Executive Session - If needed

Adjourn



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DATE: February 14, 2023

TO: Village Board of Directors

FROM: Village Staff

RE: Summary of Ferndale Park Survey

To obtain an understanding of the Ferndale Neighborhood's interest on how to proceed with Ferndale Park, a letter was sent to 56 residents asking for input on the following;

Here's our Ideas, which require Your input and consensus:

1. Leave the Ferndale Park land as it exists today...open.
2. Incorporate (3) Park benches along the perimeter of the property, so the land remains "open."
3. Reinstall a modified fencing backstop for limited use at a cost of approximately \$7,500. (if property owners living adjacent to Ferndale Park approve.)
4. Propose a "small" playground in the center...to be incorporate into future Park Plans.

Responses were asked to be received by Village Staff by February 1st.

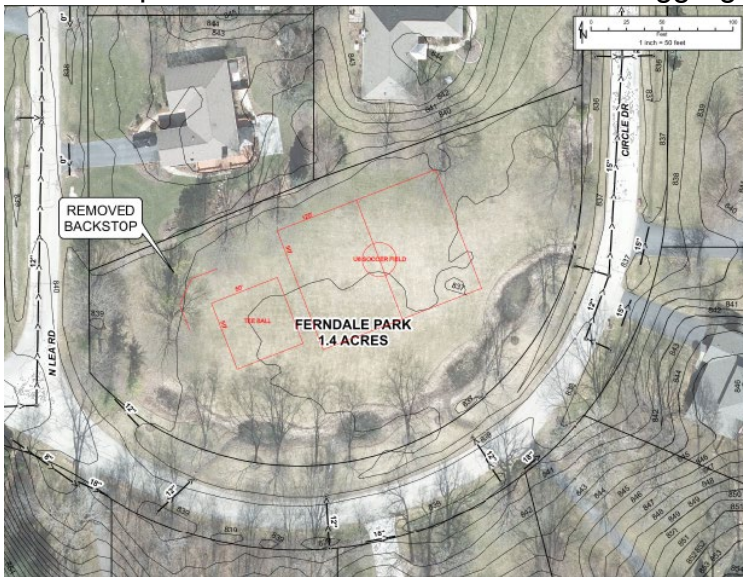
Summary of responses;

- 21 responses were received
- 10 responses would like to leave the park "As Is"
- 11 responses would like change;
 - 8 – Reinstall fencing backstop
 - 4 – Park benches
 - 2 – playground

Christopher Burke performed a high-level review to assess possible amenities given its size. Here is a summary:

- The park has adequate open space to fit a t-ball field and a U8 soccer field. There would be overlap with the t-ball field outfield and the soccer field. This is not a recommendation; we just want to show the sport field dimensions within the park area.

- This area is a stormwater depression, and when it rains much of the park will be inundated with water, similar to D'Angelo Park. Any improvements should try to be constructed at-grade to not reduce the stormwater storage volume. Any fill would have to be compensated for in another area of the park.
- There are geotechnical considerations, given the likely wet soils from the stormwater depression. If an asphalt path were proposed, it would likely require some additional undercut and aggregate compaction for stability



Possible Actions to be considered by the Board;

- No action
- Replace backstop at same location, approx. \$7,500
- Add new items; park sign, benches, trees
- Consider installing playground equipment which would begin with commissioning CBBEL to perform a field survey – Approx. \$8,000.

Ferndale Park Survey				
As is	Change	Resident	Address	Thoughts regarding Park
x		BENDEL	39 CIRCLE	Small park, more soil o remove wetland spots and add bench and trees.
x		BOSSLET & CHAMBERLAIN	27 W. CIRCLE	We live directly across from Ferndale Park (the sign is across from our driveway). We would like to see it remain open. We would be open to alternatives since we have enjoyed the pleasure of seeing the park used for all kinds of sports and activities by kids and families. Just feels funny that our use is being dictated by owners living adjacent to Ferndale Park. Just saying. Thanks for reaching out.
x		Caizzo	20205 N. LEA	In response to your letter dated January 17, 2023 in regard to Ferndale Park, we want to leave the Ferndale Park land as it exists today...open. We live directly adjacent to Ferndale Park and DO NOT want the reinstallation of a fencing backstop! Nor do we want 3 park benches placed along the perimeter due to the wildlife garden that runs along the street side of the park. We also do not want a small playground in the center of the park. This area becomes waterlogged when it rains and a playground in the middle would destroy the park's open look. Ferndale Park needs to be left as it exists today...open.
x		HOLMQUIST	35 N. CIRCLE	We at 35 Circle prefer the park remain open or with perimeter benches (options 1 or 2 in the letter we received) rather than reinstalling fencing (too expensive) or putting in a playground (will make the field unusable for any sports).
x		LAMMERS	20345 N. LEA	Option 1 would be my choice for the following reasons. 1) six months of the year it is winter and no one uses the park 2) for the other six months of the year 74% of the time the ground is too wet for any use. I know this because I cut through the park walking the dog wearing water proof boots 3) in my time living here I have yet to see anyone using the park for any activities 4) the benches in Charles Brown park with all the visitors it receives are rarely used. In a park with less visitors benches would never be used and a waste of Village funds another option sell the land to a developer for a single family home (probably with out a basement) and drain tile installed
x		OLSON	13 FERNDALE	Leave open
x		Peters	40 FERNDALE	Called in on 1/23/2023. Lived in house for 30 years. Big walkers. Never seen anyone play baseball there. And if they did the balls would go into the raingarden and doesn't think it's good for people to walk in there. She has never seen anyone in the park playing. Leave it open space.
x		RANDE	20300 N. LEA	We're writing in response to the letter you sent on Jan 17 requesting input on the future of Ferndale Park. Our preferred option is #1 from your list (leave Ferndale Park as it is today). It is a useful open area in its current form and is a great place for kids and pets to play. No modifications are necessary. Our second choice among the options would be #2 (add park benches along perimeter). We suspect they would be seldom used, which is why this option is our second choice. The option still leaves the park as an open area for kids and pets to play and probably costs very little. We do not approve of a playground or a baseball diamond. These are unsightly and costly. Additionally, Charles Brown park is nearby for anyone who wants access to a play ground or a baseball diamond. If we're going to spend money to make improvements, we feel the funds used to add a playground or baseball diamond would be better allocated toward improving the path that connects the Ferndale Woods subdivision with Charles Brown park.
x		WALSH	41 FERNDALE	Thank you for keeping the neighborhood informed about and involved in addressing the situation at Ferndale Park. And for focusing the discussion around a a limited set of concrete ideas. My wife, Karen Cornelius, and I fully support #1: leaving the park as is. Regarding the benches, our question is why. If the purpose is to enable/encourage everyone in the neighborhood to get out and about more, then we fully support idea. Otherwise.... Regarding a new backstop: no. In the 20 years we've walked our dogs through the neighborhood neither of us has ever seen anyone actually using the old backstop. Finally, if and when a proper Ferndale Park Plan is drawn up, then a small playground should certainly be one of the options considered for inclusion.

As is	Change	Resident	Address	Thoughts regarding Park
X		Doug Duff	?	Elderly gentleman left message on Greg's cell phone 847-738-1194. To leave park as is. Can't hear or find his last name.
	X	BENJAMIN	20366 N. LEA	We have owned and lived at 20366 Lea for 50 years and witnessed much of the development of the surrounding area to include new residential streets, new single-family houses and additional parkland. At the time we purchased our lot Lead Road ended at the intersection of Lea and Circle. The land, where Charley Brown Park is now located, was completely fenced off as a horse pasture with a historical barn where the parking lot is now located. Within a few years a developer purchased a large part of the original farm, much of it on the north side of Long Grove Rd. All the north side Long Grove was developed into single family homes while the south side was turned over to the Village of Deer Park (compensation for building fees, etc.) Over the years since Deer Park's ownership there have been several transformations, not only in the development of CBP, but also on the land south of CBP and north of Circle Dr. and Lea Rd. This land was considered un-buildable at the time. So, for a long time in its existence the only open land for neighborhood recreation was what is known as Ferndale Park. The backstop for neighborhood pick-up games was, and still is a valuable part of our neighborhood, especially for young people that need more security and guidance than what CBP can offer. We are in favor of #3 in your inquiry: reinstall a modified fencing backstop with appropriate signage indicating no organized usage.
	X	BLUEMER	20245 N. LEA	I am a resident of Ferndale Woods and have two children, ages 5 and 4. My family was also very disappointed that the backstop in Ferndale Park was removed, and would request a replacement put in. It is a great little park where we can allow our kids to play, and the backstop supports this. Thank you.
	X	BRANDT	20270 N. LEA	We vote for a small playground
	X	BRUCKNER	30 FERNDALE	As a resident of Ferndale Woods for over 20 years and not seeing any "real" attention paid to the open space in the neighborhood, it is encouraging to hear of some discussion on the green space now. The neighborhood has definitely changed and has many more young families now (we used to be the "babies" in the neighborhood... NOT anymore). It would be lovely to have a welcoming, community space there. I like the park bench idea, especially if there was a small path running around the space to show some separation from the houses on Lea and Circle. Possibly the addition of some trees as well would be lovely.
	X	EYERLY	20 W. CIRCLE	My home is directly across from Ferndale Park. I have three young daughters and we love having the open space for the kids to play and run around under our watchful eye. The kids in the neighborhood have often met up and used the space for all their activities. The absence of the backstop that long stood there is concerning. There are many kids in our neighborhood who utilize it for practice and play. Charlie Brown park is a welcome place for our family and others in our community. But, as a lot of our children are still young, we are not yet comfortable to send them independently. I feel it would be best to update the Ferndale Park space for our needs. So much goes into all the other park spaces in Deer Park and our small space has very little to offer. A new backstop would be a welcome addition. Although, I urge the village to consider additional updates to the space. I couldn't be happier to learn that the village has offered these options to our community. I have been in contact with several other neighbors whom have differing views on the possible update. The placement of a new backstop seems to be a concern of the adjacent neighbors, but I think the small playground option would be great for many of us. There has been concern about the amount of water that drains to the area and how that might affect the development as well. I assume these issues have been considered. Along with a small playground I think a couple of benches would be a great addition. I am looking forward to see what these possibilities might bring.
	X	FETMAN / Crenshaw	21 W. CIRCLE	We support the backstop in Ferndale woods being replaced.
	X	KAMINSKI	34 N. CIRCLE	I am all for the backstop at Ferndale Park.

As is	Change	Resident	Address	Thoughts regarding Park
	x	KOSIROWSKI	19 W. CIRCLE	As a resident of the neighborhood at 19 Circle Dr., I would like to see the backstop replaced in the park. It doesn't take up any room and it's nice for kids and parents to practice pitching and playing baseball, kickball, etc without having to chase after missed pitches. I don't know why it was removed in the first place.
	x	Draper	34 FERNDALE	As long as our connection to Charles Brown park remains, another playground is not necessarily the most important thing for this space. Right now the Ferndale park does not get used and I think that is because it feels like it is someone's backyard. We would like to see a fence, benches, and a baseball backstop in this area. There should also be signage to signal that it is a public open space for all to use
	x	PETERSON	20230 N. LEA	Recommend the small backstop be replaced. Ideal site for informal pickup baseball games that have continuously occurred there for the past 40-50 years.
	x	STOLARCZYK / Zakharchuk	42 N. CIRCLE	We are the residents at 42 Circle Dr and we absolutely love the idea of having the park improved. As many new families with kids moved into the neighborhood it would be wonderful if we could have a small playground or sandbox area closer to the roundabout/road area so as to be as far from neighboring houses as possible. Have a few benches for parents to sit and chat and maybe a few more trees planted. We would absolutely love that.
		ALLEN	37 FERNDALE	
		BARDAK	36 N. CIRCLE	
		Bielko & Kacprizynska	33 FERNDALE	
		Burger	38 FERNDALE	
		Buzil	17 FERNDALE	
		COMBER	20320 N. LEA	
		CZAPSKI	10 W. CIRCLE	
		DANIEL & BOEMI	35 FERNDALE	
		DARDANES	43 N. CIRCLE	
		DEYOUNG	24 FERNDALE	
		FARNAUS	11 W. CIRCLE	
		FLURRY	21 FERNDALE	
		HARRIS	12 FERNDALE	
		HEINS	20385 N. LEA	
		HORBAN	20374 N. LEA	
		JAEKEL	16 FERNDALE	
		KAY	11 FERNDALE	
		KELK	36 FERNDALE	
		KOENIG	31 W. CIRCLE	
		Loughlin	20 FERNDALE	
		Magnuson	39 FERNDALE	
		Pagliuco & Baratta	20210 N. LEA	
		POWELL	38 N. CIRCLE	
		ROTH	20250 N. LEA	
		RUCKS	13 N. CIRCLE	
		SABATELLO	20340 N. LEA	
		SCARIMBOLO	20265 N. LEA	
		SEKIGAMI	20337 N. LEA	
		SIKORA	33 N. CIRCLE	
		UMLAAF	23 W. CIRCLE	
		URBAN	20225 N. LEA	

As is	Change	Resident	Address	Thoughts regarding Park
		Urban & Irvin	40 N. CIRCLE	
		Van Der Voort	25 FERNDAL	
		WELLS	29 W. CIRCLE	
		ZIENTARA & STELMASZCZYK	16 W. CIRCLE	
		ZIMMERMAN	14 FERNDAL	