

June 25, 2012

**State of Illinois
County of Cook
Village of Stickney**

The Village of Stickney held a Special hearing on Monday, June 25, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. in the Stickney/Forest View Community Room, located at 6800 W. 43rd Street, Stickney, Cook County, Illinois

Those in attendance: President O'Reilly, Clerk Audrey McAdams, Trustees Jeff Walik and Jeff White, Deputy Police Chief Frank Figueroa, Public Works Supervisor Cody Mares and various members in the audience.

President O'Reilly informed the audience that the purpose of this meeting was to discuss the reissuance of the grant for the redevelopment of the park on 42nd and Oak Park. The original grant was turned down because it was too age specific. We made the proper adjustments so we feel we can now go forward with it. We want to explain this and get some input from the public.

A power point presentation was now shown. It was titled: Outdoor Recreation, Master Plan, from LandTech Architecture. An overall view of all of Stickney's park area was given. It included: The 66 acres that makes up Veteran's Parkway that we lease from the Water Reclamation District, Haley Park and then the park located next to the library. A suggested prototype of the proposed playground was shown.

President O'Reilly explained the proposed design of the playground. He started by saying it will have a rubber surface to protect kids if they fall down. He showed the splash pad. He pointed out the 16 foot square shelter. Berms and trees with landscaping and benches were pictured. An existing tree will be kept. There will be a butterfly garden that will include a rain-recovery-system that will collect the rain and water the flowers. The sand box has been changed to a mister to cool off in. A permanent bean bag toss game will be added. The library could hold the bags with people able to check them out with their library card.

There will still be a security camera installed. The play structure will be in the center along with a swing set. There will be all rubber ground. Another picture on the power point showed the blue play area at Veteran's Memorial Park, the skate park. An example of a water spray was shown.

A question from the audience was, "What age group are you targeting?" President O'Reilly responded that it will be toddler to teen. It will be a secure lot with cameras. An additional question referred to the age bracket for the original grant request. President O'Reilly explained that it was geared for under 12. We are taking reference to the tot lot out and calling it a "Family Park". Another question from the audience was, "Will the old equipment be trashed because of safety issues? The reply was, Yes. A better explanation was given about the proposed butterfly garden. This garden will be planted with the types of flowers that attract butterflies.

President O'Reilly appealed to the audience to bring up any ideas they may have concerning things they may think could enhance our other parks. Trustee White addressed the mister device. The power point picture was referred to. It was discussed that the mister would be on a timer that would turn off to save on water usage.

An attendee mentioned adding mulch and flowers to Haley Park. President O'Reilly told about Faith Community Church adopting a section of Haley Park and planting flowers. The need for mulch was addressed. She mentioned that some of the tree roots are exposed. President O'Reilly explained that the mulch was replaced in the playground area last year.

A question was asked about whether the proposed park will have a family area. Yes it will. A question was asked about the hours. The hours will be sunrise to sunset like our other parks.

Trustee Walik asked about the bike path grant. President O'Reilly said we applied for it. It is a hard grant to get. We knew that we had a targeted area that the county was looking for. The county was looking for a connection to Morton College. We could offer that by going through Veteran's Park going all the way to Morton College. It is a Federal Grant and it is difficult to get.

An audience member asked for clarification about the grants. She was told that we applied for the bike path grant and another one for the playground. President O'Reilly said they usually give short turnaround notice. A comment from the audience came in about extending a bike path around the railroad area. President O'Reilly explained that there are bike paths that do incorporate railroad areas. The audience member thought that would be ideal to connect with Lyons and keep going through the forest preserve. President O'Reilly said that usually Federal Grants don't have the earmarks that they used to have. We did include letters from our Senators and Congressman when applying for this grant. The money comes through the state from the Federal government. The park grant comes through the state and is called an Osland Grant.

A final question arose if there were be benches at the new park.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey McAdams, Clerk

Approved by me, this 26th day of June, 2012

Daniel O'Reilly, President

Audience at June 25th 6:00 p.m.

Bea Callahan, 4126 Grove

Brittini Senese, 4410 Clinton

Jim Lazansky, 7019 W. 40th Place

Doris Helebrandt, 6528 W. 41st Street

Martha Gomez, 4102 Oak Park

Deborah Morelli, 4404 Oak Park

Natasa Dzolic, 6929 Pershing Road

Mitch Milenkovic, 4222 S. Ridgeland.

Jeff Walik, 4420 S. Wenonah

Scott Milenkovic, 4223 Ridgeland

Ron Ungard, 4220 Home Avenue

Cody Mares, 3912 Wesley Avenue

Gloria Medina, 4120 Elmwood