

A special meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Moreau was held on August 19<sup>th</sup> 2019 in the Town of Moreau Municipal Building, 351 Reynolds Road, Moreau, New York for the purpose of discussing the Universal Playground.

The Supervisor called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

### **Town Board Members Present**

John Hogan	Councilman
Alan Vantassel	Councilman
Kyle Noonan	Councilman
Theodore T Kusnierz Jr.	Supervisor

### **Town Board Members Absent**

Gina LeClair                      Councilwoman

**Also present:** Tammy Daley, Deputy Town Clerk; Lisa McCorkell, LA Group; Leore Kushner, Parkitects; Kathleen Moore, Post Star.

Supervisor Kusnierz started the meeting by welcoming everyone and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to continue to work with the LA Group on the Universal Playground. Lisa McCorkell from the LA Group stated that she had some sketches of the playground for everyone to look at and follow along with her as she does her presentation. She said that these are concepts, so they are rough but she thinks they are pretty exciting, and everyone should be able to get a good vision of what the playground could look like. The goal is to go over these drafts and get some feedback on them and also to go over any changes.

Ms. McCorkell talked about the layout of the proposed Universal playground. Supervisor Kusnierz commented that the driveway into the playground would have to have enough room for two vehicles. He also wants to have adequate parking for the people who come to the park. He stated the parking lot would probably have to be moved.

Leore Kushner from Parkitect stated that things could be moved around, and it should be an easy fix. They like to keep the parking lot close to the 2-5 year old part of the park so it isn't so far for them to walk. He wanted to talk about the pieces and what is in each section of the playground. He started out with the 2-5 year old part of the playground. He started by saying the green part on the drawings is called poured in place surfacing which is easier access for wheelchairs and walkers. He explained each piece of equipment for this section of the playground. The first piece he talked about was the cozy dome. It's a great climbing piece, and can accommodate 5 to 12 kids at a time. There are also toddler swings in a place away from the older children's swings. The next piece is from the Weevos system. The manufacturer believes play should be in 360 degrees in all different directions. This piece makes the children think on how they want to play and how to enter. There will also be something like a see-saw. It is spring loaded so children won't get hurt. Children in wheelchairs can wheel up to it and transfer into the seats. Councilman Hogan asked if it needed two people to be operated. Ms. McCorkell stated no, you can have 1 person on it and it will go. He also stated that all the pieces are strong enough to hold adults too. There are also play panels, which are very popular with this age group. There are music ones, color ones and some that sing. There will also be benches throughout the playground. Usually it's the parents and caregivers that bring children to the park, and they will have a place to sit. Ms. McCorkell stated that there will be some shade and also some kind of fencing around the playground, so parents and caregivers can feel safe that their kids won't run off into the woods or somewhere else in the park.

Discussed next was the 5-12 year old part of the playground. There will be a walk way up to the central piece of the main structure of the playground. There is also a walking path that goes up to a ramp that leads to what they call "sway fun". It can accommodate 2- 3 wheelchairs and other kids as well and it rocks back and forth. Once the wheelchair goes up the ramp, there are play panels they can do. This leads to a roller slide. There is also another piece that will challenge the child. They climb up the wall, then try to go all away around without touching the ground using the ropes. Councilman VanTassel asked about the other material that is around some of the equipment. Mr. Kushner stated it was engineered wood chips and is about 14 inches deep. There is a layer of fabric, then about 3 inches of small stone, another layer of fabric, and 10 inches of wood fiber. He stated the wood fiber would have to be topped off every couple of

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years. It is usually a nominal cost for doing this. In this area also would be an Oodle swing. Where wheelchairs and walkers wheel up to and get on it. They can even lay flat on it to swing. He stated you could probably get 4-5 children on it at one time.

Councilman Kusnierz asked if all the equipment has to meet a New York State standard. Mr. Kushner stated that they had to meet National standards and New York State standards. He was going to get all the information to the Board. He also stated they will have an auditor come and inspect everything when it is done. Supervisor Kusnierz asked if everything they are looking at tonight is for construction for this season. Mr. Kushner stated for phase 1, it would include the main focal piece of the 5-12 area and the splash pad. The pad is a simple pad with some sprinklers in it and an elevated seat wall, this gives kids and adults a place to sit if the water is on or off. He also stated that the splash pad might have to be moved if the parking lot is going to be placed there. Supervisor Kusnierz stated that there would be another point of entry and exit on the other side of the basketball courts. He also stated he would like to see actual pictures of each piece of equipment. They told the Board members they would get a copy of each piece and send it to them.

Ms. McCorkell stated the two pieces that are in phase 1 are the two biggest, which will cost a great deal. With the spray pad you don't see everything that you are getting for your money because a lot of it is getting the water to it, and disposing of the water afterward. Also it's part of the playground and not separate. She stated that since the spray pad is a paved area it could be used for other functions when it is not in use. There's raised seating there too. Councilman VanTassel asked how many phases there were. Ms. McCorkell stated that there were three.

Ms. McCorkell asked if anyone wanted to give feedback on any of the pieces or the layout of the pieces. Supervisor Kusnierz encouraged them to take a ride to the park and see the clearing that has been done since they were there in early June. He stated Boces finished up clearing there at the end of June. He thinks that it will be better visualized on where they want to start. The Board wanted to have the initial phase focused on the back side of pavilions 1 and 3. He stated that he was pleased with what they presented and that it encompasses a wide range of abilities. That was a key goal of what they wanted to accomplish along with the three phases. After the completion of phase one, they hope to have some leverage on additional funding that will get them into phase 2 and 3.

Mr. Kushner stated, when he goes down and looks at the area again, he will take some pictures. Supervisor Kusnierz stated they have two pavilions there and he might want to know where the restroom up the hill is located. Mr. Kushner stated that the restroom needs be located a certain distance from the splash pad. He is not sure how far away. He would get back to them on how close it needs to be. Ms. McCorkell stated they will get another updated concept from what they talked about here. Maybe there will be other pieces or different pieces they might want to add or take out. She stated they are still looking at October for a start date on pieces that aren't looking to go out to bid. Supervisor Kusnierz stated he wanted to get a contract in place this year so they aren't paying more money next year. Mr. Kushner stated that it might make more sense to wait until early April to do the splash pad. He stated that they forgot to mention one piece when they were talking about all the pieces. It is called the wee go round. It is to the left of the splash pad. Two or three wheelchairs can go in there and there will also be some benches. There is a central piece in the middle that spins.

Supervisor Kusnierz stated, after they receive the PDF's on the equipment, they will provide feedback on the individual pieces. Mr. Kushner suggested they get the feedback first, then redesign it. Supervisor Kusnierz stated they will have a brief meeting and sign off on it so they can get started.

The meeting ended at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Daley,  
Deputy Town Clerk