IRVING PARK DESIGN COMMITTEE (Meeting Report) November 23, 1971

The Irving Park Design Committee met at the N.D.O. #2 to discuss the development of Irving Park. King, Sabin and Irvington areas were represented.

In attendance were:

Irvington - Mr. Herbert L. Amerson

Mr. Bob Belcher, Planner

Mr. Michael Maloney

Mr. Michael O'Halloran

Mr. Jim Sumner

Mrs. Jane Quinlin

King - Mrs. Rosadelle Summers

Sabin - Mrs. Betty Walker

Consultants-Mr. Ken O'Kane

Mr. Hugh Mitchell

P.D.C. Staff-Mr. Chuck Olson, C.O.

Mr. Mulvey S. Johnson, C.O.

Mrs. Juanita Wagner, N.D.O. #2

Chuck Olsen, Planning Coordinator of the Portland Development Commission outlined briefly the N.D.P. stages that the areas surrounding Irving Park is in and states that in-put from these areas would be beneficial financially.

Herb Amerson then began to outline what his committee wanted for Irving Park:

- An additional baseball field is needed to draw the 13-16 year olds into the park as the two fields already there are used by little league.
- 2. Tot area needs repair and the addition of new toys. The area is also in need of better supervision and water in the wading pool.
- 3. Full time director, hired by the city, to coordinate competitive sports between the North and South YMCA's and the Dishman Center.
- 4. Covered basketball courts would draw older kids to the park and would provide a place for competitive games (refer to #3).
- 5. Rehabilitation of the track (refer to #3).
- 6. Rehabilitation of the tennis courts, new surface, nets and lighting are needed.

These things the committee feels should be initiated immediately.

Consultants recommended that an effort be made to draw large support from $K_{\bullet}V_{\bullet}S_{\bullet}$ and Eliot areas and to involve as many young people as possible-get their opinions on what the park needs.

Mr. Belcher suggested that if a full time director was not possible one program director might rotate between parks.

Citizen participation was greatly stressed, especially soliciting the young adults.

Consideration and discussion were given to the old Congregational Church on 9th and Fremont for a Day Care Center and Young People's Recreation Center.

Mr. Edward Erickson from the Bureau of Parks, City of Portland, was very much impressed with the idea of rotating programs from one part to another and also with the idea of experienced help supervising the programs. He also stated they should have facilities and recreation for senior citizens, such as tables with checkerboards painted on them and benches to sit on, that have proven very successful in the west side plaza blocks. Since attention is mostly directed to young boys, he suggested possibly more recreation facilities could be geared to the young girls.

The planners agreed the program presented at this meeting was quite thorough and they will initiate a plan for presentation at the next meeting on December 15, 1971 at N.D.O.#2.

All representatives agreed to discuss the above ideas with their groups in order to be prepared for the next meeting on December 15th.

ACTION TO BE TAKEN:

Herb Amerson will meet with the King Neighborhood Association to present his committee's park improvement proposals, asking for their involvement and support. CEO asked the Park Design Committee if they wished to have the services of Mitchell, McArthur, Gardner, O'Kane Associates as park design consultants. The Committee said they would be very happy to have their services. The firm will present some preliminary graphics and drawings of a park master plan and the proposed improvements for review by the Committee on or about December 15th. After this review the plans will be presented to the neighborhoods for general approval, in late December or early January. It was agreed that a first phase of construction should begin in early Spring.

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IRVING PARK DESIGN COMMITTEE MINUTES

December 16, 1971

The meeting was opened by Bob Belcher, Planner for Irvington. Those attending were:

Betty Walker
Herb Amerson
Robert W. King
Harriet Levy
Edward L. Erickson
Dick Stites
Bob Belcher
High Mitchell
Mike Whitmore
Doug Bridges
Jane Quinlin
Mulvey Johnson
Marlene Hoskins
Gwendolyn Young
Marian Scott

Sabin
Irvington
Eliot
Irvington
Parks Department
Comm. Goldschmidt's Office
Irvington Planner
Mitchell, McArthur, Gardner, O'Kane
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Portland Development Commission
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King

Hugh Mitchell presented the Irving Park redesign (proposed). Suggestions of changing parking from southeast corner to 7th Avenue side.

Ed Erickson, Bureau of Parks, spoke to the proposed redesign of Irving Park. He felt that there must be some type of fencing between the tot-lot and other areas to assure safety of small children rather than have them wander aimlessly into other areas. A fence would also serve to keep bikes, dogs, etc. out of the tot-lot. In redesigning the park shelter, thought should be given to the needs of small children, as well as senior citizens, Mr. Erickson felt. He further felt that the allocation of space was excellent, except that for senior citizens (which is weak). Close proximity to the young, he feels is necessary.

From the floor it was asked what would be provided for young girls. People of all ages have been considered in the planning, it was pointed out.

Mr. Erickson mentioned the irrigation system. He felt that the proposed ballfields were critical. He saw no way of making four fields in so small an area. There would have to be space between them, thus making it possible for two Little League, or one Pony and one Little League diamond. He felt that an analysis is needed at this time, perhaps list some priorities.

It was moved by Mr. Amerson and seconded by Mr. King that tot-lot, walks, lighting, basketball slab, and a temporary backstop for a baseball field would be the priorities for Phase I (immediate implementation). Motion Carried.

There is a need for a Committee to work with the Parks Department as designers wherever needed. Mrs. Harriet Levy volunteered to serve and was certain that Mrs. Quinlin would work also (Mrs. Quinlin had to leave prior to this). This Committee is to meet within the next two weeks to determine programming and staffing. Sub-Committee members are:

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> Betty Walker Harriet Levy Jane Quinlin Jim Summers Marian Scott Robert King

Sabin Irvington Irvington Irvington King Eliot

It is hoped that a Director would be hired early in order to have him work with the Committee. By January 15th, there is the need to firm this up with Ed. Erickson. The Parks Dept. staff met in Dec. to hire staffing for various parks. This is an attempt at firming up workers for the summer.

Phase 2 should be prepared by Feb. 1, 1972, for 3rd. action year. This allows for the fall construction needed in the park.

IRVING PARK PROPOSAL

This proposal is presentedby the Irvington and Sabin Association's joint Committee on Irving Park.

The situation as it is: Only one basketball net existing on 20 x 30 black top strip

Tennis Courts- ripped and torn nets- not cleaned and adequately maintined-no lights

Tot area- inadequate facilities -- one unfilled wading pool.

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Baseball Diamond- two baseball diamonds (upper and lower) that are not providing the needs of the community.

Track facility has never been improved.

UCI 12 1971 Park facilities- No existing park facilities-ie 2 benches-no tables-heating facility that does not work.

Programe nonconsistant program in Irving Park for several years.

This Proposal is to improve Irving Park facilities and create park activities to meet the needs of this community.

1. BASKETBALL We are proposing that the area that is now blacktop with NON CASH? 1 basketball hoop be expanded to accomodate 3 full courts with a concrete base and covered (like Sabin and Irvington School's) .

2. TENNIS COURTS NOW CASKS New nots - lighting and maintaining - that the tennis facility be completely renovated with the addition of (lights) to provide night activities.

TOT AREA That the tot area be completely renovated-by fencing in the PROS. IMP. area and the addition of similar facilities as Unthank Park. (This would include keeping the wading pool filled and maintained)

4. BASEBALL To expand the baseball facilities to include ages 13:15 which would necessitate the addition of a new baseball The Upper Field(attachment 1)diamond the one to be expanded for a full baseball diamond (Ponky League requirements) The Lower Field (attachment 2) adding an additional Little League diamond as well as renovate the existing one.

Now (AS U) Improve the existing track in the Upper area of Irving Park. 5. TRACK

We are asking that funds be provided for the physical part of this proposal through some of the existing agencies, Model Cities. Neigborhood Development Programs, PDC etc.,.

This committee is willing to discuss this proposal at any lenghth but we don't want anything to hinder the implimentation of this facility where it could not be operable or in operation by early Spring of 1972--So that we are asking that this proposal be given immediate consideration.

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