

VILLAGE OF CALEDONIA

PLANNING COMMISSION

Tuesday September 13th, 2022
8p.m. Caledonia Village Hall
250 S. Maple St. SE
Caledonia, MI 49316

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES FINAL

AGENDA

Planning Commission Attendees: Sylvia Murphy (acting as ProTemp), Kimberly Peters, Gerrienne Schuler, Gayle Ott, Amanda Crozier, Nathan Mehmed, Village Planner, Jeff Thornton, Village Clerk/Manager

Additional Attendees: Jennifer Lindsey, President

Missing: Bill Robertson, Chad Chambers

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL – 8:00 pm**
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE**
3. **CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING AGENDA**
Motion by Schuler
Seconded by Ott
Motion Carried
4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS (BRIEF – UNDER 2 MINUTES, AGENDA ITEMS ONLY) - none**
5. **INQUIRY OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - none**
6. **NEW BUSINESS**

Community Green Splashpad presentation by Richard Robertson from the Township of Caledonia

Apologizes for the short notice meeting. Dog Park was #1, pickleball courts, splash pad – all top requests from community for incorporation of the park [Community Green]. In getting grants, needed to make adjustments. Demand for more pickleball courts, ended up putting them where the splashpad was originally designed to be. Never intended to do away with splashpad, just to find a new location. Plan before the PC tonight is where we would like to go. Bidding environment is high, thought we were putting it out for 2023, and to our surprise, people that were willing to start right away. Had been in touch for approval, but felt like the change, warranted coming to the PC to be on the same page. New location has been debated on the Township board, but majority felt this new location is best. Bid on the maintenance building were 200,000 higher than expected, so moved on to splashpad. Would like to have it done before winter to use next year.

Admin review for pickleball court vs coming before PC. Would have to look at ordinance to see what the Village's ordinance is for starting projects. Prefers to comment on site plan. Approved in 2018. Swapping for pickleball was last year. They were never saying they wouldn't do the splashpad in the future. Minor vs Major reviews. IMS is zoning administrator. Site plan amendment was then approved with the swap. The minor amendment for the maintenance building, felt like it should come before the PC due to changes in parking, landscape, etc.

Unsure of 2018 plan, but thinks could be smaller than the previous design. In terms of parking, don't see is substantially different since the intent was always to have one. Parking has always been a challenge, but lots of parking. Journey has arrangement to use library parking for services. Question then would become, do we pave park for more parking. Meeting with the library happened today – doesn't want to speak for them but they seem to feel it won't negatively impact them. Parking for the car show was empty the dog park. Adding a walk to the splashpad from the pavilion, in idea to direct traffic. Landscaping will be added as well to direct traffic.

Murphy - Concern that it will be just a slab of concrete.

Crozier & Peters – think it's a good idea like Grand Haven and Zeeland.

Picked pickleball courts initially because they are used longer during the year. There will be a short wall for seating that could be story time for the library as well. No above ground features. When not in use, will look like a patio.

What is the size? 20 x 34 – oval within oval – inner oval will have the “water”

Certain hours? Closed at sunset, but haven't discussed open time. Maybe 10 am.

Question has come up of why adding water feature when there is Issue isn't that we don't have water, just an issue when everyone wants to use it at the same time.

Township pays for the water as part of recreation budget. When added the community green, it was an added expense. Added to the Township. We are in a good financial position. Won't have to raise taxes to pay for water. Water will be municipal. End up in Emmons Lake when drained, dechlorinated. Buttons to set hours and then push to come on by user. Water pressure is good in Caledonia

Mehmed - Parking – no standards for public parks in ordinance. There is something about ordinance on library parking. Just ensuring due diligence for proper parking for all. Encourages shared parking.

Could pave other area, but doesn't put them closer to the splashpad.

Library owned by Township, so both areas owned by Township. Trying to be good landlord and good tenant. Could address parking issues if it becomes an issue.

Built into the hillside purposefully, similar to Charlevoix. No lights. But might be able to use the seating for luminary walk.

Might have steps for Journey church, but no promise for anything.

Concern is that wet feet will go into library and could cause slip hazard. Remedy would be to add a wipe pad or they would add carpet. Going back to what the community wanted, trying to give them that and be responsive. And address issues that have already been wrestled with.

Murphy – can we get a better sketch?

Schuler – what is the maintenance look like? Person working in the Community Green already, very meticulous. Not sure what it looks like but will do what is necessary.

Kent County Landfill has a tree farm they will give you. Looking at planting trees to provide shade (in lieu of shades that would be up year-round). What will be removed will be replaced along with the ones that aren't doing well in the pavilion area.

Positive feedback from article, other than concern on why it didn't come to the planning commission.

As concerned as PC is on safety. Township's building so their liability. They will address things like wet floors, etc.

No health risk from run off. No iron in the water, won't stain anything.

Still wants to use the majority of the greenspace for events, that's why it's off to the side.

Nothing beyond the splashpad and maintenance building to come. Oldest 1 room wooden school in the state. Moving that old school building could be the only remaining project.

Construction traffic will be on a temporary road and not impact the library.

Motion by Schuler to approve site plan as presented with usual stipulations of review per section 14.2
Seconded by Crozier
Motion Carried

Roll Call –

Yes - Crozier, Schuler, Peters

No – Ott, Murphy

7. **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS - none**

8. **ADJOURNMENT at 9:04 pm**

Respectfully Submitted,



Kimberly Peters

Planning Commission, Secretary

250 S Maple St.
Ph. (616) 891-9384

Caledonia, MI 49316
Fax: (616) 891-9730