

The Town Board recently conducted a discussion about the playground on the Common adjacent to the ice arenas. After a complete review of the playground, with the assistance of professional engineers, alternatives to improve the playground are being considered. The Town Board would appreciate your ideas. Please send comments to my office at 1 Town Hall Plaza, Clifton Park, NY 12065 or via e-mail at pbarrett@cliftonpark.org. During the next several weeks we will establish priorities and a budget necessary to complete any approved alterations to the playground.

Several years ago, the Town Board discussed the possibility of renovating some or all of the playground. During the public discourse, many people expressed opposition to major changes/replacement of the playground equipment. At that time, the Town Board decided to not move forward with any changes to the equipment. The original construction of the park was a successful community effort, led by volunteers. The park structures are made of wood and require a great deal of consistent maintenance. As you will see from the information below, our focus is on individual elements at the park that are not popular and have experienced significant wear over almost 30 years.

One element of the playground we have discussed is the future of the brick path that circles the playground. Through many years of the elements, trees and foot traffic, many of the bricks have deteriorated. A number of the bricks have engraved names, purchased by individuals to assist with the funding of the playground. Unfortunately, we do not have a master list of people that purchased bricks. There are many considerations involving the brick path. The most practical option is to remove the bricks and install an alternative surface or grow grass. If that process were initiated, we have discussed options that would include providing people that purchased bricks or their family members, the opportunity to retrieve their brick. Prior to any final decisions on the future of the brick path, we will consider any and all options.

Please see some of the priorities that are being considered below. As the initiative progresses, we will provide updates.

Phil Barrett
Town Supervisor

CLIFTON COMMON PLAYGROUND REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE

OCTOBER 31, 2017

Summary

After assessment of the current playground and the generation of ideas that were passed on to MJ Engineering, an initial engineering report was completed. The Committee reviewed the report exchanging ideas and narrowing priorities. The following items were deemed of most importance in no particular order including action needed to complete.

Priority/Action

Priority #1: Improve aesthetics of entrance

- a. Remove old poles as you enter the playground
- b. Remove dated, wooden decorative features
- c. Plant greenery

Action: Work would be performed by Town Personnel



Priority #2: Remove fencing and individual play structure toward rear of Park

Action: Work would be performed by Town personnel



Priority #3: Remove tire "Stepping Stones"

Action: Work would be performed by Town personnel



Priority #4: Sand and stain wood structures where applicable

Action: Develop plan for 2018

Priority #5: Replace slide(s)

- a. Straight metal faced slide should be removed
- b. Twirl slide should be considered for replacement as necessary

Action: Work to be performed by contractor—bid with new structure package



Priority #6: Brick Path Removal

Action: Work to be performed by Town personnel or contractor



Priority #7: Replace underutilized area with toddler space

- a. Remove individual attractions in the front, left quadrant
- b. Replace with new equipment for toddler age group
- c. Remove peastone and install rubber base with new equipment

Action: Work to be performed by contractor

