

RECREATION & COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

A G E N D A

TOWN OF CHINCOTEAGUE

August 11, 2015 - 5:00 P.M. – Council Chambers - Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

AGENDA ADOPTION

1. Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park
 - Fundraising/Island Grocery
 - Playground Equipment for Phase III/ Additional Equipment
 - Sign
2. Project Updates
3. Committee Member Comments

ADJOURN



STAFF REPORT

To: Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee

Through: Robert G. Ritter, Town Manager

From: William Neville, Planning Director

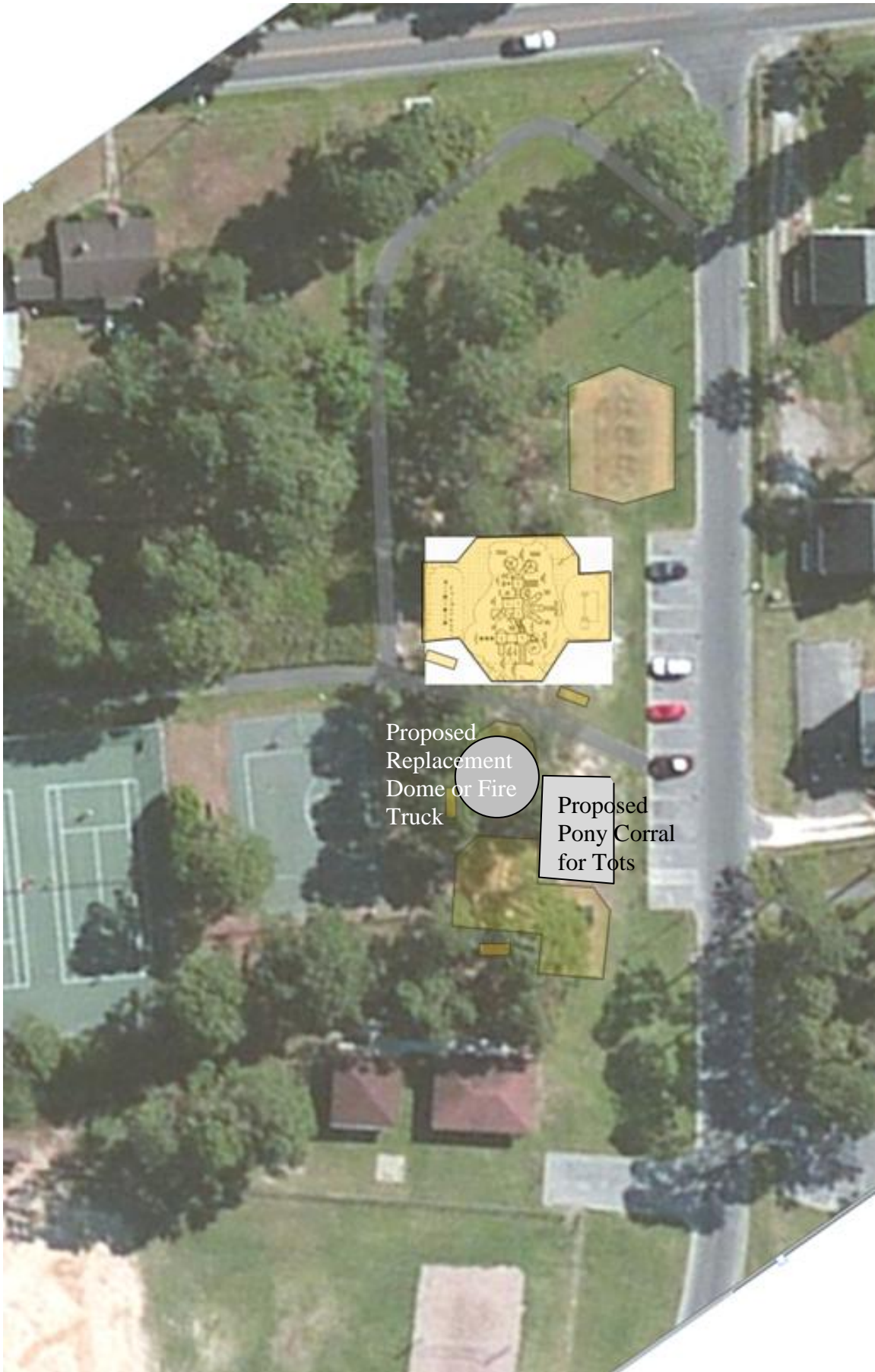
Date: August 11, 2015

Subject: Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park Playground

❖ Discuss Installation Plan for Phase Three Playground Enhancements



RCEC committee members have proposed several additions to complete the playground area including a fire truck (donated by the CVFC), a climbing structure to replace the existing dome, and a little pony corral in the area of the 'blue circle' equipment. Staff will present options at the meeting for consideration along with a report on the remaining funds in the playground improvement fund.



Proposed location of Phase Three Playground Equipment – August 2014

To complete the current playground improvements at Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park, the Committee requested a sign that would identify the play areas, provide playground rules, and express appreciation for the donations provided by the community.

- **The Committee is requested to review and approve the sign concept below so that it may be prepared and installed.**





MEMORANDUM

The Town of Chincoteague, Incorporated

To: Recreation and Community Enhancement Committee
Through: Robert Ritter, Town Manager
From: William Neville, Director of Planning
Date: August 11, 2015
Subject: Project Updates

The status of ongoing projects is updated below for Committee review and discussion.

- **The Committee should consider preparing 5 year cost estimates and recommendations for the Town Budget for any new improvements identified in the Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities Inventory, dated September 2012.**

Downtown Main Street/Robert Reed Park

The Main Street revitalization project, acquisition of Bridge Street right of way, purchase of additional land, and construction of the fishing pier are all changes that will be incorporated into an overall master plan for Robert Reed Downtown Park.

- Next Steps:
- **Park improvements for the Robert Reed Park Annex are under construction.**
 - Shared Parking agreement with the Health Center has been completed. The Public Works Director will prepare a land use permit for the designed improvements.
 - Construction for east side of Main Street streetscape improvements has been completed. Final phase improvements are in the design phase. Phase 2D will go out for bid in Fall 2015.
 - Waterman's Memorial sculpture location has been approved by Town Council and will be reserved for future installation.

Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park

As the most complete Town Park with a range of recreational use facilities, the focus continues to be on maintenance and completing minor improvements

- Next Steps:
- **Phase II playground equipment has been installed. Committee will consider Phase III additions based on available funds.**
 - New tree planting recommendations are needed.
 - New life rings have been installed on the pier

- Drainage improvements around the playground, installation of new play surface mulch, removal of the tire swing and repair/replacement to current playground equipment is ongoing.
- Incorporate planned improvements into the Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities Inventory

Mariners Point

Committee members have identified the overlook area at Curtis Merritt Harbor as the number one priority for planning future open space and recreational opportunities in the Town. The Ships Mast has been installed as a part of the Chincoteague Island Waterman's Memorial.

- Next Steps:
- **Installation and inspection of Boy Scout Eagle projects**
 - **Ships Mast Chincoteague Island Waterman's Memorial compass base is in progress**
 - Low fencing may be advisable as a safety measure around the perimeter of the guy wires
 - Update the Outdoor Recreation Areas and Facilities Inventory document showing the proposed improvements and the Ships Mast Memorial as needed

Ocean Boulevard Extended

The small bridge/boardwalk to be constructed over Fowling Gut has been completed.

- Next Steps: -
- **A new grant application has been prepared and sent by Town Staff to request RTP funds for paving the OBX trail.**
 - Prepare an agreement with property owners along Coach's Lane to obtain an easement for extension of the bike path to connect back between properties to Maddox Boulevard
 - Continue working with USFWS or other sources to obtain grant funds for paving the trail*
 - Install signage and schedule an 'soft' opening ceremony

CNWR Bike Trail Extension

FWS completed the boardwalk bike trail connection to the Chincoteague Museum by extending the trail across the front of the Museum property to a new crosswalk location and connecting the Maddox Boulevard shoulder bike lane.

- Next Steps:
- **Coordinate with Accomack County to obtain approval for a FLAP grant application for shoulder improvements to the Route 175 Causeway, and a separate Town of Chincoteague application for shoulder and sidewalk improvements along Maddox Boulevard.**
 - Bike lane improvements along Maddox Boulevard from the Traffic Circle to AJ's Restaurant may be approved for construction through the remaining Sarbanes Grant funds or with a long term VDOT capital project (see **FLAP grant application**)

- Interim shoulder improvements around the traffic circle are being considered by the Public Works Director for possible construction with VDOT maintenance funds

Park Signage

The Committee approved an addition to the main sign at Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park which commemorates the families who donated land for the park. The sign was installed by the Public Works Department in June 2014. Signs were also donated and installed between the playground and the basketball court which encourage proper behavior.

- Next Steps:
- A replacement sign has been installed at Mariners Point
 - Consider incorporating the research, design and manufacturing of interpretive signs for the Robert Reed Downtown Park expansion area/Historic Bridge information kiosk.
 - **Install playground signage at Chincoteague Veterans Memorial Park**

Hallie Whealton Smith Drive

The Town received a Safe Routes to School construction grant to construct a bicycle shelter and a shared use trail between the Elementary and Combined Schools along Hallie Whealton Smith Drive.

- Next Steps:
- **Final plan approval and advertisement for construction bids will be completed in August 2015. Additional constructions funds that will be necessary for construction of the entire project are proposed for FY16 grant approval.**
 - 90% complete construction plans have been prepared by consultant and submitted to VDOT for review.
 - Environmental permit applications have been prepared by the Town
 - Schedule a meeting to review the proposed trail alignment and several design details with School administration

Donald Leonard Park

The Leonard Family has completed Phase One improvements with the assistance of a landscape designer to recommend plantings and improvements to the Park. This location has been discussed as a possible location for installation of improved water access for a kayak launch. Town Council approved the location of a ‘memorial boulder’.

- Next Steps:
- Refine park master plan (possible soft shoreline demonstration project)
 - Identify incremental improvements to be completed as a part of regular Town maintenance program
 - Donna Leonard will present information regarding the purchase and installation of a pier, floating dock and kayak launch area.

Island Nature Trail

The Island Nature Trail includes approximately 1.2 miles of paved and unpaved trails located in preserved open space along Hallie Whealton Smith Drive. The paved trail surface has buckled and needs to be repaired and repaved. Hurricane Sandy caused wind and flood damage to numerous trees throughout the park. Mature pines have been stressed by the pine bark beetle.

- Next Steps:
- Review park master plan to determine if newly cleared areas provide an opportunity for additional open space uses and natural plantings.
 - Identify trail paving to be completed as a part of regular Town maintenance program, or pursue grant applications. Grant application filed with Virginia DCR in December 2013, environmental permitting is underway with assistance from A-NPDC.
 - DCR grant awarded in January 2015. Contract awarded in May 2015 to Branscombe Eastern Shore for 2" asphalt overlay of the existing paved Nature Trail. **Installation of new surface is completed. Maintenance and planting activities will be scheduled over the fall and winter season.**

R. Watson Sr. Memorial Park

The Chincoteague Garden Club maintains the perennial garden project.

- Next Steps:
- New planting and brick sidewalk improvements have been completed along with the Main Street revitalization project.
 - Future improvements are planned with additional funding or donations

LeKites Memorial Park

A proposed natural trail and wildlife observation deck/boardwalk is proposed as a new park area that would open this area for limited public access.

- Next Steps:
- Prepare a concept plan for approval by Town Council with cost estimate for park improvements.
 - Hold a public hearing with written notice to adjoining land owners
 - Seek funding or donations to complete the project in phases, possibly incorporating volunteer labor as a community project.