

Special Meeting- Park Planning 2/1/16

- In attendance, 10 neighbors
- Top improvements that neighbors would like to see: walking trail around park perimeter, tennis courts converted to basketball courts, tree planting, improved access to the river for kayaking/canoeing/fishing, native plantings to address erosion and flooding along riverbank and along steep sloping area just west of the school
- Current structures such as stone walls, pavilion and pool need to be assessed to determine needed repairs and costs
 - Natalie will contact state preservation office to see what technical assistance they may be able to offer in conducting assessment
- Pool has historic designation, group agreed that this designation should be sought for the entire park
- Friends group, with non-profit 501(c) 3 status is likely the best way to accomplish goals of seeking funds, grants, donations
 - Amy will begin this process
 - potential grants may be sought from GM, IBEW, UAW
- Other suggestions for features- interpretive displays to provide education on the history of the civil engineering features of the park, spec. the evolution of the technology that is present
 - solar lights on columns
 - engage kids with a 'Design Your Park' contest utilizing design software, potentially STEM students
- General discussion on handicap access, condition of playground equipment, issue of bathrooms being locked, planning a Spring clean up
- Jonathon and Kristing Faasse, neighbors and landscape architects will begin work on a mockup 'redesign' of park including features and environmental concerns discussed
 - will schedule next meeting to review and provide feedback when the initial sketch is complete