

carol lolatte

From: Leslie Montgomery <lesmont@soyarnet>
Sent: Wednesday, April 30, 2014 8:04 AM
To: skateparkideas@brattleboro.org
Subject: Crowell Lot

Dear Members,

I agree emphatically that all those wishing to express opinions should be heard out and vetted when the site selection committee has organized and permitted the opportunity for on-site discussion. However, I think there should be a distinction between what is an opinion/hearsay and what is actual fact supported with empirical evidence to what exactly is being claimed. I personally found it fundamentally disturbing when one of the BASIC's members made a statement as if it were a given fact implying a future exercise loop was apparently well accepted by the neighborhood below the wooded buffer in back of Crowell Lot as if some kind of formal consensus had been taken by conducting door to door interviews. I have in fact gone door to door in this same neighborhood, talked to people who oppose the skate park being located at Crowell Park and know of at least three households who posted signs relating to relocating the skate park while "keeping the scene green" at Crowell Park. Others did not choose to be as publically vocal on the issue, but did not like the idea of that much concrete would be permanently set up and occupy the park as well as for other reasons.

None of this proclaimed future use, including trial loops mentioned around Crowell Park, have been publically approved by the town or community and would not be included in money designated for the skate park construction, so they, at this point in time they are mere speculation. Also deficient from the project is the fact bathrooms will be unable to be provided and financially prohibitive at this point (especially keeping in mind the recent developments addressing the town's financial state). In the absence of (bathrooms), even considering the drastic increase of park use, trails may very well unintentionally and unconventionally fulfill the same purpose or destination off from these proposed pathways leading to an open, more rustic place to relieve one's self, the back side wooded area, and I don't enjoy saying that, but it must be said and is already occurring to some extent and another reason the neighbors below might find offensive and intrusive.

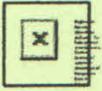
At no point did the town take it upon themselves to interview or take a general consensus of how the surrounding neighborhoods felt about this major change to this pleasant park and central gathering green play area and is the main reason two community grass root groups felt compelled to form and publically inform raising attention to the many valid reasons why they opposed the skate park being located there, even holding a public forum for discussion.

This exercise loop was an after-thought in an attempt to gain support for the skateboard park project and was never part of the original skate park plan, not to be confused with an overall park plan that doesn't exist, but a plan that treated the rest of the park as secondary to the skate park needs for space without adequate thought to potential arising safety risks and consequences of rearranging use in dangerously close proximity to one another or displacing/reducing already valued park uses, in my opinion. What wasn't mentioned is this same exercise loop skirts behind the skateboard park and "relocated" little ball field is where it may interfere or become somewhat congested less desirable, especially when banking around the skate park hosting groups of spectators. It may also lead to an excess of dog walkers looking to relieve their pets as not everyone picks up after them like they should sorry to say.

I personally have gone to great lengths to supply the skate park committee and the town official themselves with factual evidence to consider, such as two professional arborist's professional conclusions and report that specifically outlines calculated determinations for existing, surrounding park trees chances for survival if a skate park was constructed and developed at the proposed site at Crowell Park. To me it did not appear the committee as a whole was up to snuff on these details maybe some not realizing they were standing over the very root systems or Critical Root

Zone of the trees in question , so it is my hope they will respect the efforts of many contributors wishing to preserve this green area for these valued trees and examine the report before the next meeting May 1st.

I have to reiterate I feel it holey unfair the Upper Living Memorial Park was prematurely dismissed as a potential skate park location based on but a few criteria points less desirable at other graded locations and neglecting to weigh in on the entire list of criteria developed or at the very least examine the grounds and potential with this list in hand. There is a BCTV video available on request devoted to the skate park potential of this location as well as the Elm Street lot for your viewing if you wish. That is why I repeatedly requested the sites at Living Memorial Park be evaluated individually to avoid early dismissal. Thanks again, Les Montgomery 4/30/14



This email is free from viruses and malware because avast! Antivirus protection is active.

carol lolatte

From: David Schoales <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, May 01, 2014 8:23 AM
To: skateparkideas@brattleboro.org

--
David Schoales
Brattleboro

*"...what happened always adjusts to fit what happened after that."
Ani DiFranco, "Reckoning"*