

Resolution 2022-18

A Resolution Establishing a Temporary Committee to Provide Recommendations to City Council Concerning Proposed Renovations to the Existing Playground in Battery Park and Options to Fund Such Renovation.

WHEREAS, certain concerned residents of the City have suggested to City Council that the existing children’s playground in Battery Park is unwelcoming to children with disabilities and otherwise in need of major renovation; and

WHEREAS, said residents have suggested that the playground be renovated, expanded and modernized to make it a destination worthy feature of the City; and

WHEREAS, Battery Park, by State law, is exclusively maintained by the Trustees of the New Castle Common and any improvements to Battery Park requires the Trustees’ consent; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has deemed the idea of renovating the playground at Battery Park as worthy of a more detailed study:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council that a temporary committee be established for the purpose of researching the feasibility of designing and financing the construction of a newly renovated children’s playground at Battery Park, and making recommendations to the City Council toward the furtherance of that project. The committee shall be known as the “Playground Committee.”

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the structure and goals of the Playground Committee shall be as follows:

- 1) The Playground Committee shall be composed of 6 residents of the City of New Castle to be appointed by the City Council and one member of Council who shall serve as the chair of the committee.
- 2) In making appointments to the Playground Committee, the Council shall select residents of the City with an active interest in the playground renovation project.
- 3) City Council hereby appoints the following City residents to the Playground Committee:

City Council Member/Chairperson: _____

Resident members: Judy Guttenplan
 Andre Jerry
 Suzanne Swift
 Nermin Zubaca
 Brian Mattaway
 Carl Benson

- 4) The Playground Committee may establish rules of procedure for the conduct of such meetings. In accordance with State of Delaware Freedom of Information Act laws, all meetings of the Playground Committee shall be open to the public, minutes of all meetings shall be maintained and made publicly available, and the dates and agendas for Playground Committee meetings will be published in advance of said meetings.

5) The Playground Committee may:

- (a) investigate different equipment, design and cost options relating to the playground renovation project;
- (b) solicit the written consent of the Trustees of New Castle Common concerning the design, location and feasibility of playground renovation project; and
- (c) research potential funding sources for the playground renovation project.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Playground Committee shall not be empowered to purchase goods or services in the name of the City, expend City financial resources, or otherwise obligate the City in any way without advance written approval of City Council.

6) The Playground Committee is charged with rendering one or more reports to City Council summarizing its activities, findings and recommendations, including a final written report of the Playground Committee which shall be submitted to City Council on or before the date the Playground Committee expires.

7) The Playground Committee shall exist as a public body for a period not to exceed one year from the date of this Resolution, unless otherwise extended by City Council.

PASSED this 14th day of June, 2022.

Michael M. Platt, City Council President

Joseph F. Day, III, Councilperson

Valarie W. Leary, Councilperson

Russell P. Smith, Councilperson

Suzanne M. Souder, Councilperson

Attest:

Kathleen M. Walls, City Clerk