

Friends of Monarch Park, Report on:

"all of the recommendations from the two public meetings held in the Spring of 2012, together with numerous *Friends of Monarch Park* Committee meeting recommendations, and a widely-circulated questionnaire"

Meeting existing standard for park operation:

- staff reminded to lock the park entry gate
- more signs "Driving in the Park is prohibited" for those people trying to park close to the swimming pool or rink
- work order to fix damaged bench in playground evergreens -- have a walkabout to pick species
- city will groom garden outside of pool entrance, replace annuals with perennials
- remove shrubs on east side of pool, replace with maybe perennials
- publish grass cutting times and try not to start cutting until morning tai chi group is finished
- issue work order to repair water fountain
- issue work order to repair or remove broken electrical box
- replace trees destroyed by Sandy with evergreens
- new garbage bins added
- *maybe* will post rink hours and swimming pool hours on side of building or put up a board on two existing poles nearby
- fill large pothole on public pathway, level cement trip hazard in pathway
- contact rink supervisor for rink scheduling and behaviour problems
- keep a dead end fenced zone locked to avoid entrapment that led to one bad beating (instead of putting in a second escape gate)
- talk to rink staff to improve zamboni schedule
- talk to building staff for better building cleaning
- contact recreation staff for better swimming scheduling
- add better lighting to the minor capital list
- improve off-leash signage
- resume padding trees for the toboggan run and replace lost sign asking dog owners to stay away from there

Inexpensive (short or medium-term) changes/work orders:

- add two benches to face two existing benches which face away from the park
- consider putting a new water fountain on the "minor capital" wish list
- storage shed removed from park (already done – what happens to the storage?)
- forward a suggestion to "the appropriate department" to change the playground entrance so another part of the fence not as close to the dog-walking area
- will order two bulletin boards "unlocked and covered in plexiglass"
- Park staff will try to get a few more tables and/or benches and/or "alternative seating" (presumably rock slabs)
- investigate planting a hedge to show the border of the off-leash dog area

Counting:

- audit (i.e. count) park furniture, trees, playground
- audit of trees by Forestry when they're pruning in the park

Long-term changes:

- put playground replacement on the Capital Budget list for 6 -7 years away
- re community suggestions for renovations to give better access to park washrooms, more social space in building -- Parks supervisor will "investigate to see whether the building is on the Capital Budget list for renovation"
- invite councillor and community to fundraise

Ongoing park role of FoMP:

- FoMP to stock a dog litter bag station
- FoMP walk around with staff to pick tree species for storm damage replacement
- FoMP map/audit/list trees, playground equipment, park furniture when it gets warm
- FoMP will contact rink supervisor (Recreation) when there are rink problems
- FoMP will let park supervisor know about other problems they see