

Minutes of the Parks Committee Meeting of January 16, 2006

The meeting was called to view the design for the reconstruction of the basketball courts and playground in Leif Ericson Park. The scope of work includes new swings, safety surfacing, play equipment, steel fencing, benches, picnic tables, volleyball court with synthetic turf, painted games, and plantings.

In recent years a spray shower, an exercise area, a garden, and a decorative entranceway have been installed at the part of Leif Ericson Park bordered by Fort Hamilton Parkway, Eighth Avenue, 66 Street and 67 Street. The McKinley-Leif Ericson Park Alliance worked for many years to see the both parks completely renovated. The reconstruction of this area in the park completes that project. The new work will continue the Viking theme.

Councilman Vincent Gentile is responsible for the gift of 1.85 million dollars and Councilwoman Sara Gonzales for an extra gift of 145,000 dollars to make this renovation possible.

Neighbors had complained about late night basketball games which involved gambling . The courts were moved to the 66 Street side of the park where there are no residences. Also all flood lighting will be replaced with regular park lights. An interior grassway will be continued inside of the new 5 foot iron fence to provide a sound buffer. The piping necessary for a future comfort station is included in this project. Efforts will be made to have the gates locked at night.

The members of the parks committee who were present encourage you to vote to approve this design.

Respectfully submitted,

*Eleanor M. Petty*

Eleanor Petty, chairperson