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Subject: Maybe yes maybe no
From: dreeb@albany.edu
Date: Sun, May 27, 2007 4:36 pm
To: brucesherwin@nycap.rr.com
Cc: runionk@townofguilderland.org ([more](#))
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Hi Bruce

You asked my views on Abele Park--whether it needs some increased attention on the part of the Town.

Abele Park bothers me and I think everyone who has thought about it. It is a nice enough park and is used by quite a few families and several ball teams have regularly scheduled games there including our fire department team.

When I was there today--Sunday--a couple of families were there using both the ball diamond and the playground. For many, though, it is not within easy walking distance and if you are going to use the car to take the children to the park then Colonie Crossings is so much more attractive as is the park across from the North Bethlehem fire department building. Abele park playground may not be the first choice, though the Russell Road park does not have a ball field.

The work that Abele Park needs is minor--not much more than cosmetic--a sign at the entrance to the parking area, some loosening of the dirt on the base paths, some brush cutting on the path in from McKown Rd., the removal of some discarded wire at the entrance to the path on McKown Rd., and the removal of several discarded wooden pallets at the entrance to the path from McKown Rd. Any costs beyond these seems unnecessary.

I think that these items are less than what you were imagining, but that is the way I see it.

I am sending this to Ken Runion and to Dennis Moore as well as to the Association Board members.

On the other hand, there are more than a fist full of higher priority items for McKownville--(1)eliminate Western Avenue flooding, (2)new sidewalks along Western on the north side, (3)a new pedestrian cross walk light at Brookwood, (4)a reduced speed limit on Western, (5)an improved path from Stuyvesant to Providence, (6)more trees (larger ones) on the south side of Western to soften the commercial image of that side of the street, (7)better storm drainage at the intersections along Western especially on the north side and better storm sewer maintenance, (8)a much improved vista for the Schoolhouse/Western/Northway intersection, and (9)a Guilderland community center located in McKownville. There are more, like more street trees to replace those removed by the Town.

Some of these cost a lot, some a little. If better storm drainage (item 7) versus some significant work on Abele Park are about of equal cost, then I have no doubt that better storm drainage and maintenance would be a better use of budget dollars for McKownville.

Don Reeb

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