

City of Smithville, Missouri
Parks and Recreation Committee
January 25, 2024
6:00 PM
Smithville City Hall Board Room

Anyone who wishes to view the meeting may do so in real-time as it will be streamed live on the City's [YouTube Channel](#).

Public Comment can be made in person or via Zoom, if by Zoom please email your request to the City Clerk at ldrummond@smithvillemo.org prior to the meeting to be sent the meeting Zoom link.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Approval of Minutes from the September 28, 2023, Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting**
- 3. Staff Report**
- 4. Community Awards Baquet**
- 5. Emerald Ridge Park Design Discussion**
 - a. Public Comment**
- 6. Public Comment**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Adjourn**

City of Smithville, Missouri
Parks and Recreation Committee Minutes
September 28, 2023
6:00 PM
Smithville City Hall Board Room

1. Call to Order

Dani called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. Parks and Recreation Committee Members present were Dani Wilson, Jeremiah Bloemker, Kyle Squires, and Mayor Boley. Staff present was Matt Denton

2. Approval of Minutes from the August 24, 2023, Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Kyle made a motion to approve minutes from the August 24, 2024, Parks and Recreation Meeting. Jeremiah seconded. Voice Vote, all ayes

3. Staff Report

Haunted Campground:

October 21, 2023, is the date for Haunted Campground. Vendor registration is scheduled to close on October 1. By moving the vendors to the practice football field area, we can expand the number of vendors from 25-35.

As a reminder, we will be lining food trucks along the road outside the campground. We will also be upgrading the lighting for the event for safety

Main Street Water Fountains:

At last month's meeting, it was announced that over the past two years, Parks Maintenance staff have been dealing with reports of concerns with the water fountains along the Main Street Trail not turning off. Our department has been working with Lexington Plumbing to help solve the issue. Earlier this summer it was told to us that 6 valves between the two fountains broke, costing a total of \$9,000 for the parts plus labor. Over the past couple of months, we have been looking into alternative options and plan to purchase new water fountains that will be more reliable and recommended by Lexington

On Tuesday, September 19, the Board of Alderman approved the purchase of two water fountains that cost just over 9,000. The new water fountains will obtain the same features as the current ones.

Playground Resurfacing:

Next Generation Recreation has been working at Smith's Fork Park Playground over the past couple of weeks. They have been at that location longer than expected due to a manufacturing issue that was out of their control. This has been resolved and will be completed with Smith's Fork Playground by this weekend. Immediately after, they will move over to Heritage Park Playground.

Senior Center grant

Earlier this year the Mayor asked Alderman Wilson and Russell to form a committee to discuss Community Center needs and how the City can better serve Senior Citizens within the community. During the meetings, the need was discovered that a dedicated staff member to help senior citizens would be beneficial. After a discussion with Clay County Senior Services, we were encouraged to increase our 2024 grant ask for the Smithville Senior Center for a Part-Time staff member to assist in

all management, administrative, and operational functions for older adults and Smithville Senior Center. This position would be under the supervision of the Parks and Recreation Department.

On September 25, 2023, it was announced that Cay County Senior Services approved our grant for the PT Senior Center Coordinator effective January 1, 2024.

Recreation Report:

Sports

- Fall Soccer games began 9/9
- T-ball teams will begin on 9/29
- Little Kickers began 9/9
- Volleyball games began 9/13
- Winter sports registration opens on 10/1
- Added new sports program: Little Hoopsters Basketball Clinic
- Open play pickleball continues Fridays 10-noon at Smithville Methodist Church

Sports Registrations											
	Spring Soccer	Spring Clinic	Spring T-Ball	Spring Baseball	Spring Softball	Fall Soccer	Fall Clinic	Fall T-Ball	Fall Volleyball	Winter Basketball	Total Participants
2021	180	40	140	105	71	178	32	68	49	132	1,005
2022	221	71	152	116	89	169	40	61	54	135	1,110
2023	228	50	139	109	77	195	32	87	53		970

Facilities

2023 Facility Rentals						
	Park Shelters	Senior Center	Baseball Fields	Soccer Fields	Scout Areas	Total Rentals
January	0	10	0	0	0	11
February	0	14	1	0	0	15
March	0	12	4	0	2	18
April	9	13	7	0	0	29
May	15	12	26	0	1	54
June	15	10	26	0	1	52
July	27	7	25	0	2	61
August	13	4	26	1	3	47

Events & Programs

- Haunted Campground - vendor booths: 22, food trucks: 4
- Volunteered at CIA 5K on 9/9
- September-December programs have been finalized, they can be viewed on website

Upcoming Programs & Events – September - January

- Kids in the Kitchen Session 2 – Oct 12
- Pickleball Lessons – Oct 6, 13, 20, 27
- Symphony in the Park – Sept 25
- Charcuterie Workshop – Oct 4
- Haunted Campground – Oct 21
- Howl-O-Ween – Oct 28
- Adult Pick Up Basketball – Nov 1
- Parent & Me Painting – Nov 8
- Fall Charcuterie Workshop – Nov 14
- Adult Pick Up Basketball – Nov 15
- Flannels & Flapjacks – Dec 16
- Candy Cane Quest – Dec 1
- Holiday Lights Contest – Dec 7
- Sew Cute Club – Jan 4, 11, 18, 25

Marketing

- Submitted graphics for the City of Smithville Employee Newsletter
- Created/ordered signage for the splash pad explaining how to turn on the features
- Registered for Marketing Workshop with Kansas Recreation & Park Association 11/2

Community

- CIA (Community in Action) member
- CIA (Community in Action) Community Advisory Council – Youth Serving Sector Representative
- Smithville Main Street District Ex-Officio
- Haunted Campground Committee
- City Wellness Committee member

Other Announcements

We are currently hiring for part-time Program Instructors. Seeking instructors with special skills or hobbies willing to teach others. Programs could include painting, guided hikes, dance lessons, sign language, cooking, tennis, pickleball lessons, etc. For more information, view the job description and duties at <https://bit.ly/3ZYEJcg>

4. KCMPRDA Boards and Commissions Baquet

Matt mentioned that he is currently the Chair of the Kansas City Metro Parks and Recreation Director Association Chair. This association is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, experiences, and information that is relevant to the parks and recreation industry in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Meetings are comprised of Parks and Recreation Directors, Assistant Directors, and other support staff.

Every other year the association puts on a banquet to honor and showcase all the great work our Park Boards and Commissions do throughout the year. The last banquet was in 2019 and we are excited to get it back going again this year.

On November 17, 2023, at 6:00 PM we will be hosting the banquet at UMB Field Club at Children's Mercy Park. The City of Smithville will be purchasing a table or two and I would like to extend an invitation to each of you to attend.

He asked the committee to RSVP and let him know if you plan to attend and bring a guest.



5. Emerald Ridge Park Design Discussion:

Matt mentioned that year three of the Parks and Recreation Master is to update Emerald Ridge Park. This park is located on South Commercial and Kelly Dr. behind Victory Chevrolet and Heritage Tractor. The park does not have ADA access and the playground equipment is not passing inspections. \$450,000 was budgeted for the improvements in the FY24 budget.

Matt is looking for feedback from the committee to send back to the companies before having a public forum with the community:

Landworks Overall Park Concept Design:



Athco:



ART APPROVAL



PLEASE REVIEW
AND APPROVE
THE FOLLOWING:

Color, Verbiage, Layout/size, and Overall Graphic.
I verify that I own or otherwise possess all necessary rights with respect to the user-submitted images, and that the user-submitted images do not infringe, misappropriate, use without authorization, disclose without authorization, or otherwise violate any copyright, trademark, trade secret, other intellectual property right, or a property right of any third party.

This approval confirms all major design work has been completed and accurately reflects the direction specified. This rendering remains a conceptual approximation as custom products are subject to final engineering including, but not limited to, hardware placement and minor changes related to standards and manufacturing capabilities. Each change following this approval will require a change order and impact the delivery date.

SIGNATURE

DATE



ART APPROVAL



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SIGNATURE	DATE
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Emerald Ridge Park

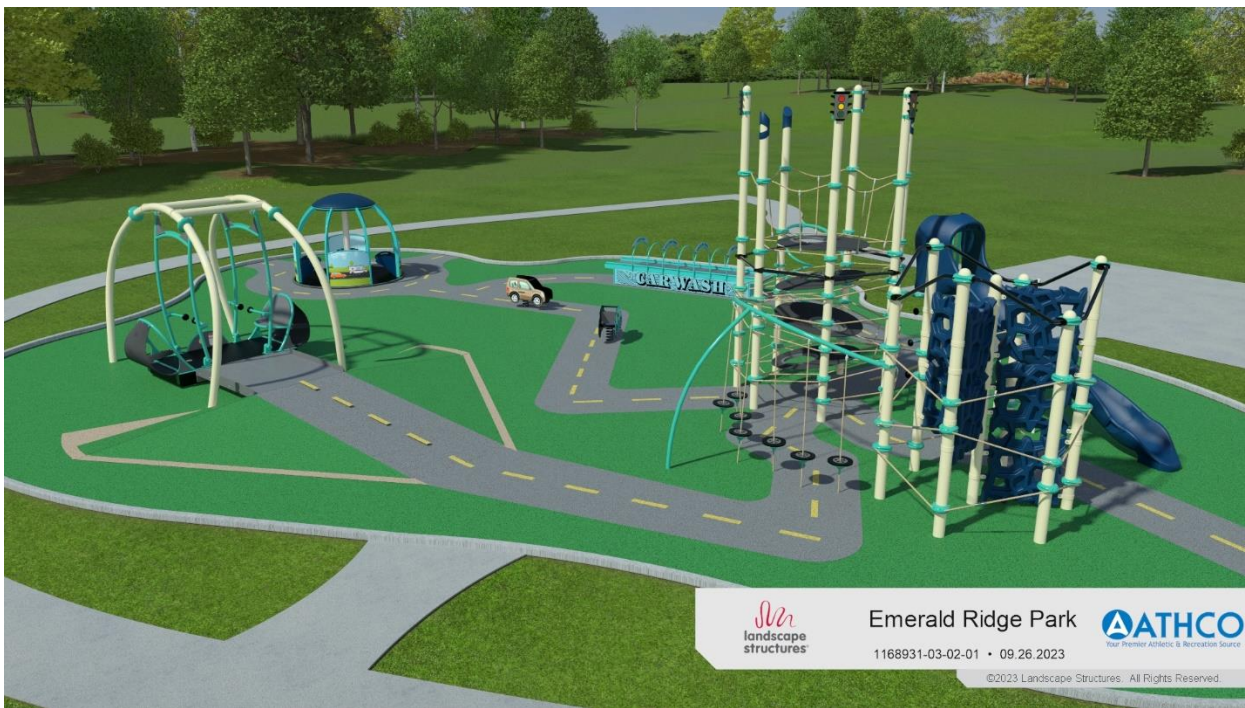
1168931-03-02-05 • 09.26.2023



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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZeOpMTBZek>





Matt went over Athco's design. He mentioned that it is a car theme with a pour-n-place surface. They followed the simplicity and inclusive design as requested by this committee. He mentioned the shelter and basketball court are still included, but the feedback they needed for the playground. The cost is still being worked out. Matt reminded the Committee that we are in no rush and to make sure they recommend what they want so we can cut costs later. The mayor mentioned he liked the design. If he had to cut anything it would be the carwash piece. Dani likes the climbing design. She does feel it is missing small interaction plates and equipment for the little kids. The mayor mentioned we could add some mounds. Matt mentioned that the staff would like to stay away from rockers due to the damage they take from older kids playing on them. Kyle asked how to get up to the slide. Matt mentioned there are inverted steps up to the top. Jeremiah asked about lighting for the park. Matt mentioned there would be some lights on the shelters to provide safety for the park. Dani asked about a dedicated Handicap space for loading and unloading. Matt mentioned that it is planned for a dedicated spot.

Kompan:



Letter from Kompan:

Design Changes

- *The Change was made to move from the automotive theme to standard equipment.*
- *This change better utilizes the space and budget.*
- *The inclusive swing had been a major topic for this site. I have chosen not to add this option to the site. As a parent of 2 kids with special needs and an amputee ex-wife, I understand the frustration of not having the resources for the children.*
 - *The Challenges with the swing at Emerald Ridge*
 - *This site has no dedicated parking lot to load and unload a child in a wheelchair.*
 - *The site size doesn't allow for other inclusive play items. Making this the only piece for kids in wheelchairs other than the trail. Smithville has a lot of great trails with better access for wheelchairs.*
 - *Kompan will not install a wheelchair swing without a fence, per guidelines from ADA, CPSI, and KOMPAN insurance providers.*

Basket ballcourt

- *The proposal is for a half-court option.*
- *With a basketball and soccer goal*
- *Painted lines and all concert work inclined.*
- *The half-court option was discussed in the original meetings last October.*

Updated Pricing

- *In the pricing proposed in the Half court, the option for \$421,000 leaves about \$29,000 under the budget.*
- *There is an issue with the quote we received on the concrete work. I am in the process of rebinding the work.*
- *I believe I can complete the final project with a full-court option in the \$450,000 budget. I will not know for sure until Monday.*

Matt mentioned that both designs are still drafts and there is time to make changes. Dani mentioned she was disappointed that some of the items they asked for were left off. She liked the structure overall, but she would recommend getting rid of the rockers and adding more sensory plates under the structure. The Mayor mentioned that Boys and Girl Scouts could donate more sensory items later in the future. Kyle mentioned that the soccer goal is too close to the basketball court. He asked if he would be able to move it to the other side of the basketball court became half-court. Matt mentioned that if Kompan cannot provide a swing, they could look at a play area with ramp access. Dani mentioned that she does not want a swing in a fenced-in area.

Matt mentioned that he would bring it back to the committee in October for more feedback after sending their feedback to companies. Soon after he would like to get public comment. After that is completed, he would like to make a recommendation to the Board of Alderman early in 2024. Dani and the Mayor discussed some different ways to gather public comment. Depending on the date and weather, we could set up around Halloween.

6. New Business

The Mayor provided an update on Senior Citizen and Community Center panels. He mentioned that the Committee could join those discussions.

7. Adjourn

The mayor moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. Kyle seconded. All aye

January 2024 Recreation Report

Alex Threlkeld – Recreation Manager

Sports

- Held the first pickleball tournament in December with 12 participants.
- Youth basketball is about halfway through the season, and of season tournament is set for the third week in February.
- Spring sports registration deadlines:
 - Soccer: February 11
 - Little Kickers: February 18
 - Baseball & Softball: March 17
 - T-Ball: March 24

Sports Registrations												
	Spring Soccer	Spring Soccer Clinic	Spring T-Ball	Spring Baseball	Spring Softball	Fall Soccer	Fall Soccer Clinic	Fall T-Ball	Fall Volleyball	Winter Basketball	Winter Basketball Clinic	Total Participants
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Facilities

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May	15	12	26	0	1	54
June	15	10	26	0	1	52
July	27	7	25	0	2	61
August	13	4	26	1	3	47
September	10	5	10	0	2	27
October	6	2	4	0	3	15
November	0	5	1	0	2	8
December	0	3	0	0	0	3

Events & Programs







- January-March program registration full:
 - Sew Cute Club
 - Flick & Food
 - Parent & Me Painting
 - Beginner Pickleball Session
 - (Watercolor Workshops-almost full!)
- 2024 Program Instructors:
 - **Amy Kline:** Sew Cute Club, Science in the Park
 - **Scott Pearson:** Pickleball Lessons, Pickleball Tournament
 - **Rachel O'Brien:** Watercolor Workshops (4)
 - **Nick Sloop:** Beginner 5K Training

2023 Program & Event Registrations			
February 10	Valentine Cookie Decorating Party	29	
March 4	Down to Business Dodgeball Tournament	1	
April 29	Mother Daughter Tea Party	40	FULL
May 20	Movie at the Courtyard	20	
June 7-28	Art in the Park – 4 dates	120	FULL
June 24	Movie at the Courtyard	20	
June 3	Donuts with Dad	23	
June 6	Symphony in the Park	40	
June 6	Around the World: Mexico	8	
June 7	Learn to Kayak	20	FULL
June 13	Around the World: Australia	12	
June 20	Around the World: Brazil	24	
June 21	SPR at Farmers' Market	20	
June 27	Around the World: China	5	
June 29	Learn to Kayak	20	
July 1	Smithville Fireworks Show	1000+	
July 10-31	Science in the Park	140	FULL
July 11 & 25	Snacks & Stories in the Park – 2 dates	40	
July 5-26	Art in the Park – 4 dates	120	FULL
July 6-27	Popsicles in the Park – 3 dates	75	
July 7-28	Coloring Contest	20	
July 8-29	Full Body Fit with Michelle – 3 dates	20	
July 17	Punt, Pass & Kick	150	
July 19	SPR at Farmers' Market	20	
August 16	SPR at Farmers' Market	20	
September 11	Grandparents Day Ice Cream Social	27	
September 8-29	September Pickleball Lessons	9	
October 4	Charcuterie Workshop	8	
October 6-27	October Pickleball Lessons	4	
October 12-Nov 16	Kids in the Kitchen Session	40	FULL
October 21	Haunted Campground	3,000+	
November 1	Adult Pick Up Basketball	15	
November 8	Parent & Me Painting	40	FULL
November 14	Fall Charcuterie Workshop	23	FULL
November 15	Adult Pick Up Basketball	7	
December 7	Holiday Lights Contest Entries	15	
December 15	Candy Cane Quest	300+	
December 16	Flannels & Flapjacks	0	
Total Participants		5,495	

2024 Program & Event Registrations			
January 4, 11, 18, 25	Sew Cute Club	15	FULL
January 19	Flick & Food	35	FULL
January 24	Parent & Me Painting	50	FULL

Marketing

- Submitted graphics for the City of Smithville Employee Newsletter and Citizen Newsletter
- Tracking marketing analytics to increase our reach and followers on social media in 2024
- Haunted Campground article published in MPRA magazine

Marketing Analytics						
	 Followers <i>(Total followers of your page)</i>	 Page Reach <i>(Number of people who saw any of your posts at least once)</i>	 Followers <i>(Total followers of your page)</i>	 Page Reach <i>(Number of people who saw any of your posts at least once)</i>	 Website Site Sessions <i>(A visit to your site)</i>	 Page Views <i>(Number of times a page in your site was loaded by a visitor)</i>
December 2023	4,998	22,472	1,804	525	1,554	2,522

Community

- CIA (Community in Action) member
- CIA (Community in Action) Community Advisory Council – Youth Serving Sector Representative
- Smithville Main Street District Ex-Officio
- Haunted Campground Committee
- City Wellness Committee member

Other Announcements

- We are currently hiring part-time Little Hoopsters Basketball Clinic Instructors. Contact Aspen if interested, must be 16+ (ARYAN@smithvillemo.org) and available 2/3, 2/10, 2/17, 2/24

Community Awards Baquet

The Community Awards Banquet is scheduled for February 29, 2024. The Parks and Recreation Legacy Fund, in collaboration with the City of Smithville, is partnering with the Smithville Area Chamber of Commerce to host an enchanting evening, "Night at the Grammys," at the White Iron Ridge. This gala dinner honors exceptional citizens and dedicated volunteers within our community while raising crucial funds for the Parks and Recreation Legacy Fund and Smithville Chamber of Commerce.

Volunteers will be needed again this year. Staff need to know if you would like to volunteer and how many will attend.



Emerald Ridge Park Design Discussion

Back in September of 2023, this Committee provided the first feedback regarding the initial park and playground designs. Both Athco and Kompan took the feedback and updated their designs before our October meeting. That meeting was canceled due to attendance. Feedback was asked for over email instead. Again, the feedback was sent back to the two companies, and they updated their designs.

On January 16, 2024, Staff held a public meeting for Emerald Ridge Playground design for the Emerald Ridge neighborhood and surrounding area. It was hosted at the Smithville Senior Center between 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM. The neighborhood got a door hanging notifying them of this meeting. We also posted on Next Door for them and the surrounding subdivisions to join and provide feedback online.

We had two families attend the in-person public meeting, one family from the Emerald Ridge neighborhood. There were no comments online. Below is the feedback for each design.

Staff needs to know if you would like any feedback sent to the Athco and Kompan to edit before the February Committee meeting.

Athco:

What do you like about this design?

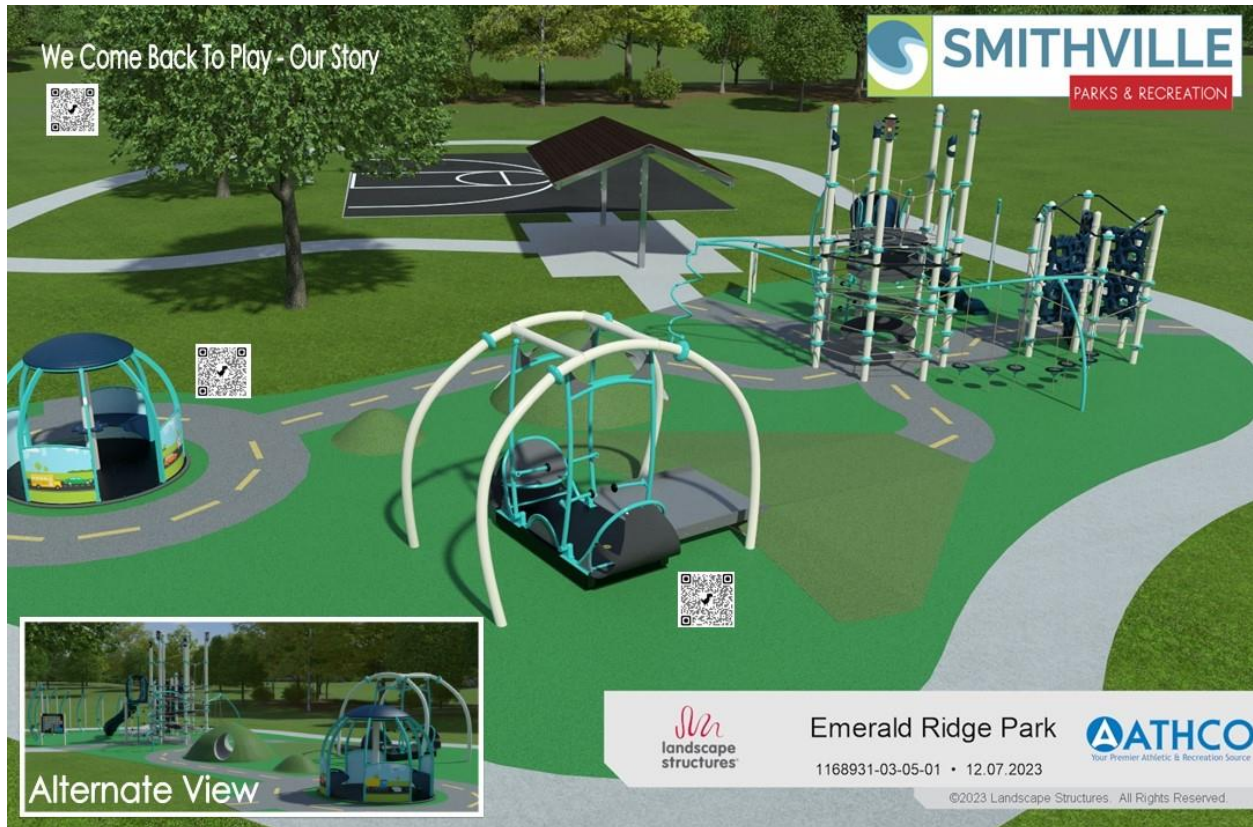
-Walking trail, shade area, and the mound structures

What do you not like?

-No regular swings and the inclusive structures are not something the able-bodied children can enjoy with them. Not catered to young children. Almost only rope structures for able-bodied children.

What would like to be added or changed?

-Other types of sensory aside from rope, structure for younger kids, and swings.



Kompan:

What do you like about this design?

- Walking trail, shaded area, equipment for different ages, inclusive without separating able-bodied and wheelchair kids. I like that there are several types of sensory play. Love that there is an area for little kids.

What do you not like?

-No swings and pool slide on the main structure.

What would like to be added or changed?

- Swings, merry-go-round-like little Platte South playground and benches



31 Activities

Ages 2-12

70 Participants

