



City of Cambridge

21.

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 17, 1999

COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR DUEHAY
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct appropriate departments to respond to the attached letter regarding Cambridge playgrounds.

In City Council May 17, 1999.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "D. Margaret Drury".

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Subj: Cambridge Playgrounds
Date: 99-05-12 21:25:53 EDT
From: Tottalk1
To: KathyBorn

#21

Dear Councillor,

I am the Editor and Publisher of a new, citywide Newsletter geared to the parents and caretakers of children under the age of four in Cambridge and Somerville (tot talk). Our premier issue debuted on May 1st and we have already distributed over 500 copies!

Since April of this year, we have been working on an article that looks at the playgrounds in Cambridge. We hope that families will use the article as a resource to chose a playground that is appropriate for their children. Using guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics, our volunteer "test" families, we are looking at playground safety. Additionally, they will consider cleanliness, the range of equipment and popularity. This article is not intended to be combative or derisive. tot talk is not the product of hard-core investigative reporters, but rather mothers and others who would like to participate in establishing a strong sense of community for our children.

In pursuing this article, I have made multiple phone calls to seven different people at the City of Cambridge Parks Department and the Community Development Department. I have left voicemails for each inquiring about upcoming improvements or changes at local playgrounds, asking how equipment is identified to be repaired, etc. Since I began my inquiries in April, not one individual has returned my call. And each time I telephone these Departments for information, I am referred to yet another individual. This, as I am sure you can imagine, is getting very frustrating.

As a realist, I can understand that this is a busy time of year for the Parks Department. Laying blame is not the goal of this e-mail. What I would like is information regarding whom I should contact and/or how to go about doing this. I hope Councillor, that you might be able to help me obtain this.

Additionally, if you have information or favored projects that you believe would be of interest to tot talk readers, we would be happy to consider them for publication.

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail. I look forward to hearing from you.



Sincerely, Jennifer Mawn Carney

#21

Subj: Cambridge Playgrounds
Date: 99-05-12 21:25:53 EDT
From: Tottalk1
To: KathyBorn

Dear Councillor,

I am the Editor and Publisher of a new, citywide Newsletter geared to the parents and caretakers of children under the age of four in Cambridge and Somerville (tot talk). Our premier issue debuted on May 1st and we have already distributed over 500 copies!

Since April of this year, we have been working on an article that looks at the playgrounds in Cambridge. We hope that families will use the article as a resource to chose a playground that is appropriate for their children. Using guidelines from the American Academy of Pediatrics, our volunteer "test" families, we are looking at playground safety. Additionally, they will consider cleanliness, the range of equipment and popularity. This article is not intended to be combative or derisive. tot talk is not the product of hard-core investigative reporters, but rather mothers and others who would like to participate in establishing a strong sense of community for our children.

In pursuing this article, I have made multiple phone calls to seven different people at the City of Cambridge Parks Department and the Community Development Department. I have left voicemails for each inquiring about upcoming improvements or changes at local playgrounds, asking how equipment is identified to be repaired, etc. Since I began my inquiries in April, not one individual has returned my call. And each time I telephone these Departments for information, I am referred to yet another individual. This, as I am sure you can imagine, is getting very frustrating.

As a realist, I can understand that this is a busy time of year for the Parks Department. Laying blame is not the goal of this e-mail. What I would like is information regarding whom I should contact and/or how to go about doing this. I hope Councillor, that you might be able to help me obtain this.

Additionally, if you have information or favored projects that you believe would be of interest to tot talk readers, we would be happy to consider them for publication.

Thank you for taking the time to read this e-mail. I look forward to hearing from you

Sincerely, Jennifer Mawn Carney

Hello

21



BORN:

CITY MANAGER DIRECT
APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENTS
TO RESPOND TO
THIS LETTER



City of Cambridge

21.

IN CITY COUNCIL

May 17, 1999

COUNCILLOR BORN

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct appropriate departments to respond to the attached letter regarding Cambridge playgrounds.

Consent Order #21

245-OM

Councillor Born re: direct the appropriate departments to respond to a letter regarding playgrounds in Cambridge.

In City Council May 17, 1999

ORDER ADOPTED

Copy sent to
Rob Heck - CDD
5-19-99 mc