

SCITUATE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

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SCITUATE, MASS.

Fiscal 2011 APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

Project Name: COMMUNITY PARK + PLAYGROUND

CPA funding requested: \$ 297,000 (REQUIRED)

Total project cost: \$ 297,000 (REQUIRED)

Other Funding Sources Applied For/Obtained:

Grants: \$ _____ Applied For _____ Obtained _____

Other (describe) \$ _____ Applied For _____ Obtained _____

Basis for project cost (i.e. appraisal, construction estimate, etc. – please attach all documentation supporting estimated project cost and basis)

Category (check all that apply): Open Space Historical Housing Recreation

- Lot and Plat: _____ *
 - Assessors Map #: _____ *
 - Number of acres in parcel: _____ *
 - Number of proposed housing units: _____ *
 - Current Zoning Classification: _____ *
- (* REQUIRED IF APPLICABLE TO PROPOSED PROJECT)

Name of Applicant: JENNIFER VITELLI / RECREATION COMMISSION

Contact Name: JENNIFER VITELLI

Address: 600 OF CUSHING HWY

Phone: 781 545-8738 E-Mail: JVITELLI@TOWN.SCITUATE.MA.US

By signing below, the Applicant agrees to the terms and conditions and all other requirements of this Application and agrees to be bound thereby if funding is granted for the Project.

Applicant's Signature: J Vitelli Date: 10/26/10

Printed Name: Jennifer Vitelli

Title: Recreation Director

October 26, 2010

Mr. John Bulman, Chairman
Community Preservation Committee
c/o: 600 Chief Justice Cushing Highway
Scituate, MA 02066

RE: FY 2011 Application for Community Park & Playground

How the project meets the goals of the CPA:

- The construction of a new park and playground in Scituate will meet several goals of the CPA.
 - First and foremost it will provide the young children a brand new state of the art play and park area in which they can develop both mentally and physically, as well as create an area where residents can meet to create new family friendships.
 - Specifically, a new playground meets goals by enhancing the quality and variety of passive recreational opportunities for all age groups and abilities by constructing a park and playground area that meets all current building, safety and ADA codes. The current playground has served the Town well over the years, however is outdated by today's standards.

How the project benefits the Town of Scituate and its residents:

- The benefits of a community park & playground will be endless; to name a few:
 - Build family unity (family bonds are improved by the sharing of leisure time)
 - Intergenerational meeting place (where the young and old can come together)
 - Integrated Play Space (bringing children & adults of all abilities & disabilities together)
 - Increase Community Pride
 - Provide a safe place to play
 - Meet friends, create memories
 - Control weight/build stronger bodies

During the last decade of the 20th century, disturbing concerns emerged about the health and fitness of American children, and there are a growing number of studies addressing these issues. The contemporary decline in children's physical fitness and the rapidly growing incidence of childhood obesity and related diseases are prompting a new look at the role of active outdoor play in enhancing children's development, fitness, and health.

*“Child’s play is not just all fun and games. The act of play is a **crucial** component in the successful growth of the brain, body and intellect.*

Playground promotes brain development and helps lay the neural grid for successful mind through repetitive play actions that reinforce that grid. Playing promotes physical success by allowing the child to explore, test and expand the limits of the growing body. And playing promotes social, intellectual and oral skills by allowing the child to interact with their peers and environment.

Playgrounds by their very name are grounds on which to play. But they are more than that, playgrounds provide a safe environment designed to specifically to foster and enhance the opportunities for a child to play alone, with a caregiver (parent/grandparent) or with other children. Given the importance of play in the development of a child, any space which gives a child free reign to do just that should be seen as a crucial component in a child’s life. Playground equipment and space can meet the needs of child by providing different opportunities to engage in appropriate development play. Playgrounds are, it is important not to forget, fun for children and this fun will have lasting positive effects on their development.”¹

The project’s consistency with the Town of Scituate’s Master Plan, Open Space and Recreation Plan and other planning documents

A Community Park and Playground is harmonious with both the Master Plan, the Open Space & Recreation Plan, the Massachusetts Outdoors 2006 “Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan” (SCORP) as well as the Town of Scituate’s Recreation Department Mission Statement.

- **Town of Scituate Master Plan**
 - Goals and Objectives
 - #11 To provide recreational facilities that meet the demands created by new growth.
- **2008 Open Space and Recreation Plan (which have been adopted in the Town’s Master Plan)**
 - Section 6.2 Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals
 - Goal 4: Make a commitment to those in the community with special needs to provide accessible open space and recreation facilities.
 - Goal 5: Relate the open space areas to developed land in a way that is conducive to pedestrian friendly neighborhoods and enhanced recreation opportunities
 - Section 7.2.1 Recreation Needs of the OSRP
 - States: “accordingly, recreation improvement plans should focus on the needs of both the elderly and the youth populations, providing handicap access to facilities and conservation areas, in addition to playgrounds and athletic fields.”
 - Also, identifies in multiple places the need for additional playgrounds.
 - Recreation Commission also recommends the need for additional playgrounds in this area of the plan as well.

¹ Duerr Evaluation Resources: Research Paper: The Benefits of Playgrounds for Children Aged 0-5

- **Massachusetts Outdoors 2006 “Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan” (SCORP)**
 - *The #4 “Statewide Unmet Need for Recreation Facilities” are Playgrounds*
 - *The #2 desired facility by region (Southeast) are playgrounds*
 - *Statewide the broad category of golf courses, neighborhood parks, playgrounds and tot lots were identified as “the greatest resource need”.*
- **Mission Statement of the Recreation Department**
 - *“To provide exceptional and creative programs, services and facilities (such as beaches, ball fields and playgrounds) that foster community spirit and involvement while enhancing the quality of life for all people in Scituate.”*

The Project’s Feasibility and Affordability:

- *We have identified a flat piece of Town owned land. Located at the Town Hall/ High School Campus behind Town Hall.*
- *The New Community Park & Playground would be centrally located in Town.*
- *We would be working with a highly regarded company for the playground equipment; M.E. O’Brien who is on the state contract (please see attached documentation). M.E. O’Brien will provide us with the engineering, design, plans, color renderings as well as will work with us on the specifications for bidding the installation. This will save the Town countless man hours as well as consultation time. In this day and age this is tremendous to have professionals on board from the beginning stages.*
- *Gone are the days of ordering play structures and putting them in and moving on. Essentially what playground design comes down to: child development, play value, safety and accessibility. The playground doesn’t begin and end with the equipment...it is the whole environment.*

Urgency, need or opportunity for the project:

- *Seaside Playground which is located on the High School campus is 15 plus years old and although it has been a true community asset enjoyed by thousands and thousands children, adults and grandparents over the years; the playground is outdated. Certain elements of play- swinging, climbing, -remain timeless, but technological developments have enhanced playgrounds over the past 15 years. Along with that growth has come a much greater awareness of safety and accessibility.*
- *In addition, the site of Seaside Fun would be a perfect location for the proposed softball field. Both the new proposed park & playground and softball field will*

enhance existing campus and truly create a multi-generational atmosphere that we all can be proud of and enjoy.

- *The opportunity to build new playground behind Town Hall would allow us to expand it to a Park and Playground facility that would truly serve all members of our community whether young, old, handicapped, able bodied. There will be something there for everyone...perhaps it is sitting quietly or under a tree reading a book, picnicing, playing on a structure, making new friends, etc...*

How the project meets multiple needs and serves multiple populations?:

- *As stated above the facility would be intergenerational as well as intergrated. Playground equipment and design has come so far which is VERY exciting; children and adults of all abilities can “recreate” in one common community place!!*
- *The equipment and surfacing we would be looking to purchase would do just that. We want to create an environment that is fully accessible from the moment someone exits their car to full access to the playground and park.*
- *The new community playground would allow those with physical disabilities to interact with their peers on equal footing, using ramps to provide access to elevated platforms. Rather than the traditional mulch surfacing one typically finds at playgrounds, we propose to use so-called “poured in place” rubber surfacing, (as seen at the Town of Marshfield’s new playground). Poured-in-place offers several significant benefits over mulch. First, is it is undeniably more handicap-friendly. Second, the maintenance is minimal; there is no need to rake and replensish as is the case with mulch. Third and finally, it is safer.*

How or if the project addresses multiple categories of the CPA?:

- *Yes, not only does it address the Recreation component, but it will enhance an Open Space.*

Whether or not the project has means of financial support for future maintenance:

- *The Town currently replaces the wood chips, replaces any splintering or broken pieces of wood and sprays with a non-toxic coating to help preserve the wood. The cost of this maintenance would virtually go away with a new park and playground due to the long- term nature of the materials used today.*

How the project enhances Town of Scituate assets?:

- *Scituate is a community that prides itself on its many recreational assets (athletic fields, beaches, basketball courts, maritime center, sailing program, harbor, walking trails, etc...) this New Community Park & Playground would be another treasure for our Town.*
- *The utilization of Scituate's park and playground by the Scituate community will unify us and further foster our sense of community pride!*

Whether or not the project has multiple sources of funding:

- *The project currently has two confirmed sources of funding outside of CPA. Although there has been no firm number from the sources, we have commitments from The Friends of Scituate Recreation and from the C.O.R.S. E. Foundation to help with the park and playground. It is also in our plan to do some fundraising to help offset construction costs and future maintenance costs.*

Budget:

<i>Equipment</i>	<i>\$100,000.00</i>
<i>Installation & site preparation</i>	<i>\$60,000.00</i>
<i>Surfacing</i>	<i>\$80,000.00</i>
<i>Finish (fencing, landscaping, etc)</i>	<i>\$30,000.00</i>
<i>Contingency at 10%</i>	<i>\$27,000.00</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$297,000.00 (estimates...final numbers will be provided)</i>

Timeline:

<i>October 2010 – April 2011</i>	<i>Application process</i>
<i>November 2010 – April 2011</i>	<i>Park & Playstructure Design Development</i>
<i>April – June 2011</i>	<i>Conduct necessary bidding for installation, surfacing, etc..</i>
<i>July 2011</i>	<i>Order components and surfacing</i>
<i>September 2011</i>	<i>Installation</i>

Site/Conceptual Plan for Review:

- *Will be provided*

Town of Scituate

RECREATION COMMISSION
FRIENDS OF SCITUATE RECREATION, INC.

600 CHIEF JUSTICE CUSHING HWY.
SCITUATE, MASSACHUSETTS 02066
TEL: (781) 545-8738
FAX: (781) 545-6990



October 26, 2010

Hi Tricia,

As you have requested I have obtained the names of some of the other communities who have worked with **M.E. O'Brien, Inc.** installing Landscape Structure Playgrounds under the state contract (FAC 54):

- Bourne
- Burlington
- Dennis
- Harwich
- Lowell
- Marlborough
- Waltham

The above communities are represented by Nancy White as would be Scituate (we do have two M.E. O'Brien playgrounds in Town done by the schools' PTO's)

I also asked about communities from the western part of the state....that area is represented by Andy Berger and a few of them were Springfield, Chicopee & Holyoke.

I went and called/emailed a few of the Cities and Towns (random picks):

- **Town of Dennis:** Dustin Pineau, Recreation Director: 508-760-6162: They have built 4 playgrounds & a fitness trail with M.E. O'Brien. His opinion, by far the best in the industry from step one through the installation to standing behind their product years later. He does not know what he would do without them. He also mentioned that Chatham, Yarmouth, Harwich, Bourne, Hyannis...all have used them as well.
- **City of Waltham:** Sandy Tomasello, Recreation Director: 781-314-3475. Has done many projects with them. They have been great to work with; responsive/timely very professional from beginning to end.
- **City of Quincy:** Paul Frantz, Project Manager for Parks Department; 617-592-6622. They have built 30 playgrounds with M.E. O'Brien; half were done under the state contract. He could not have spoken more highly about them. In fact, they tried to say that any playground built on the city's property must be M.E. O'Brien's. He said that their product has withstood the test of time. Also reached out to the Mayor via email (he was the former Park Commissioner) his response: "I give M.E. O'Brien & Sons my full endorsement. I have worked with

them both as Park Commissioner and Mayor, and I have always been happy and satisfied with the quality of their work.”

Good luck with the project,
Thomas P. Koch, Mayor

- **City of Lowell:** Rachel Kisker, Design Planner (Department of Planning & Development). “City of Lowell been working with O’Brien for years and has never had a problem. They purchase the playground equipment directly from Nancy via the State Contract. O’Brien provides the drawings, specs, and color renderings (good for public meetings) as part of the deal. And then we put the installation out to bid and get a contractor to install the equipment. We’ve done many playgrounds with O’Brien & Sons and really like their equipment & design services.” via an email response.
- **City of Holyoke:** Teresa Shepard, Recreation Director, 413-322-5620. Just finishing building a playground with M.E. O’Brien using the state contract. Very pleased with the whole process. They, too, purchased the playground equipment directly and then went out to bid for the install. M.E. O’Brien provided everything they needed to present publicly as well as the specs for the install. Per Teresa: “They do it all”.

I am also attaching a full listing of Landscape Structures Playground Installs by Nancy White from 2000 through present. As you will see there are over 300 installations in her region.

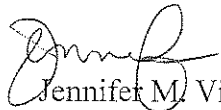
Marshfield is the most recent playground built on the South Shore (they did not use the state contract). The cost of the engineering was \$15,000.

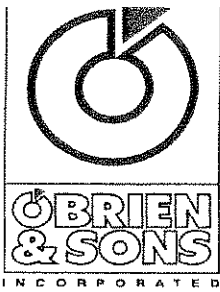
Should we go with M.E. O’Brien we will not have to pay for the engineering.

They will work with us starting now on design, 3-D plans, color renderings all of which would be critical for presentation as well as working with us on the specs. for bidding the installation. This will save the Town countless man-hours.

M.E. O’Brien & Sons, Inc is a member of the Massachusetts Recreation & Park Association and it has always been my opinion that they are highly regarded in our industry. However, I have never had the opportunity to work with them directly. Making those phone calls today confirmed what I always had believed. As one of the Directors said...“sometimes it is too good to be true, but in this case it is true.”

Thank you for your consideration. I am available to meet to discuss further.


Jennifer M. Vitelli
Recreation Director



93 West Street
P.O. Box 650
Medfield, MA 02052-0650
Phone 508-359-4200
Fax 508-359-2817

Statewide Contract for Recycled Plastic Lumber and Other Recycled Plastic and Rubber Products (FAC 54)

Company:

M.E. O'Brien & Sons, Inc.
93 West Street
Medfield, MA 02052
(508) 359-4200
(508) 359-2817 (fax)

E-mail: mail@obrienandsons.com

Manufacturers

DuMor
PlaySafer Rubber Mulch
Landscape Structures/PlaySense
SmartTimbers
RockLock by Small Rock
SofSurfaces
Surface America

Category

#1 Playground Equipment
#2 Plastic Lumber Benches & Tables
#3 Landscape Timbers
#4 Site Amenities
#7 Recycled Rubber Mulch
#8 Athletic & Playground Surfaces
#9 Recycled Rubber Pavers

Vendor Code #VC60000157930
Contract Expires October 31, 2011

11/7/09