



**Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial Commission
Edmond Town Hall, Room #2
45 Main Street, Newtown, CT**

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE PERMANENT
MEMORIAL COMMISSION**

The Sandy Hook Permanent Memorial Commission held a special meeting on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at the Edmond Town Hall, Meeting Room #2, 45 Main Street, Newtown. Chairman Lyddy called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and began with a moment of silence.

PRESENT: Kyle Lyddy, Joann Bacon, Brian Engel, Dan Krauss, Sarah Middeleer, Agni Pavilidou Kyprianou (7:35pm), Donna Van Waalwijk

ABSENT: Joanne Brunetti, Alan Martin, Tricia Pinto

ALSO PRESENT: Bob Mitchell, three members of the public and one member of the press.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: none.

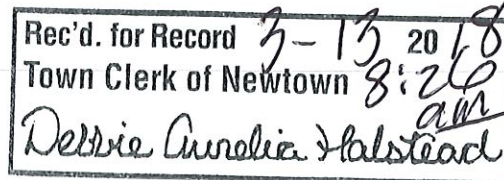
FEEDBACK FROM FAMILIES: Mr. Lyddy stated there were two forums for family members to evaluate the final thirteen designs and continued feedback is encouraged. Families who are out of town have the opportunity to contribute thoughts and feedback through email and by phone. The attached document outlines the feedback of thirteen families. Most were able to decide on top 3-5 designs. The feedback was positive or neutral.

Factors that need continued consideration are infrastructure, land, feasibility and cost. At this point the conversation remains on design.

There was some hesitancy relative to submitting artwork or a statement about each victim. It is believed that the families will want equal representation; all have a statement or none do. The names given to certain areas may need to be discussed further; the terminology in the narrative evoked reaction from families. There were strong opinions on the design with the 'void', for and against. The commission discussed designs with large green space.

Phase 2 presentations will be in person. Ms. Middeleer and Ms. Agni Paviliou will create a format for minimum requirement for presentation.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK MOVING FORWARD: Community feedback will be March 15 and March 17 with the same process; in person or online. This will be advertised on the commission Facebook page, as well as the town's Facebook page and website. The feedback will be reviewed at the April meeting with the anticipation of narrowing the designs to 3-5.



Ms. Middeleer suggested allowing people to visit the site on certain days. Snow may be a factor; Mr. Lyddy said this will be re-evaluated over the next couple of weeks. Once the short list is decided upon they can be sent to the PD for review in regards to security. The next commission meeting is April 12, members should have an idea of their top 3-5 designs. At the end of the meeting, after reviewing community and family feedback, 3-5 designs will be chosen. The advisory members will be invited. The final designs will be sent to Parks & Recreation, Police Department and the Police Commission.

Note: all design proposals are on the website, <http://www.newtown-ct.gov/sandy-hook-permanent-memorial-commission>

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Lyddy moved to adjourn the special meeting at 8:50pm. Ms. Van Waalwijk seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Marcinek, clerk

Att: Family feedback



Family Feedback on Phase I-B Memorial Designs

13 Families Provided Feedback Through In-Person Review, Email or Phone Calls
As of 03.08.18

*Note that we will continue to accept input from families who are interested in participating.

ID	VOTES	POSITIVE	INDIFFERENT	NEGATIVE
SH37	14	Good use of foliage in all four seasons Love the shape and design and choice of plants Love the fountain and sacred sycamore Enjoy the simplicity of the names around the outside of the fountain. I like the circular nature and symbolism provided through this design. If the wall from SH141 was added, I think would be close to perfect. I like that the names are in the center of the memorial and all together My favorite. Love the sacred sycamore and surrounding water Love the reflection pond idea. Being able to see a name and see your reflection. I think it's powerful. Love reflection pond with candles It's park like - but not a park. Impressive. Like the circular walking path - there is no end. Perhaps minimal maintenance. Appreciate the dedication to individual families Liked the large pond with circulating water I love the sycamore tree	Maybe some modifications to soften it. This should be about victims and not necessarily about first responders or community. If names are put on the stone, don't put them on ground level Busy walkways around the fountain The candles graphic is nice but will it become cluttered, what's the plan for cleaning? I would like to have seen more space for honoring the victims, not just a name plaque. If this is the one, would love to see some language from SH240 incorporated	May be too big. Too expansive, a lot of structure The multiple paths seem very confusing and while a nice idea, seem impractical Overall the design imposes too much man-made structure on the site
SH66	2	I like that this one seems to be the most natural Like the foliage for attracting birds / butterflies Love the wooded feel and I really like the benches and natural ponds and meadow		Too many small flowering shrubs, seems messy Don't want community benches Hate the design. I don't understand the hill and children playing on it. Don't like the mound Too much "stuff" - no clear path, not sure of its meaning Too natural. Feels more like a park than a memorial
SH81	2	I like the cherry blossom trees and bridge over the water Liked the cherry trees this will be beautiful Like the idea that each victim is treated the same Like the cherry trees.		The wall of hope makes me feel closed in with the long, narrow openings. I don't like the individual halos around the trees. Wall of Hope - looks bombed out Walls are too large and obtrusive Too much like angels. Don't like to impose a mourning circle. "Moving forward" or "beauty of those gone", not mourning Do not like the healing circle Not a fan of the halos. Not sure about the "wall of hope" — hardscape is a little too polished for me. circular benches/enclosures less stark

SH102	4	I like that the pass ways are floating above the ponds and the perimeter wall and names etched. I like the openness and simplicity Love the hiking or walking trail - like the terrace lawn that's open and the path above the ponds Love the garden and pathways	Driveway looks split down the middle. Is more privacy needed along property edge?	I do NOT want a trail to the school Not ornate enough The memorial seems generic and overly general
SH108	2	Like the grove and the fountains		Worry about the plants - too many flowers No focus - too many ornate gardens Too rectangular. Feels rigid, not soft. Ponds don't feel well integrated Worried about how it will look in winter Seems unmaintainable I don't like they layout of the memorial garden. I also don't want to be writing a description about my child. Sacred soil feels like a tomb. Too many flowers. Don't like the entrance Should be a more direct entrance option. Wish there were more walkways in the forest area.
SH141	4	I like the wall Water looks nice (pool/pond) The description looks at it as a wading pool. Probably my favorite, love the idea of having the children's artwork and a description provided by the families. If the wall could be reflective like the Vietnam Memorial or the Korean War Memorial, that would be cool. It's supposed to represent our loved ones reaching back to touch us when we touch the reflection Like the memorial component of this. Parking area is good - overall impressive	What happens to the fountains in the winter?	Too big - cut down the pond Seems too "grand" Feels too small, ponds distance is too far away from the memorial Do not like putting teachers above the children Too stark I do not want to submit my child's art. I feel like its a place where kids play in, which isn't appropriate.
SH147	2	Too simple, not enough design elements Like the entry I like the rolling stone walls and entry pictures. I would like it if it used more of the property. Love the walking paths with individualized elements. Ponds well incorporated.	Signage at front should be subtle	Too much concrete. I don't like the spaced out individual memorials on the path Looks like a Washington DC Memorial. Not enough place to walk or explore. Looks like a mall. Doesn't feel welcoming. Small place for parking. This isn't a shopping mall. I don't like this design

SH179	6	Like the skywalk Really like the pictures. Like that there are walkways through most of the property. It allows people who just want to see the memorial (near the entrance) can do so, but allows people who want more reflection to have that as well (trails). I like the idea of the skywalk Love the use of stone (seems natural to this area) I like the sky walk, the natural stone and trails. I like the layout	In the wall design, the memorial stones should be further apart.	Too much like a park, not a memorial. Don't like the haiku Too much into the woods. Not really clear. Existential - too many walks
SH203	3	Simple & nice - fountain is great. Like the wooden circular path and how it blends with nature Like the smaller grass area - fountain and path are well done Pretty - like the circular fountain	I don't mind the granite blocks in the circular path.	Not seasonal. How would it look in the winter? Don't like the memorial names on the benches. Feels less peaceful and more touristy - like everyone will congregate around the fountain only There's not enough to this one. I don't like all the benches so close together in that small circle.
SH217	3	I like that there's a natural winter look and feel Like the path - smaller, seems more private Appreciate the thinking about this being seasonal and how it will look year round Love the idea of the sacred soil. I like the circular walkway		No attraction Don't like the memorial names located on the floor. Memorial aspect is underwhelming. Not bold enough. Don't like the circle on this one, doesn't seem too sophisticated More reference to the victims would be nice here There isn't enough private/other spaces for people to experience Land could be used more.
SH233	6	Very rustic - sun lines and dates. This design is so profound and I really like it. The water mirror is more reflective (rather than encouraging kids to play in it) which is more appropriate Like this very much.	This was the most striking architecturally with The Void and the separate memorial grove, allows different periods of reflection. The words that went with the void were hard to read but I think this is how it has to be, then we do not paper over this tragedy.	Would prefer the ponds be more integrated into the memorial. Reflecting pool is too large Has a negative feel to this with the void Don't like, seems too plain Hate the void. Bad use of architectural metaphor. Would consider this without the void.
SH240	2	Simple & rustic If this is not the one, I would like some of this narrative incorporated into the final design I like the overlook. Like the prompts on the memorial benches. I like the openers Love the feel of this, a little of each		No. I don't understand this design. Feels weird. Nix the arbor - no added water feature I don't want to give a short story to be engraved on a bench. Don't like the arbor/open grass area. A little too modern for me — too architectural — not enough paths.

SH279	4	I like the nature like elements to this, paths. Seems simple. I like the simplicity Like the path to get to the memorial Memorial feels bold and well integrated with the water.	Wall is too large and obtrusive Don't like the feel of this - too much cement Not much thought or detail into this Feels too cold I don't care for the windows to the pond. Closed in feeling. Not enough to this — seems unfinished. Don't like the compression of space between walls — feels claustrophobic to me.
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