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Code, accessibility discussed for park

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As the Anderson Township Park District continues with development plans for Johnson Hills Park safety and accessibility questions have surfaced.

• <http://rodeo.cincinnati.com/getlocal/comm.aspx?id=100109>">More Anderson Township news at Cincinnati.com/Andersontownship

Park District Executive Director Ken Kushner said at last night's meeting that the fire department reviewed the preliminary park plans and suggested some access modifications.

Kushner said the fire department needs a foot path to gain access to the Moorman House at the back of the park near Crooked Stick Court and Wycliffe Drive.

The current driveway is impassable for fire trucks and the department needs a way to run a hose or gurney to the Moorman House until the new parking lot and driveway are constructed, Kushner said.

Park Commissioner Nadine Gelter said access to that house is a safety issue and should be provided.

Park Commission President Duffy Beischel asked about what it would take to bring the former Johnson residence at the front of the park up to modern fire codes and if a sprinkler system would be required.

Park district officials have discussed turning the Johnson house into a nature center or public education center.

Kushner stated that the home was completed in 1938 and the concrete construction could preclude it from being retroactively fitted with sprinklers.

He added that if the home is opened to the public the park district would have to widen doorways and install ramps to comply with the accessibility standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Beischel said he did not see many issues arising with accessibility standards if the first floor of the Johnson home was made available to the public.

He asked for the architects to look into the cost to bring the home into compliance with both the fire code and Americans with Disabilities Act.

Johnson Hills Park is located near the intersection on Little Dry Run and Bridle roads.

Additional Facts

Public feedback

The Anderson Township Park District has been collecting feedback from residents on the plans for

Johnson Hills Park, near the intersection of Little Dry Run and Bridle Roads.

Results of that feedback will be presented at the next meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, at the park district headquarters in Julifs Park, 8249 Clough Pike.
