

Dartmouth – Dog Advisory Work Group

Tuesday – May 28, 2013 – Minutes

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President Rick Oliveira called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the following Board members present: Paul LaBelle, Rick Rodrigues, Lee Ann Quint, Bev Reed, Diane Camacho, Janice Rogers, Dr. Kate Pietch, and Jo-Anne Gallant. There were two other attendees, Larry Shimman and John Chevie.

The minutes from the March 26, 2013 meeting were approved with several revisions.

New Business

I. Conservation Commission & Mike O'Reilly

Rick contacted Mike O'Reilly regarding flagging the dog park area, but before flagging can be done, we need to superimpose the concept map onto the GIS map. Rick then contacted the architect (Mike Bello) to inquire as to whether this is something he would be willing to do for us, but he has not heard back from him. Mike O'Reilly indicated he would flag the area once he has the map.

II. Stanton Foundation Grant

One of the Stanton Foundation requirements is that the town show support for the dog park by assuming ten percent of the park's cost. Our contention is that the town has adequately demonstrated its support by providing a twelve acre parcel of land for the park. The value of the property has been estimated to be \$150,000. Additionally, the Park Board will write a letter to affirm its commitment to the dog park. Both Rick R. and Dr. Kate expressed interest in pursuing the grant and other members of the board agreed.

Rick O. indicated he would like to apply to the Community Preservation Commission once again. A grant from this group would be an additional way to demonstrate town support. The board discussed the fact that at the time of our last application, the CPC wanted us to scale down the project, which we have done. However, the CPC also expressed interest in our having raised money on our own and we have not yet held any fund raisers. The deadline for applying is June 26th. Several members of the board were unsure as to whether applying at this time was prudent.

III. Social Media

a. Website -- John

John has been investigating website hosts and has found a possible site that has templates available for use or you can work from a blank. The name will be Dartmouth DogPark.org and is free because we are a nonprofit organization. The cost is \$10, but if you pay for ten years upfront, it is only \$6 per year. Dr. Kate

graciously offered to pay the ten year fee from Anchor Animal Hospital. After we register the name, John can begin to build the website. Rick said there are images and logos available on Drop box for use.

b. Facebook – Lee Ann

Lee Ann has had Facebook up and running May 14th and we have 70 “Likes” already. Lee Ann posts something new every few days and asked members of the board to like the site if they have not done so and to share it so friends can see it. One individual has already offered on the page to help with clearing the land, indicating he has equipment we can use! We cannot accept donations as of yet, but hope to soon.

IV. Treasurer’s Report

Rick R. has plans to open a bank account but needs board members to donate so that he has sufficient funding to do so. The plan is to have the names of both the president and treasurer on the account. Once we have the account, we can set up a post office box.

V. First Face to Face Meeting

Rick O. has emailed several acquaintances that either work or have worked at banks such as The Fall River Five, Citizens Bank, and St. Anne’s Credit Union, seeking help in hopes they will provide him with possible executives’ names that he could speak to regarding donations. He is also planning to contact someone at Bristol County Savings so that he can introduce himself and request a meeting.

VI. Fund Raiser

a. Cow Dropping Fund Raiser – Sandy

Unfortunately, Sandy was unable to attend so there is no report at this time.

b. Wine Tasting

As we have two wineries in town, it was suggested we consider a wine tasting fund raiser. The Westport Winery has Friday night events with music and picnicking. Perhaps they would be willing to allow dogs one night and ask for a \$5.00 donation to go to the dog park.

Old Business

I. Petco Foundation Grant

Rick will work on the Petco grant when the CPC and Stanton grants are completed.

II. Anything for the Good of the Organization

Janice indicated she would be willing to sell tickets for the cow dropping fund raiser. We will also need to have signs to advertize the event. There is a business on Route 6,

Signature, that does good work, but Umass should also be considered as they may be cheaper.

III. Close Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

Election

As we had 9 of the 11 board members present, Rick O. present the Slate of Officers for a vote. The slate was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Gallant