

Dartmouth – Dog Advisory Work Group

Tuesday – May 26, 2015 – Minutes

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DARTMOUTH TOWN CLERK

I. Call to order

President Rick Oliveira called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm with the following members present: Nancy Mahoney, Jenn Mello, Karen Harb, Diane Camacho, LeeAnn Quint, Rick Rodrigues, and Jo-Anne Gallant. Visitors included Mark LaValley.

II. Reports Jo-Anne and Rick R.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the April 28th minutes as sent. The motion passed at 7:09. Rick R. then gave the treasurer's report. There were several expenses, including filing fees for the Attorney General's office and the Massachusetts Secretary of State. In addition, the 2014 taxes were filed and a tax prep fee was paid to Ameritax. Diane asked if a new certificate of solicitation would be issued, as ours expired on 5-15-15, and Rick indicated he would find out.

III. Dartmouth Dog Park Website & Facebook page update – Karen and LeeAnn

LeeAnn reported that Diane's interview with WBSM, and subsequent article posted to our Facebook page was read by 1,400 people. Both the Official and Open Forum Facebook pages are in sync with one another and continue to have new viewers.

Rick R. stressed the need to have our website up as soon as possible, and suggested we could hire a company that deals with websites. Other board members concurred. Agawam has had their site up for a year, and their park is under construction now. There are several dog park sites that could serve as a model for ours. When Karen arrived, she indicated she has been reviewing John's work. Sadly, the course she wanted to take on website design was cancelled. Karen handed the information she has gathered, a binder and flash drive, to Diane. Without a board member capable of web design, it seems unlikely we can recreate John's work alone. Fortunately, the domain name John selected, Dartmouth Dog Park.org is still available. Karen thinks Dream host was the company John used, building the site using Word press. Diane will look at options after the spaghetti dinner.

IV. Meeting with Park & Recreation Committee – Diane

A few days before the May 19th Park & Recreation meeting, Diane and Jo-Anne met with Tim and Deborah for an update on the park. They indicated that the electric service had come in much higher than anticipated, and as a result, the budget had to be reworked. The bids were then written, and forwarded to the Finance Committee member in charge of town project bids. The bids will be posted on May 20th and consist of a 242 page document with a complete description of the project and six drawings.

At the May 19th meeting, the Park & Recreation Board members were informed of the bids going out, and that they would be open for a two week period. Once the bidding period has ended, the bids are opened and reviewed, and references checked. Hopefully there will be a bid under the project cost, and a contractor can be selected. A few questions were asked about the budget changes. The shed, which the board wanted to be concrete, was changed to metal to save costs. Rick O. indicated he was not a fan of the metal shed. Diane asked if concrete blocks were donated, could we still have a concrete one. Tim noted that no changes could be made until after the bids were read and awarded. The card key system is in the budget as the electrical requirements were needed. DDAWG volunteers are still responsible for building the boardwalk.

Park & Recreation members indicated that the rules we sent them were well thought out, but that they needed time to review them. They will make any additions or suggestions to Tim, who will forward them to us.

V. Status of spaghetti supper – Karen and Diane

Anchor Animal Hospital indicated they would donate the spaghetti, sauce, salad dressing, Parmesan cheese and fruit punch. Olive Garden is donating the bread sticks and Roche Bros two dessert trays. The paper goods were donated by Barbara Carreiro and Debbie Bowers. As board members are also making donations from our list of needs, we will only have to buy salad, meatballs, and some additional desserts!

Jo-Anne will check with Stop & Shop about a dessert donation. We would want two dessert trays per table as the tables seat ten. To date, we have sold 987 adult tickets and 5 children's tickets.

Everyone should be at the hall around noon for table set up and food preparation. In addition to the dining tables, we need a table for condiments and drinks, a table for DDAWG sale items and information, and several auction tables. The two guys will arrange the tables and cover them with green plastic sheeting. Rick R. will also set up the music. Jenn, Nancy, and Diane will set up the auction table, while Karen, Jo-Anne, Lee Ann, and Ann will work in the kitchen. Everyone will be responsible for helping clean up.

Thank you to Mark LaValley, for graciously donating two Red Sox shirts to go with the Red Sox Tickets Door prize. The children's Red Sox basket is almost complete. Jenn will have more of the delicious DDAWG cookies for us to sell. Finally, we have numerous items donated for the auction table. We will plan on beginning the drawings at 6:30 pm.

VI. United Way Mini Grant – Rick O.

Shawn Muldoon is willing to work with us regarding the kiosk completion. Once we know the bids are set, he will purchase materials and provide the necessary receipt for the United Way. We will need to extend half of the costs of the kiosks to seal the contract.

VII. New Bedford Pet Fest – Diane

We sold 24 spaghetti dinner tickets, and all of the DDAWG cookies at Pet Fest. For the future, it would be beneficial to have a basket or two to raffle as well.

VII. For the Good of the Organization – Open

Bark in the Park in Fall River is early August. We will need to decide next time if we want to attend again this year.

Ann sent a copy of the revised logo, in black and white, for the pens. Everyone on the board agreed the new design was great!

VIII. Next meeting

The next meeting will be June 23rd, at 7:00 pm. in the town hall.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Gallant