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<p style="text-align: center;">DOG PARK STUDY MEETING</p>
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Draft

November 30, 2011

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3 The Dog Park Study Committee meeting was held at the Cable Access Center, 281 Mammoth
4 Road, Londonderry.
5

6 **PRESENT: Committee Members: Dottie Grover, Cynthia LaBrecque, Deanna Mele,**
7 **Linda Bates, John Beaulieu, Budget Committee Liaison, John Curran. Absent: Planning**
8 **Board Liaison, Scott Benson, Dan McLoed, Cindy Eaton. Visiting were Londonderry**
9 **residents Ben LaBrecque and Anita Snow.**

10
11 **CALL TO ORDER**
12

13 D. Grover opened the meeting at 7:05 PM.
14

15 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
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17 Minutes approved for the 10/25/11 meeting with the following changes:
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- 19 - Ben LeBrecque spoke as a Londonderry citizen and did not speak or represent the
 - 20 - Londonderry Conservation Commission.
 - 21 - The report indicated John Beaulieu was present; he was not.
- 22

23 Motion made to accept minutes, with corrections, by John Curran. Seconded by John Baulieu.
24

25 **REPORTS**
26

27 Cynthia LaBrecque asked for a clarification of the purpose of the Dog Park Committee. D.
28 Grover replied with a number of items including documentation of the need and/or demand for a
29 dog park (Londonderry has 4,000 dogs). We need a location for said park, and we need to
30 have a permanent project file. Also to be addressed are health and safety issue of patrons and
31 pets as well as an annual operating cost.
32

33 Deanna Mele reported on an article in the Londonderry Times paper. The article indicated Kathy
34 Wagner's meeting with the Heritage Committee and her request to clear out poison ivy and
35 provide mobility through the stone wall in order to expand the town common to include a picnic
36 area. There will be another Heritage Committee meeting in January 2012. Deanna thought the
37 clearing of the area Ms. Wagner is requesting, may bode well for additional clearing for a
38 possible dog park.
39

40 **PRIORITIZE DOG PARK LOCATIONS**
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42 John Curran made a motion, seconded by John Beaulieu that each member of the dog park
43 committee, individually, visit and look at the six sites currently proposed with the purpose of
44 attending the next meeting with recommendations on each site and putting them in the order of
45 priority.

46 **FUNDING**

47
48 John Beaulieu mentioned that he was working on various ideas that would bring in the funds for
49 a dog park. John feels there will be no problem raising funds. First we need a location and the
50 set up and operating costs. The subject was brought up again of the New Hampshire Charitable
51 Trust and the possibilities there.

52
53 He will also research the costs of various money raising projects, such as the cost of bricks with
54 donor's names on them.

55
56 **VISITING OTHER DOG PARKS**

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58 Dottie and Cindy tried to locate but could not find a dog park in Manchester. We are encouraged
59 as committee members to visit and/or contact dog parks in neighboring towns and make note of
60 their issues, and problems. Also, taking pictures at other dog parks, setup/agility/etc. for our
61 files.

62
63 **LEGAL ISSUES**

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65 John Curran referenced RSA 466:19 and RSA 466:30a having to do with

- 66 - dogs running at large
- 67 - dogs being a "nuisance" (in heat/defecating)
- 68 - dogs barking
- 69 - strange exemptions such as laws concerning military dogs

70 John Curran summarized/commented

- 71 - is a sign "use at your own risk" sufficient
- 72 - town will need assurance they won't be sued
- 73 - we need a noise buffer (like a forest)
- 74 - rules relative to the operation and how to police the rules
- 75 - cost of liability issues may result in a user fee
- 76 - the use of a "risk pool"; all cities have them

77
78 **MEETING SCHEDULE**

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80 Dottie mentioned inviting a veterinarian for the next meeting. She also advised that meeting
81 could be held at the library, and could be televised on cable. Purpose: make the residents of
82 Londonderry aware of this Dog Park Committee and fuel an interest in this project.

83
84 There is no meeting in December 2011 and the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for
85 Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 7 p.m.

86
87 **ADJOURNMENT**

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89 **Motion made by John Curran to adjourn the meeting; seconded by John Beaulieu. Motion**
90 **passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.**