

Dog Park Advisory Board Meeting Notes: November 1, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was held in the Conference Room in the Administrative Trailers.

Attending: Deb McComas, Donna Cawthorne, Andrew Miller, Warren Grant, David Cochran, Karen Sweeney, Caroline Brinker, Nancy Santacecilia

Guests: N/A

Meeting Notes of October 4, 2021 were accepted and approved on a motion by David, seconded by Warren and passed by unanimous vote.

Correspondence: N/A

Member Inquiries: N/A

Incident Reports:

October 23, 2021: Karen described an incident which took place in the small dog section and involved one dog bullying and pestering another dog, with the owner having difficulty getting the dog under control. Deb McComas was in attendance at the time and helped with the situation. Karen commended Deb for providing peer leadership by speaking with the owner to explain the importance of being able to control the dog and preventing the same behavior in the future. Karen will speak with the owner to emphasize the need to be attentive to the dog's behavior and control the dog immediately if the situation occurs again.

October 24, 2021: Karen stated that a member contacted the office to say that their dog's paw was injured somewhere on the perimeter fence. The owner inspected the entire perimeter with Chris Mason but was unable to find any sharp edges that could have caused the injury. The owner then stated that they were unsure if the injury occurred at the dog park. Karen stated that the incident is considered resolved.

Projects / Events: None currently

Discussion Items:

Online DP Orientation: Donna stated that she reviewed the modules that Kristin McCoach prepared for the online orientation and confirmed that they contain all of the content from the Dog Park Handbook, on which the orientation is based. Donna suggested that a diagram of the dog park should be included in the orientation, either in person or online, to indicate the location of the pavillion, three play areas and parking areas. The Board discussed serious concerns that an online orientation deprives prospective members from the benefits of attending an in-person orientation, especially the emphasis on important topics given by the presenters and the ability of attendees to ask questions of them. The benefits of online orientation are that Board members would not be responsible to give orientations every month, and that people would be able to take the online orientation at their convenience without having to wait for the scheduled in-person orientation. The subject will be on the next agenda.

Special Events: None currently

Planned Maintenance: Karen showed the new sign that will be installed at the entrance to the service road, stating that parking adjacent to the dog park is permitted only for vehicles with handicapped license plates or placards. Donna suggested also installing signs at either side of the handicapped parking spaces prohibiting parking by any vehicles on the grass in that area.

Dog Park Advisory Board Members: The Dog Park Advisory Board is seeking new members to fill vacancies. Members are urged to suggest volunteering for the Board to dog park members. Caroline stated that the borough website seeks volunteers, as does the township website.

In-Person Orientations, Doylestown Township Community Room: Karen will bring the in-person orientation program to the next meeting to instruct Board members on how to present it to attendees. Orientation dates:

Saturday, November 20 at 5:00 pm: Kathy, David and Donna

Saturday, January 8 at 5:00 pm: Warren and Donna

Thursday, March 3 at 6:45 pm: Andy and Donna

Monday, April 4 at 2:00 pm: To be determined

Saturday, May 7 at 4:00 pm: To be determined

Tuesday, May 31 at 6:45 pm: Andy

Canine Photo Contest: The Board gave unanimous approval to add the item to the agenda of the current meeting for the purpose of judging the entries to the Spooktacular Canine Costume Photo Contest. The results will be posted on the township website.

Appreciation Expressed: This being David's last meeting because of his resignation due to other commitments, the Board expressed their appreciation for his years of service, his help at orientations and his work on the project to revise the Rules and Regulations.

Adjournment: On a motion by Andrew, seconded by Warren and approved by the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

DPAB Notes 11/01/21