

Doylestown Dog Park Advisory Committee
Monday – July 13, 2015 – 6:00pm

In attendance were David Hansen, Helen Neuman, Janet Stavrides, Karen Sweeney, Deb McComas, Scott Tilden, Caroline Brinker, Stephanie Mason, and Richard (Rick) Colello, substituting for Barbara N. Lyons as BOS Liaison.

Guests were Jordan Steel, member, and Tim Steel, leader, of Boy Scout Troop #172, and Peggy Quan, reporter, Doylestown Intelligencer.

Minutes of June 8, 2015, meeting were reviewed and accepted on motion of Deb McComas, seconded by Janet Stavrides.

Janet Stavrides raised a question about the large dirt mound outside of the Rotation Area outside of Doylestown Dog Park limits. A member broke her ankle walking past the pile en route to the park with her dog. Karen Sweeney said she would refer the information to maintenance.

The group discussed the issues around installing cameras for remote viewing and recording of activities in the park. Janet Stavrides's husband was looking into the issue and would report back to the council.

Barkminster was successful this year. Karen Sweeney said that the timing was unfortunate for planners with a township golf tournament the next day. The date of May 21, 2016, was mentioned as a possible date for next year's event. Karen related an issue to reinforce why graphics for next year's event would need to be changed and researched carefully.

Discussion ensued on shade structures. Karen referred members to the Kids Castle where two of the planned structures have been assembled, one large, one small.

The subject of the large tree in the large-dog park, a Linden Tree which is a particular favorite of Japanese Beetles, was brought up. The tree has been defoliated for a second straight year. Maintenance indicated that the tree will survive, but members noted that its purpose for us is shade, for which it is essentially useless again this year. Karen noted that the council did not want to use poisons within the park area, particularly since dogs are our main audience. Scott Tilden mentioned a natural product called Milky Spore that specifically targets the Japanese Beetle in its grub, or pre-emergent, stage. August is the prime time for its application (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Milky_spore).

The council noted that additional trees were the long-term answer. Karen noted that dogs and people need to be careful not to walk close to the tree over its root ball because it can damage the root structure.

Rick Colello was going to check if some trees "owed" to the township from developers and other sources might be able to be diverted to the Dog Park.

Discussion turned to *Fido Float at Fanny's*, the Doylestown Dog Park swim for pooches at the Fanny Chapman Pool in Doylestown Borough we're hoping to cosponsor in early September. The preliminary feedback from Fanny Chapman's board was good; some details need to be worked out. It was agreed that no personal toys would be allowed; Scott Tilden will check with Josh to see if Pet Supplies Plus will provide some. The group thought that an informal *Spots Illustrated Swimsuit Competition* might build some excitement. DMAC volunteered to staff a Doggie First-Aid Station. Karen will work on the cross waiver details with Fanny. Caroline will check on artwork. Deb will work on balls for the event. Janet will start to "pre" talk it up.

Janet Stavrides moved to adjourn, and Deb McComas seconded.