

DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP DOG PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Notes: Monday, February 1st, 2016



The regular meeting of the Doylestown Dog Park Advisory Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 1st, 2016 at the Doylestown Township Administrative office.

- In attendance: David Hansen, Helen Neuman, Deb McComas, Janet Stavrides, Katelynn Sterk, Andrew Miller, Karen Sweeney, Caroline Brinker and Barbara Lyons
- Guests: Joseph Hebert, Stephanie Mason

New Members:

Ms. Sterk and Mr. Miller were welcomed to the board.

Election of Officers

Following discussion the following positions were nominated and approved.

Chairman: David Hansen

Vice Chairman: Deb McComas

Secretary: Ada Popek / Helen Neuman

Meeting Notes - November 2nd, 2015

The meeting notes were unanimously approved on a motion by Ms. Stavrides and second by Ms. McComas

Visitors:

The board thanked Mr. Joseph "Captain" Hebert for providing, in cooperation with Feeney's, four new trees for the dog park. Mr. Hebert was presented a certificate of appreciation for his efforts.

Member Inquiries:

Membership Donation Request: Following discussion regarding the request for a free membership donation for the upcoming NOVA fundraiser by Ms. Shelly Bittman, the board concluded that was a worthwhile cause and suggested approval. Additional conversation led to concerns that membership donation would become a trend and the Dog Park Advisory Board was also working to generate funds for improvements to the park with concerns voiced that donations either need to be limited and/or sponsored. Mr. Hebert and Ms. Lyons both offered to sponsor donations in the amount of \$60.

Anonymous Concerns: Following discussion Mr. Hansen reiterated that as ambassadors for the Township we must act accordingly in handling park issues and concerns. Following discussion it was the consensus of the board that future concerns/complaints that arise must also be accompanied by the complainant's name rather than submitted anonymously.

Snow removal: Mr. Sweeney noted that transportation and transit has top priority then non-essential facilities will be addressed as time allows.

Lights: Ms. Stavrides noted that she had received inquiry regarding the possibility of lights so the park could remain open later similar to the tennis courts. Ms. Sweeney noted that the operating hours for all township parks are dawn to dusk. Additionally, Ms. Mason indicated that the courts are located adjacent to the police department which provided for improved security.

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Stone: Ms. Stavrides inquired if it might be possible to add additional red stone to expand the entry ways to better preserve turf closer to the gate. Board consensus was supportive and Ms. Sweeney agreed to follow up with the park maintenance superintendent.

Gate Entry: The ease of accessing the park through the exit gate was discussed. It was the consensus of the board that this presents a significant problem especially relative to access by non-members. It was agreed that option for resolve need to be investigated and problem resolved.

Incidents: No incidents were reported.

Ongoing /Old Business

Cameras: Ms. Stavrides reported that the camera was ready to be installed. The board expressed their appreciation to both Janet and her husband Paul for making the camera possible. Ms. Mason noted that as a township facility only township staff would be authorized to monitor the recordings and inquired about access, length of recording and duration that video would be available. Following discussion, the board asked if it were possible for Paul to attend the next meeting to review operational procedures. Ms. Stavrides indicated it should be doable.

2016 DPAB Projects/Events

Ms. Sweeney suggested that it was time to get event/planning details underway for the upcoming events. She requested that members gather their ideas together relative to each activity for the next meeting so the board could identify coordination responsibilities and hit the ground running.

- Barkminster: May 21st
- Barking Spot (silent auction): May 21st
- Stop and Swap: May 21st
- Fido Float: September 10th (anticipated). Mr. Hansen noted that he would begin the process of securing approval from Fanny Chapman.

Orientation:

The spring orientation volunteer schedule was identified as follows –

- February 27th @ 3:30 pm Jante
- March 23rd @ 6:30 pm Andrew
- April 16th @ 3:30 pm [open]
- May 14th @ 3:30 pm Katelyn

Membership

Ms. Sweeney noted that presently there are 280 household memberships. Following discussion it was the consensus of the board they would like to see an increase in that number and agreed they wanted to develop ideas for awareness and outreach. Mr. Hansen suggested discussing ideas at the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Being no further business the meeting adjourned on a motion by Ms. Stavrides and second by Ms. Neuman.