

Dog Park Association Minutes April 14, 2014

Location: The Lab inside the Peachtree City Public Library

Board Members present: Rick Barnes, Chris Keltner, Becky Keltner, Karen Mayer, Anita Scott, Mike Lossner.

Dog Park members in attendance: Michael Runzi.

Reports: Treasurer's Report was unavailable due to recent acquisition/transfer of duties and time required to prepare.

Old Business:

1. Minutes from 10 March, 2014 meetings were reviewed. Rick motioned to approve the Minutes; Karen seconded. No opposition. Motion carried by unanimous vote.
2. Park maintenance
 - Rick and Chris jointly proposed removing temporary fencing around the now-established trees and plants. Rick motioned to approve; Chris seconded. No opposition.
 - Mike R offered to install a hasp and carabineer on the new bags box near the gate. People put poop in there, so a hasp and carabineer should discourage that. Also, Rick will create a sign for the top to instruct people on where to put poop.
 - Some of the gates need repair. Mike R offered to take care of this, as he has some paint and expertise. The front gate needs some paint; the rear lot gate sometimes gets stuck on the fencing and is difficult to get in and out.
3. Update on Joseph Pollard's Eagle Scout Project.
 - The display bulletin board project is completed. Steve Brown intends to speak with troop leader about bracing it in case of kids hanging from it. Future modifications are possible.
4. Anita and Karen manned a table at the Medical Clinic's Pet Appreciation Day. Gave away all the kids' t-shirts. Next year, we will be better prepared with t-shirts, mugs, hats, etc to sell. We received one membership renewal and some donations.

New Business:

1. By far, the biggest complaint is lack of new woodchips. Rick has had 2 meetings with Danny from America Grating and Land Clearing.
 - The plan is to give Danny's company exclusive dumping rights. This provides the dog park with continuous supply of new chips to combat degradation.
 - The challenge is that the planting of saplings had not taken the trucks into consideration. There is very little (or no) room for trucks to maneuver and turn around, posing a logistical problem for woodchip delivery. We hope to find a resolution in future meetings. Until then, the truck might need to back all the way down to the park, which is a long back-up.
 - A bobcat will be brought in during the next 2-3 weeks to level the soil. Once that's done, the woodchips can be spread.
 - We need to put a new lock on the drive-through gate so that Danny can get in but other tree service trucks cannot.
2. Web site
 - Karen presented a couple of potential web site designs.
 - Karen wants to move the site from the GoDaddy server to a less expensive and more feature-rich host such as iPower or HostGator. She will present a more detailed cost analysis at the next meeting. The domain registration and hosting expires June 4, so the move will take place in mid- to late May.
3. Transition to new board
 - Josh still has keys; needs to hand off to current board.
 - Logins/passwords have been transferred
4. Background checks
 - Karen received background checks from Anita, Chris, and Becky. Rick and Mike still need to go to the police department for a free background check which may be kept on file with the City.
5. Moving the green collection box down to the park gate:
 - The concern is that teenagers who hang out and party in the park at night could vandalize it and steal the money. Rick says the box is difficult to break into. It's solidly constructed of steel. We could look into adding another layer of security to the back.

- Moving the collection box would have the benefit of making it easier to find. People who enter the park will know where to pay. Where it is now, people don't notice it unless they've already used it in the past.
 - Printed membership forms can be kept near the collection box for those who would consider membership.
 - What would be the cost/effort of moving the box? Concrete, holes dug, new signs printed.
 - No motion or decision has been made on this as yet.
6. Adopt-a-fence
 - No resolution yet on whether to remove existing signs for businesses. We need to know who has recently paid. Some signs are for businesses that have closed, but others are unknown.
 - We can/should offer adopt-a-sign sponsorships on the web site.
 - We discussed creating a Hall of Fame section where the oldest (individual green) signs would be moved to make room for newer signs.
 7. Discussion for Frisbee park. We need more information on the park plan before we could form an opinion on it.
 8. Gate monitoring: Getting volunteers is challenging. We will try to solve the problem with signage to see whether revenue drops. Part of the issue with current signs is they are too wordy. People hate to read, so very short, easy to read signs are crucial. "Pay Here" rather than "if no park attendant is on site, then bring your dollar back and stick it in this slot."
 9. Anita to design a rack card to give information about the park and membership that people could take. Easier than a trifold brochure.
 10. Bylaws state the meeting minutes need to be posted on the web site. New web site will be designed to accommodate this requirement.
 11. New people have trouble finding the park. We might need a couple more signs on posts to direct them.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Next meeting date: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 at 6:30 pm.

Signed

Karen Mayer, Secretary
Peachtree City Dog Park Association