

## DOG PARK SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: July 1, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. Location: Riverside Park Shelter, 100 Sherman Street, Wausau  
Members Present: Ed Giallombardo, Jamie Rice-Heckendorf, David Nutting  
Excused: Michelle Dins, Lauren Henkelman, Eric Heuser, Tom Neal (c)  
Others Present: Jamie Polley, Pat Peckham

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisc. Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. A quorum was not present. Jamie Rice-Heckendorf called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Approval of Minutes – Approval of June 3, 2019 minutes tabled.

Polley provided an updated summary plan. Discussion on fencing and signage costs occurred. One of the fencing companies is willing to donate some ornamental fencing. Pros and cons of five foot versus six foot high fences were discussed. Members present seemed to think a five foot fence would be fine if that is the norm for other dog parks. Discussion occurred on re-using some old fencing. New posts would probably be needed as they are too difficult to remove from the ground undamaged. Concerns were raised about the difficulties for members in handling the old fencing and the patchwork look of it. Nutting wondered if it could be used in the back where it is not visible. Members still were concerned it may not be worth the effort if it only saves a little bit of money. \$15,000 had been offered toward the new fence which would cover the majority of it. Fencing will be voted on at the next meeting. Polley said if they move forward with the fence she thought temporary parking could be rough graded for now. She still has to verify that would be okay or if some base is needed. Bark Academy has also offered some overflow parking on their property. The other solution regarding parking is to ask City Council to allow parking on that section of 4<sup>th</sup> Street in front of the property.

Giallombardo asked if an updated donation packet could be printed. Rice-Heckendorf said the Marathon County Park and Recreation Foundation is giving \$3,300.00 toward three benches. She listed about a dozen more companies that she is going to send requests out to.

Polley said previously they had discussed ordering temporary signage but felt that by the time the fence is up that they should just order the real signage instead. Rice-Heckendorf may check into an organization that would possibly donate dog artwork or design for a sign. Nutting thought the sign should then be photographed and put on social media.

Rice-Heckendorf asked if they could meet at the dog park site for the next meeting. Polley will send out a poll about meeting the week of July 15<sup>th</sup> or the week after. If a decision is made on the fence she will find out the lead time for that, also if parking would be allowed on 4<sup>th</sup> Street or what is involved in creating parking on the site. The time frame for all of that might determine when the soft opening for the park will be. They need to take into consideration that in order to get the site seeded this year so that it is established for next year, the dog park has to be closed by Labor Day. If they are not going to open until the end of August they possibly should wait to open until next year. She mentioned that staff will get the site mowed.

Rice-Heckendorf thought updates on how everyone is doing with their contacts could be given at the next meeting. She felt the dog walk fundraiser should be postponed into the fall because of the heat. Other fundraising ideas were discussed. These included a pool party for dogs, an event at a ball field such as Athletic Park or the Rose Bowl Diamond which is near the dog park site, or an event at the dog park site itself in the winter time.

Next meeting Date – special meeting week of July 15<sup>th</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup> TBD, regular meeting August 5, 2019 at 6:00pm

Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.