

DOG PARK SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date/Time: January, 6th, 2020 at 5:45 p.m. Location: Birch Room, City Hall, 407 Grant St., Wausau, WI 54403

Members Present: Jamie Rice-Heckendorf (c), Tom Neal, David Nutting, Lauren Henkelman, Susan Schmidt

Others Present: Jamie Polley, Shane Brzezinski, Alex Brzezinski – Boy Scout

Members Absent: Ed Giallombardo, Michelle Dins

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 present.

Approve Minutes – December 2, 2019 – **Motion** by Neal, second by Schmidt to approve the December 2, 2019 minutes. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 5-0.

Physical Park Updates – Polley said Committee will need to decide how they want all the signs at the dog park to look, where they should be placed, and if they want to use the Wausau urban dog park logo that was on the promotional video as the theme. The two largest signs will be an entrance sign and a rule sign. The back of one of the signs could be an area where announcements are posted. Rice-Heckendorf mentioned a donor sign would be needed and she thought the rule signage was set. Polley discussed how they could go about getting the signage made. Rice-Heckendorf said she would contact Giallombardo about the dog park logo and see who he was working with. Neal wanted to wait as long as possible for the entrance sign in case someone wants to buy naming rights for the park. Polley said Committee will have to decide what the vision is for the entrance sign. If they want an arch or something more simple. She thought a lot of dog parks have a rule sign at the front and above it a logo type sign. Rice-Heckendorf asked members to take pictures of signs at the area dog parks and bring to the next meeting so Committee can decide what they want.

Nutting wondered if they could possibly open up a contest for high school students or college technical students to design the sign. The City had done this in the past for bike racks and he thought it would be good publicity for the dog park. Members seemed to like the idea of a contest.

Fundraising Updates – Neal reported that an area foundation donated \$5,000 and he is not sure if they want to be recognized or remain anonymous yet. There was a \$250.00 donation from an area business. Katzenbarkers would like to donate toward the waste stations. The total goal for the park is \$130,000. Rice-Heckendorf said maybe the Packer Foundation and Creske Foundation can be reached out to again as their cycles of funding are in the summer and spring.

Neal left meeting at 6:20pm.

Wausau Holiday Parade Re-cap – Rice-Heckendorf said the Clifford the Dog costume was a huge hit at the parade. Members thought it went well and that they received some good exposure. Nutting suggested that Committee give information about the dog park to the Mayor's Office to put into the City's next quarterly newsletter.

Future Events – Polley will contact the Wausau Events Winterfest organizer to see if the group can have a table at the event. It will be held on January 25th from 10am to 3pm. She will email members if they can so they can sign up for shifts. Rice-Heckendorf questioned where a good location to hold a future snow stomp event would be. Polley thought the ball diamond that is closer to the river at Oak Island Park may work. Another suggestion was the horse arena at Marathon Park. If the horse arena is used they may have to put a mesh over the gates so small dogs cannot escape. Rice-Heckendorf thought they could hold the event later in February as a fundraiser with a five dollar entry fee. Polley said members could take a look at both locations to see what they thought and she will check out the fencing at the ball field just to see if anything needed to be done there.

Decisions on signage will be the main topic of discussion at the next meeting.

Next Meeting – Monday, February 3, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

Adjourn – **Motion** by Rice, second by Schmidt to adjourn at 6:40pm. Motion **carried** by voice vote, vote reflected as 5-0.