

SHELBURNE VILLAGE DOG PARK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 4, 2016

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Co-Chair Carol Bick. In attendance were: Carol Bick, Kay Boyce, Zoltan Keve, Bob Owens, Jeff Hodgson, and Bob Bick.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Zoltan Keve and seconded by Bob Owens to approve the minutes of the December meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Calendar Sales

Almost 200 calendars of the 250 there were available for sale were sold. The printing company gave an additional overrun of 30 calendars that were given to calendar winners, the Selectboard, park volunteers, and some Town officials. Approximately 20 calendars are unaccounted for. It's questionable that we do the calendar sale next year. We would need greater involvement from committee members and sponsors since this fundraiser is so labor intensive.

Entrance Landscaping Project

R & J Trucking submitted a bid (range of \$1,800 to \$2,000) to excavate the entrance area, remove and dispose of all stumps, bring in two loads of topsoil, level the soil, excavate a walking trail into the park using crushed gravel donated by Fred Tiballi. The bid does not include plants or their installation. A motion was made by Bob Bick and seconded by Zoltan Keve to accept this bid. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5 to 0. Committee members are aware of resources to approach for donated shrubs and flowers, and the Boy Scouts will be approached for help in planting.

Agility Item

Bob Owens will look into possible equipment, one or two pieces, to be placed at the far end of the park for the dogs to exercise on and practice agility skills.

Membership Drive

There are currently 9 lifetime members and 30 annual members. The membership drive will continue in our newsletter emails, and Zoltan Keve will create a sign for the exit gate asking visitors to become members and/or donate money to the park.

Winter Maintenance

There were no responses to the FPF posting announcing a paid (\$20/hr) job for snow removal at the park entrance and around the park gates. The ad will be reposted.

Party Fundraiser

Mary West and Janice Nadwormy have expressed interest in organizing an early summer fundraiser at the park as a Grand Opening for the completion of the entrance landscaping project (beautification project). Since neither was present at the meeting, their presentation will be on the agenda for the March meeting.

Special Donations

Boy Scout Troop 602 donated \$250 to the Dog Park “saluting your organization’s commitment to the betterment of our community”. Last year’s Christmas Tree sales provided the donation money. A thank you note was sent to the Scouts, and Shelburne News will be asked to announce their donation in an upcoming addition of the paper. Ryan Herzog from Shelburne Health and Fitness donated \$235 to the park from proceeds from their Annual Muddy’s Run. This is the second year of the run and the second donation that the park has received.

Reforestation Project

Bob Owens arranged for Dale Bergdahl, a tree specialist, to visit the park on a pro bono basis in order to assess the tree situation and suggest preliminary ideas about a longterm tree reforestation plan in view of the issues related to the diseased and dying trees inside the park. A report of his assessment of the tree issues and recommendations is available in the dog park records. Bergdahl offered his continuing service at his non-profit rate of \$80/hr. The committee agreed that further research is necessary for this costly and longterm project, and contact will be made with various departments at UVM to explore the possibility of a collaborative effort with this project. Kay Boyce will spearhead this project.

Financial Report

There is currently \$8,918.40 in the dog park fund with \$2,500 committed as a repayment to Fred Tiballi and \$2,000 to be held in reserve.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Zoltan Keve and seconded by Bob Bick to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is March 7, 2016.

