

**Shelburne Village Dog Park Committee
Minutes
October 3, 2016**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Kay Boyce, Chair. Present: Mary West, Bob Owens, Zoltan Keve, Bill Blackmore, Lissy Wolf, Laurie Lawless.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were accepted as read.

Financial Report

There is \$10,936.31 in the dog park account. Forty-six annual memberships have been paid to date (\$1,150).

Calendar Fundraiser

Nine of the 12 businesses who purchased ads have already each paid \$100 for their ad. The ads cover the cost of producing the calendars. All sales represent pure profit going forward. One hundred 48 photos were submitted for the calendar contest. Bob, Zoltan, Mary, and Kay will deliver calendars to the various businesses who have agreed to sell them, and weekly visits will be made to keep the businesses stocked with calendars as well as to collect money.

CBC Report

The Selectboard responded very positively to the report presented to them on September 21, 2016 and reported at their meeting of September 27, 2016. The report included a request for two additional committee members. A second gate at the rear of the dog park was supported as another method to reduce congestion and pre-aggressive canine behavior.

Park Maintenance

Dan Garofalo has been authorized to bill \$20/hr for his maintenance work at the park however, he continues to volunteer his time to keep the park clean and well-maintained. He is doing an excellent job. Once the second of two bids are received, the 20 odd trees marked by David Hall, Tree Warden, as dead and dangerous will be cut down and the chips spread throughout the dog park. The Town will be approached to request that the very large dead tree at the northern end of the park also be removed. The Committee unanimously voted to purchase a bench for the small dog area similar to the two other benches in the main dog

park area. The bench costs \$956.57 which includes shipping. The water fountain outside the dog park will be installed in the Spring.

Park Safety Report

Laurie and Mary presented the rules/suggestions relating to dog park safety that will be placed throughout the park. Betsy has a source for rust resistant metal signs that can be crafted to the guidelines proposed by Laurie and Mary. Laurie will additionally research companies that make signs. Lissy reported another recent incident in the dog park and discussion followed about the role of the Committee as well as its individual members in responding to such incidents. The responsibility for addressing these incidents and their consequences are not the right nor duty of committee members. The Dog Park Safety Committee will develop a protocol that will be posted on the shed in the park as well as online and in the newsletters which will include police phone numbers for emergency and non-emergency incidents, and the phone number of Betsy Cieplicki (Parks and Recreation) for the reporting of such incidents. When the Committee is informed about incidents, it provides the opportunity to make appropriate changes within the park to mitigate future aggressive behaviors. Another metal dog waste receptacle will be ordered for the small dog park area in order to avoid the rush of larger dogs to the front of the park when the receptacle near the front gate is used by visitors to the small dog area. This is one small, additional way to decrease congestion and possibly aggressive canine behavior at the front gates.

Other Business

The names of approximately 10 businesses that agreed to place calendars for sale was read to the committee with requests for additional suggestions. Lissy will explore the possibility of placing calendars at her place of business.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.
The next meeting is November 7, 2016.