

**Shelburne Dog Park Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 8, 2024**

**Attendees:** Bob Owens, Cheryl Gibson, Roz Graham, Lisa Williams, Karen Medsker

**Call to order:** 6:26pm

**Approval of Minutes:** The October 2023 minutes were unanimously approved without change.

**Public Comments:** Parks and Rec received a phone call from a park user reporting that the inside front entrance door was not completely closing and that the latch hardware seemed to be missing. Cheryl went to the park and checked the door which indeed is not completely closing. There was no missing hardware and the spring that closes the door was attached. The issue seems to be the 2x12 board that was attached to the door post for the goats to stay in the park is preventing complete door closure. The outside door latch is working and secures the park for dogs. The committee decided not to take any further action about the door at this time.

**Financial Update:** Current account balance is \$2413.37. Expenses this month were Duffy's trash and the quarterly water bill. Added to the account were revenues of \$668 reflecting the deposit of yearly dog registration funds from the town. The committee discussed the current yearly expenses that are now covered by the yearly dog license fees from the town.

**Old Business:**

Park Maintenance:

Cheryl reported that a tree fell on the west side of the fence and dragged the water line down along with the fence. Cheryl notified Parks & Rec and they arranged for the town maintenance crew to remove the tree. The water line will be checked in the spring by Bob & Cheryl. The piping near the spigot was leaking at time of shut off this fall and will need to be fixed.

The side gate still needs to be rest on the post. Lisa will follow up with the town on this.

Trash Hauling: Duffy's is doing pick up every 2 weeks. Lisa will ask Betsy to post the schedule for 2024. Cheryl suggested that we rotate responsibility for taking out the receptacle liners and putting the tote on the road every 2 weeks. Karen will do the January work. Cheryl will do it in February.

Park census: Lisa and Karen will explore putting up a new white board for census at the park.

Siting of the park: Roz suggested we consider 2 possible options- one being using the grassy area between the 2 parking lots on Bay Rd near the boat launch. Lisa shared that the committee had considered this space but the land is quite wet which makes it unfit for the park. Roz also suggested we consider talking with New Village Farm about moving the park to the west of the current site along Harbor Rd frontage. On reviewing the current wetlands park map it appears that the area suggested is also wetland and not fit for the park. The committee discussed waiting to see what happens with the Turtle Lane waste water property which might be a good option for the park. This option will be discussed with Betsy and the town manager at upcoming meetings. Of note, if the park ceases to exist in the current location, the land will revert to New Village Farm. The land was donated to the town by Fred Tibali who is the father of the current farm owner.

Community participation with the park:

Roz will draft a communication to be sent to those who took the last park survey and either answered maybe or yes to the question on willingness to help with the park. We have 2 needs; folks to do the trash maintenance and we have 2 openings on the dog park committee. Cheryl's term is up in April this year. She will consider another term. Lisa, Roz and Karen have terms that end in 2025 and Bob in 2026.

**New Business:** none

**Adjourn:** 7:20pm

Recorded by Cheryl Gibson

**Next Meeting will be February 12, 2024 at 1pm at the town offices**

**Reasonable accommodations shall be provided upon request to ensure that this meeting is accessible to all individuals regardless of ability.**