



Acton Dog Park Committee
FINAL Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 12, 2019 7:30 p.m.
Room 121, Town Hall
472 Main Street, Acton, MA

Present:

Clare Siska, Chair
Tom Gillispie
Fred Kinch
Karen Martin
Mike Perry

Absent: None

1. Call to Order

Chair Clare Siska opened the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

2. Regular Business

Approval of Meeting Minutes – The meeting minutes from the February 26, 2019 meeting were reviewed, corrected, and approved unanimously.

Clare will reach out to the Land Steward's John Watlington and Jim Snyder-Grant

Joe gave us the information that there are 17 Conservation areas. The Land Stewards are an advisory group to the Board of Selectmen. They have voting members as well as alternates.

Clare sent articles to the Beacon and the Action Unlimited. Neither have printed as of this meeting, but she will check with both.

Robbins Mill Property

Impressive property with 40 existing parking spaces. There are a few neighbors nearby amidst lots of large houses and yards but most are cut off by trees on one side and the road curves away from the site itself. At the end of the property is a shed and a basketball court with a short fence. This is a real North Area Park with about 32,000 square feet of area that was once a soccer field. There is town water on the site by the shed and court. There is a neighborhood organization but there are some people there that we know are



supportive of a dog park. Lola Farra , who was once a candidate for the committee lives there, so we may have an in.

Meeting with Tom and Shelby

Clare will try to talk with Tom before the meeting. We need to talk about fencing in a portion of Great Hill and discuss the procedure regarding the Main Street properties, specifically building with the least downtime when the Acton Housing Authority moves in. Fred suggested that we should discuss speaking to Stanton regarding an overview of three parks in town. We should put a big picture plan together to present to Staunton. He also brought up the possibility of using some of the Wetherbee Street land. The question about whether or not there would be restrictions because the status regarding conservation lands should be addressed at the meeting with Tom and Shelby. There is clarity needed for this property .

Great Hill should be discussed. Wetlands questions, but if that was workable, do we fence North or South of the trail. Should there be a fence at the parking lot entrance?

Main Street. Do we wait for a Purchase and Sales for the AHA, or can we start before? Any blocks down the road?

Moving Forward

We may need a new Charter, because we have just about finished the original goal set forth by the Board of Selectmen. Are we able to set up a Friends Committee? We need to ask potential committee members about a Citizens group.

We need CPC funds, probably ready to go before the CPC meeting in November of this year. Would we consider the north and south parks first, starting with Great Hill. Need to show that we have support. Need to raise some money for the first park. Could we build by 2020?

A rough timeline was discussed.

Fundraising and pricing.
CPC in November

3. New/Special Business

None

A motion to close the meeting was made and seconded and approved by unanimously at 8:55pm.



Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 26, 2019, 7:30 PM, Room 121, Acton Town Hall
Respectfully submitted
Mike Perry