

Acton Dog Park Committee

Meeting minutes
Room 9, Town Hall
October 4, 2017

Committee Members Present:

- Mike Perry, Chair
- Clare Siska
- Tom Gillispie
- Joan Gardner(BOS)
- Betsy Kristl
- Karen Martin
- Rodney Smith

Absent:

- Cathy Fochtman (Rec Dept)

Other Attendees:

Mr. Perry called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Comments from the Public

- None

Review and accept prior meeting minutes

- The Committee reviewed and discussed the minutes of the 9/19/2017 meeting. Clare Siska moved that the minutes be accepted, and the committee unanimously agreed.

Replacement of Bill Alstrom as Committee Member

- The Board of Selectmen has accepted Mr Alstrom's resignation and now must approve a new member as his replacement.
- Karen Martin nominated Rodney Smith as a full member
- Rodney Smith nominated Karen Martin as full member. Ms. Martin accepted the nomination. Her nomination will be given to the Board of Selectmen.

Presentation of the "Elevator Speech"

- Clare Siska presented the 'elevator speech', a list of talking points to be used when engaging the public. The Committee discussed the points elicited in the speech.
- Betsy Kristl queried whether the owners of dogs not registered with the Town would be hesitant interact with the Committee or attend a dog park.
- The Committee discussed methods of spreading information to the Acton Public through the dissemination of flyers
- The Committee was reminded of the paragraph that is to be included in the next Tax Quarterly mailed to every household.
- Clare Siskal proposed using the Acton Critter Sitters Seasonal Notice to promote the idea of a dog park.
- Betsy Kristl suggested using colored paper, with photos, tri-folded, possibly using Clip-art, and then presented a customized mug with a logo as a possible media item.

Discussion of Tom Gillispie's "Divide & Conquer" list

- The Committee on Disabilities meets Tuesday November 21 at 9:30am-12:30am
- The RITE (Resident Isolation to Engagement) isn't readily listed on the Town's web site, but can be found by Search.

Plans for Oktoberfest

- Oktoberfest will be held in West Acton on Saturday, October 14 from 10am-3pm
- Karen Martin asked about signing up for Oktoberfest
- Clare Siska and Tom Gillispie confirmed that Cathy Fochtman (Rec Dept) is getting a table for the ADPC and will produce a sign-up sheet and/or survey to have at the table. The Committee then discussed appropriate elements to be included in a survey taken at Oktoberfest:
 - Contact info (Home address, Email address, Phone number, etc)
 - In which part of Town do they live?
 - Whether they own a dog
 - Whether they would use a formal dog park (e.g. local, fenced, etc)
- It was determined that Committee members would serve in 3 shifts at Oktoberfest:
 - 9:30 – 11:30 Set-up
 - 11:30 - 1:30 Engagement
 - 1:30 – 3:00 Breakdown
- Rodney Smith volunteered for the 9:30-11:30 shift
- Karen Martin volunteered for the 11:30 – 1:30 shift
- Tom Gillispie volunteered for the 1:30 – 3:00 shift.
- Cathy Fochtman will be at the table for the entire event.
- The Committee then assembled 250 zip-loc bags with a roll of 50 poop bags and several dog biscuits, which were put into boxes and will be transported to the Oktoberfest table for handing out to the public. The Committee members working the table will take the boxes to the ADPC table.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49pm.

The next meeting of the ADPC will be Tuesday October 17 at 7:30pm in Room 126 at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Rodney Smith