

Omaha Dog Park Advocates Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

6:00 p.m.

Location: Conagra – 90th & Fort

Meeting Facilitator: Bridget Jansen – ODPa President

Attendees:

Bridget Jansen

Lara Adkins

Jamie Krussel

Amy Riehle

Lynne Newlin

Linda Fousse

Mary Gibilisco (from Dobie rescue)

Vickie Pearrow (from Dobie rescue)

Approval of minutes from last meeting

Open issues:

- ❖ Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair – Bridget Jansen (for Trisha Clary)
 - Deposits included:
 - ✓ Wag ‘N Wine event deposit of approximately \$2,817.95
 - Expenses last month included:
 - ✓ \$700 worth of ODPa t-shirts
 - ✓ \$11.95 Yahoo website fee
 - Membership to ODPa
 - ✓ Change “membership” to “club”.
 - ✓ What will the benefits be for joining? Create a club packet for members that could include:
 - Discounts on ODPa merchandise and events
 - Club card
 - A club lapel pin or some other “special” item
 - ✓ How much will it cost? A flat \$25 fee would be more appropriate for our organization than tiers.
 - ✓ Possible merchandise could be purchased through Café Press (same as Go Dogs uses) and could include items such as bumper stickers, caps, mugs, etc. and ODPa does not have to pay up front or worry about storing products. It’s a pay as it is ordered website. Regular price vs. club member price could be another benefit.
 - ✓ We need to put out “feelers” to see if this will generate a lot of interest.

- ❖ Vice President & Grant Writing Chair – Lara Adkins
 - ✓ Several possible companies/foundations to approach:
 - Ahmensen Foundation
 - Mutual of Omaha
 - Neighborhood Assoc. that Hefflinger Park is part of

- Omaha Community Foundation
 - PayPal – none available at this time
 - Union Pacific
 - Werner Enterprises – none available
 - West Corporation – none available
 - Sergent's
 - Woodman of the World – does not do grants, but does do corporate matching
 - Noddle Development
 - VCA – working on it
- ❖ Public Information Officer – Jamie Krussel
- ✓ Passwords/user IDs – B.O.D. member Charlotte Leishman now has these in addition to Jamie
 - ✓ Considering adding a “Please support these Omaha Dog Park sponsors” with links to their websites on our website.
 - ✓ Nomination forms for upcoming elections are up on the website
 - ✓ Wag ‘N Wine pictures are posted
 - ✓ Fall Quarterly newsletter is posted
 - ✓ There were some old references to The Barking Lot – those have been replaced with general info or links within other parts of the ODPA website
- ❖ President & Park Improvements/Community Service/City of Omaha Chair – Bridget Jansen
- ✓ Message board – Amy will contact Menards, Lowes and Home Depot to see about donations of materials for the board. Possible completion could be within the month, pending Jon’s schedule.
 - ✓ Water fountains update - \$1,820 ea. including shipping but not off-loading charge. Costs estimate for laying the water lines is \$6,200. Tom Eyman will “donate” \$2,000 for a total cost of \$4,200 (plumbing only). Overall, the cost of the entire project could be \$10,000 +/- . Footing for around the fountains themselves will be discussed at a later date.
 - ✓ City is working with MUD to get a separate water meter for BMX bike track.
 - ✓ City planned pathway/entryways – not on the schedule yet
 - ✓ City approved Fred Henniger’s plans for donating benches on the all dog side in memory of his dog and the project is moving forward. Davis Rebar donated all the rebar for this project.
 - ✓ Mud/low spots – waiting for response from City. *UPDATE from Annell Naccarato B.O.D. Member: Park Maintenance has a work order written from the office of Parks & Recreation to fill the sink holes. We asked for more, but let’s see what they do. They talked about filling the sink holes, seeding and fencing it off for awhile. We also asked them to walk the fence line for gaps too, because there are gaps and in our agreement the City is responsible for filling gaps. I will email Maintenance to see if they have a date logged yet AND see if I can add to their list*
 - ✓ Camp Bow Wow would like to donate a waste bag dispenser. Bridget will follow-up with them for more information on their expectations.

- ❖ Secretary & Fundraising Chair – Amy Riehle (for Angi Green)
 - 2007 Wag ‘N Wine
 - ✓ Considering changing the date to before Nebraska football season for next year.
 - ✓ Need sweeter wines for next year – possibly featuring Nebraska wines next year.
 - ✓ Consider a permit for the extended area next to Corkscrew.
 - ✓ Post announcements/signage earlier.
 - ✓ Write up of event in current issue of ONE magazine.
 - NHS Walk for the Animals
 - ✓ Need to invite dog park patrons to join our dog pack next year
 - 2008 EGGstravEGGanza
 - ✓ Possibly move it to April since it is usually held the weekend before Easter (March 23rd in 2008), so that would be March 16th. Could possibly still have snow or very cold temps.
 - ✓ Event committee members include: Angi Green, Amy Riehle, Trish Clary, Jamie Krussel, Lynne Newlin, possibly Lara Adkins
 - Planning will be among this smaller committee with updates provided to the rest of the group as necessary.
 - ✓ Topics that will need to be addressed by the committee will include:
 - Vendor cost and if they will be permitted to sell their products.
 - Prizes
 - Registration process and attendee cost
 - Marketing/media/advertising (print publications and TV)
 - Bathrooms?
 - Water stations
 - Replenish mulch?
 - Graphic designs – park diagrams, updated newsletters, signage, posters
 - DJ – Country Kickers
 - Event photographer
 - T-shirts
 - Volunteer assignments
 - Donation link on ODPA website (such as the one NHS uses for Walk for the Animals) – too costly at this time.

❖ New Business

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Adjournment 7:00 p.m.