

Off-Leash Dog Area Ad Hoc Committee Minutes

Place Minnow Lake Place
Community Meeting Room
1127 Bancroft Drive, Sudbury
March 16, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Present: Pierre Perreault (Chair), Carmen Birtwistle, Tamara Warriner, Anne McBain, Dan Carnovale, Peter Seto, Samantha Hunter, Joan Perras, Suzanne Harrison, Melissa Mehes, Lindsay Brunette & Cassandra LeClair

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at: 7:05 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Approval of previous Minutes
2. Save The Dog Park Campaign
3. Funding Request
4. Pepsi Challenge Contest
5. Fundraising
6. Email & Website
7. Other

1. Minutes

The Minutes from December, January & February were reviewed, amended and approved, and will be circulated to the members.

2. Save The Dog Park Campaign

The posters were quickly circulated throughout the City, and a number of residents contacted their Councillors and the Mayor asking for their support. A big thank you to Dan Carnovale who did a great job in getting a large number of posters distributed over the course of 1 week to a wide variety and number of businesses, work places, etc.

3. Funding Request

Success!! 12 Councillors and the Mayor supported our request through the Budget Process, although the final vote & approval is on March 28!!

The request for funds was divided over 2 years in order to increase the chance of getting money this year. This year the City is giving \$47,255 & Ward 11 Councillor Terry Kett is giving \$10,000 for a total of \$57,255.00. This will cover the preparation of the site, such as piercing the berm at Scarlette St. for the entrance, installing a culvert, the removal of concrete & rebar debris, the creation of a parking area, and filling & levelling the site.

The balance of our funding may be covered by the sale of the 2 acres directly across from the intersection of Boston Pizza & Golf Word, as there is an interested buyer. If not, then we have to wait for the 2012 Budget Process, which would be finalized by Dec. 31, 2011. The balance of \$59,424 is needed mostly for the fencing, plus entry gates, signs & garbage cans.

If we can get a further breakdown of some of the costs, the membership will be canvassed to see if, for example, we could help by providing the use of equipment to help reduce costs.

After all goes well on March 28, the Off Leash Park will be an official project of the City, which will make it easier to fund raise. In addition, we will see if we could have a sign or 2 erected as 'Future Site of the Off Leash Park', to help raise visibility for the project.

4. Pepsi Challenge Contest

Anne McBain presented her research findings. The last round, at this time, to submit a project is April 1. Then there are 60 days to collect votes, and the project or projects in each category with the most votes is selected. It would be easier to submit as an individual rather than an organization; a video, photos and description are submitted to the appropriate category, of which there are 4. It was felt that we would have the best chance at either the 3 awards at the \$10,000 level, or the 4 awards at the \$5,000 level.

After much discussion, the consensus was to wait to apply so that in the event that we were successful, there would be no problem spending the money on something specific within the allotted time frame.

This avenue, as well as others like the Aviva Community Challenge, etc., will have a place within our fundraising strategy.

5. Fundraising

Committee Goals – The Membership will be canvassed for interested parties to form a Fundraising Committee, to discuss and plan a strategy for donations, fundraising events, requests to organizations like Pepsi & Aviva for funding, etc.

Purina Canada – a community supporter, Susan Glass, who is a cat owner, made an initial contact to Purina on our behalf for funding, and Pierre has followed up by email by providing our proposal, budget information, etc.

Let's keep our fingers crossed!!

6. Email & Website

Not all members want their email addresses chaired, and as the BCC option from our mail server does not work, Pierre will be sending emails & updates to some members from his personal account.

Pierre will be meeting with Lesley Anne, our webmaster, to rework our website. It was mentioned that if needed down the road, website and logo design work could be donated.

Dates of Future Meetings: April 13, May 18 & June 15.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Recorder