

City of Gahanna
Dog Park Advisory Committee (DPAC)
Minutes – 13 November 2008
5:30PM
City Hall

Present: Casey Cannon (Chair)
Alan Little
Terri Montigny
Lori Sobul
Vinnie Tremante (Parks Board Rep)
Lynne Vermillion (Secretary)

Absent: Chief Murphy, Al Alder, Michele Cutler, Cathy Koch, Don Sullivan, Dr Kristy Clay, John Pizzurro, Laurel Naegele, Deputy Chief Kenneth A. Ball, Troy Euton, Charlie Henderson

1. Old Business:

a. Parks Update:

- i. Leash Ordinance: City Council voted not to extend the leash waiver for outside the fence at Pizzurro Park. Effective 1 Jan 09, all dogs will be required to be on a six-foot leash outside of the enclosed dog park. We need a clarification on how this will affect plans for creek access. **(OPEN)**
- ii. Bank Improvement/Creek Access: No change. **(OPEN)**
- iii. Special Events: Abby Brooks, who manages special events, will be leaving the Parks Department and her replacement has not yet been named. A meeting between Collins, Montigny, and Little still has not been scheduled. **(OPEN)**
- iv. Potable Water: No change. **(OPEN)**
- v. Road resurfacing/speed bump: No change. If the city is unable to install a speed bump, Vermillion asked if a stop sign could be installed at the entrance to the parking lot. The parking lot still requires resurfacing, and handicap parking signs need to be added. **(OPEN)**
- vi. Recycling container: Little has not been able to locate a recycling container large enough to hold the water jugs. He may have his department construct one. In the meantime, he will ask his park staff to remove excess bottles. **(OPEN)**
- vii. New Playground: The new playground is complete. Vermillion asked if a sign could be installed reminding parents that they cannot leave their dog(s) unattended while using the playground. Vermillion asked the Parks Board and City Counsel to install a 3' or 4' fence around the playground. **(OPEN)**
- viii. Mowing Schedule: Little said the Wednesday will be the usual mowing day for Pizzurro Park. Pooch Playground Inc. should put up signs asking park users to pick up toys on Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning. **(OPEN)**

- b. Water Feature: Sobul provided an update on her research about creating a water feature for the park. Compacted clay seems to be the best type of bottom liner for a dog pond. She said that a 40' x 60' x 3' pond would cost about \$12,000 but our pond should be deeper to keep the water from becoming "unhealthy." A healthy pond must also have aeration which will require electricity (not considered possible at Pizzurro Park until 2010 or later). She also stated that we should have a means to limit access to the pond for owners who do not want their dogs in the water. Little suggested we look at a city pond recently built on Taylor Road. **(OPEN)**
 - c. Signage:
 - i. Monthly Education Signs: Cutler was not available to discuss the monthly education signs. The Parks Department has not yet had the opportunity to construct a sign holder. **(OPEN)**
 - ii. Kids on Agility Equipment: Still need a sign advising children not to climb on agility equipment. **(OPEN)**
 - iii. Park Entrance Sign: The large sign at the entrance to Pizzurro Park has been relocated so that it is visible from Hamilton Rd. **(CLOSED)**
 - d. New Benches and Chairs: Pooch Playground, Inc. has purchased four additional bench ends and will purchase paint and 2"x 4" boards to make additional benches for the park. Little said his department could assemble them during the winter while they are not doing as much outdoor work. **(OPEN)**
 - e. Website: Minutes from DPAC meetings are now posted on the Pooch Playground website (www.poochplayground.com) **(CLOSED)**
 - f. Contact for the Scout: Since the November meeting, we received contact information for Blake Swanson who installed the bench pads. A thank you letter was provided to Blake for his excellent work. **(CLOSED)**
 - g. Layout of Phase two: The concept plan has still not been sent to the Planning Commission for approval. Cannon asked if we could have a complete list of projects for Pizzurro Park. **(OPEN)**
2. New Business:
- a. Incident Reports: There have been no reported incidents at the park since the previous meeting. (Note: Incidents may occur at the park but not be reported to the Gahanna Parks Department or the Pooch Playground, Inc.)
 - b. Other: Little provided a copy of a CD with Dog Park design ideas and information about commercial agility equipment that he received from a recent Parks and Recreation Conference that he attended.
3. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. We will NOT have a December meeting,. **The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 on Thursday, 8 January 2009. The location will probably be in City Hall.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Vermillion, DPAC Secretary