

City of Gahanna
Dog Park Advisory Committee (DPAC)
Minutes – 14 Aug 2008
5:30PM
Pizzurro Park Pavilion

Present: Al Adler
Casey Cannon (Chair)
Michele Cutler (Pooch Playground Representative)
Cathy Koch
Alan Little
Terri Montigny
Lori Sobul
Don Sullivan
Lynne Vermillion (Secretary)

Absent: Chief Murphy, Cathy Koch, Dr Kristy Clay, Laurel Naegele, John Pizzurro, Deputy Chief Kenneth A. Ball, Troy Euton, Charlie Henderson

1. Old Business:

- a. Water Feature: Sobul continued researching information about other dog parks which have dog ponds. She found information from several parks with a variety of sizes and designs to keep water moving and clean. She requested help in finding a good source of information about building a pond and determining the appropriate size, depth and grade. Optimal depth seems to be around 6'. Some features depend on having electricity to operate a pump. The best pond she found cost about \$30,000. Sobul and Culter will continue to research this issue in order to develop three proposals for providing an alternative water feature at the park. (OPEN)
- b. Traffic Flow: The picnic table at the far corner doesn't seem to be causing any problems, but it also doesn't seem to be drawing people away from the gate area. Members discussed several other methods to draw people away from the gate. Cutler proposed an educational sign close to the entrance to remind people about important dog park practices with information that would be changed at least monthly. Cutler will provide a list of monthly information for the sign at the next meeting. Little will add another bench on the west side of the park. (OPEN)
- c. Pint-size pooch playground puppy popularity problems: Vermillion provided members a copy of an information sheet about puppies in the park which had been reviewed by Dr Clay. This handout will be posted on the website and provided to dog park users. A copy of the handout and an informational position paper on Puppy socialization are included as attachments to the minutes. (CLOSED)
- d. Volunteer Education and Planning Meeting: Cutler and Montigny conducted Dog Park 101 in conjunction with the July cleanup and will conduct a Volunteer planning meeting after the August clean up. (CLOSED).
- e. Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Testing: Vermillion didn't get a chance to contact Karen Romine about holding a CGC test at the dog park. (OPEN)
- f. Update from the Parks Department:

- i. Special Events: Little is attempting to set up a meeting with Collins, Brooks, Montigny, and himself to discuss procedures for special events. (OPEN)
- ii. Bank Improvement: Oxbow should install the creek access point this fall. (OPEN)
- iii. Potable Water: A water line from Hamilton Rd will be installed in conjunction with the road resurfacing. (OPEN)
- iv. Final Park Design: The GIS information has been provided to POD design. A formal plan must be developed before the remaining fencing can be approved and installed. (OPEN)
- v. Road resurfacing: The Service Department will resurface the road into Pizzurro Park this fall. The road should only be closed for about one day. (OPEN)
- vi. Grate covers: Little has ordered 6 specially made covers for the water grates to prevent dogs from catching their legs in the openings. (OPEN)
- vii. New Playground: Members asked for information about the size of the new playground . (OPEN)

2. New Business:

- a. Fence slats: Sullivan asked about the possibility of installing slats in the front fence to block the view of arriving dogs. Little mentioned that he had seen slats that look like shrubs. The slats would only need to be 4' to block the view. Sullivan will investigate this for the next meeting. (OPEN)
- b. New benches and chairs: Vermillion asked if the Parks Department had any problem with the plastic chairs and new bench that the Pooch Playground, Inc. had added to the park. Little said the bench was fine and the chairs were okay as long as they were green. Little also said he had a double sided bench he would add to the park. The Pooch Playground, Inc. will buy up to 8 additional benches but will need assistance in building them. (OPEN)
- c. Pooch Playground Website: The Pooch Playground, Inc will redo the website for the dog park. (OPEN)
- d. Bulletin Board for Small Dog Area: Montigny asked if a bulletin board could be placed in the small dog area. Little will check this. (OPEN).
- e. Bench Pads: Vermillion asked for contact information for the scout who built the bench pads so that a Thank You letter could be sent to him. (OPEN)
- f. Advisory Committee Meeting: Cannon proposed reducing the frequency of meetings to every other month instead of monthly. Everyone concurred. (CLOSED)

3. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 on Thursday, **9 Oct 2008**. The location will be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Vermillion, DPAC Secretary