

City of Gahanna
Dog Park Advisory Committee (DPAC)
Minutes – 9 April 2009
5:30PM
City Hall

Present: Al Alder (Acting Chair)
Alan Little (Parks Dept Rep)
Laurel Naegele (Parks Board Rep)
Vinnie Tremante (Parks Board Rep)
Lynne Vermillion (Secretary)

Absent: Chief Murphy, Casey Cannon, Michele Cutler, Cathy Koch, Don Sullivan, Dr Kristy Clay, Terri Montigny, John Pizzurro, Lori Sobul, Deputy Chief Kenneth A. Ball, Troy Euton, Charlie Henderson

1. Parks and Recreation Update:

- a. Leash Ordinance: The DPAC questioned whether the city leash ordinance needed to be revised to allow dogs to be off-leash in the creek. The current ordinance only allows dogs to be off-leash in a fenced enclosure even if a sign is posted at the creek area stating “Designated off-leash area.” Alan Little said he would relay this question to the Parks Department. **(OPEN)**
- b. Bank Improvement/Creek Access: No change. **(OPEN)**
- c. Special Events: **(OPEN)**
 - i. The next Special Event scheduled for the dog park is the Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, 18 April 2009.
 - ii. Vermillion will work with the Parks Department to set up a field use agreement for the dog park.
- d. Potable Water: Little is getting conflicting information about establishing a waterline into Pizzurro Park. Originally he was told that the City of Columbus would waive the tap fee; now he is being told that it could cost up to \$3000. He will continue to work this issue with the water department. **(OPEN)**
- e. Phase II fencing: “Surgro” submitted the lowest bid to fence the east field (\$20,000) and should begin work in about two weeks. The new fence will also include a bottom rail. **(OPEN)**
- f. Road resurfacing/speed bump: The Parks Department does not currently have the funds to resurface the Pizzurro parking lot. They will go ahead and restripe the parking spaces and add handicap spaces. **(OPEN)**
- g. Recycling container: No change. **(OPEN)**
- h. New Playground: After the phase II fencing is complete, the Parks Department will add a decorative fence around the playground and Pampus grass along the fence line. **(OPEN)**
- i. Layout of Phase Two: The Planning Commission approved the concept plan for phase II. **(CLOSED)**

2. Water Feature Update: No change. The development of a sustainable water feature (dog pond) requires electricity which will not be available until 2010 at the earliest. This will be discussed in detail at a future meeting. **(OPEN)**
3. Signage:
 - a. Monthly Education Signs: Cutler was not available to discuss the monthly education signs. Vermillion agreed to be the point of contact for monthly signs. The Parks Department has built a stand for monthly tips and this will be installed soon. **(OPEN)**
 - b. Kids on Agility Equipment: Still need a sign advising children not to climb on agility equipment. **(OPEN)**
4. New Benches and Chairs: The Parks Department completed the four new benches purchased for the dog park by Pooch Playground, Inc. **(CLOSED)**
5. New Business:
 - a. The Rocky Fork Enterprise (25 Mar 09) and Channel 4 news (31 Mar 09) featured articles about the Gahanna Dog Park. The dog park is being credited with a reduction in crime reports at Pizzurro Park. **(CLOSED)**
 - b. A park user has provided metal water bowls attached to signs or benches at various locations in the large dog area. **(CLOSED)**
 - c. Tremeante questioned whether we still needed a Dog Park Advisory Committee since the dog park was now established and operating successfully. This should be discussed further at a future meeting. **(OPEN)**
 - d. Vermillion stated that she still thought there needed to be a sign on Hamilton Rd advertising the dog park. This could be attached to the bottom of the Pizzurro Park sign. **(OPEN)**
 - e. Vermillion asked whether 5:30pm on the second Thursday of the month was the best time for all members to meet. Little said that he could not meet on Mondays and Tremeante said that he preferred a later time. **(OPEN)**
6. The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm. **The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 5:30 on Thursday, 14 May 2009. If the weather permits, the location may be a Pizzurro Park.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Vermillion, DPAC Secretary