

**Town of North Hampton New Hampshire**

**North Hampton Dog Park Committee**

Notice of Public Meeting

6:30 PM Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

Mary B. Herbert Conference Room; 233 Atlantic Avenue

**DRAFT**

**Call to order**

Pat McLean called to order the meeting of the Dog Park Committee at 6:35pm.

**Attendees:** Pat Mclean, Casey Dupuis, Paige Libbey, Amanda Jonovski, Michael Trotta, Anne Nettleton, Jalisa Bush, John Dover, Ronni Martin,

**Not Present:** Meredith Vallee, Philip Thayer

**Approval of minutes from 3.21.19:**

Minutes were reviewed. No changes were to be made.

Motion to approve the minutes; made by Paige. Seconded by John.

The committee unanimously agreed to approve.

**AGENDA**

**Outstanding items and New Business:**

1. Town activities
  - a. NHBA Meeting Recap
  - b. Tick Talk
  - c. Rabies Clinic
  - d. Memorial Day Barbecue
  - e. Yappy Hours
  - f. Friday Folder
2. Land options
3. Banking
4. 501(c)(3)
5. Paws Walk
6. Mailing

# **Minutes**

## **1. Town Activities**

### **a. North Hampton Business Association (NHBA) Informal Meeting at Barley House**

- John attended and said for the most part the same members were present that attended the formal NHBA meeting we last attended.
- Jim (NHBA Member) recommended we reach out to Nicole from Throwback Brewery to see if they would be willing to work with us.
  - o Amanda suggested two members of our committee should call ahead and plan a time to go to Throwback and meet with Nicole to discuss, rather than communicating via email. Amanda will ask Meredith if she is still in touch with her contact at Throwback.
- Bob Cohen (NHBA Member) mentioned he knew of a woman (Carol Marshall) who was interested and willing to make a monetary donation to the committee. Paige mentioned that Carol had recently reached out to the committee via email expressing her support. Bob also mentioned that she could potentially be a good resource in the future. Paige will follow up with Carol via email.
- Various members of the NHBA mentioned the plot of land on the corner of Lovering Road. Paige will look into the tax maps to see who owns this land and confirm whether or not it appears on our list of "Vacant Lots" for the town.
- Amanda will bring thank you cards to the next meeting for all members to sign. The cards will be sent to the NHBA as a thank you for having us at their meetings.

### **b. Tick Talk**

- Roni called the North Hampton Animal Hospital asking if any of the veterinarians or technicians would be willing to speak. Dr. Kelleher said he is not personally an expert on Ticks, but he will propose the idea to the other vets and brainstorm a list of topics that they would feel comfortable speaking about. Roni will reach back out to follow up.
- The group discussed various ideas for the format of the "Tick Talk", including having a panel of speakers with different specializations or a veterinarian Q&A session.
- Paige suggested reaching out to the University of New Hampshire, specifically any faculty or students specializing in epidemiology. She looked online and found Dr. Alan Eaton, a professor at UNH that specializes in Ticks. She found the following video which touches upon the type of research he does:
  - o Dr. Alan Eaton discusses how to reduce your risk of tick bites and tick-borne diseases: <https://extension.unh.edu/blog/how-protect-yourself-ticks-video>
  - o Paige will reach out to Dr. Eaton and will report back.
- Once the committee can secure a speaker, Jalisa volunteered to give an introduction of Tick statistics to start the presentation at the Library.
- The committee will continue to look into local specialists, herbalists, naturalists etc. that are knowledgeable and willing to give an educational talk.

- Pat reiterated that Susan Grant from the town library sees the library as a community venue to educate locals and is very supportive of our mission.

**c. Rabies Clinic**

- Pat emailed Mike Tully from the North Hampton Fire Department regarding the proposed idea of hosting a Rabies Clinic. Mike responded saying that he was more than willing to provide the space, however he does not have the time, manpower or experience to assist. He said that if we were willing and able to find the people needed to work it (technicians/specialists/veterinarians) he would be willing to provide the necessary space.
- Anne shared her past experience attending a rabies clinic in another town she lived in and explained the general format of the event.
  - o The rabies clinic Anne attended was “town sponsored” and therefore was open to residents-only.
  - o At the clinic, there were technicians that administered the vaccines (experience required) and several additional volunteers that walked around distributing and collecting short informational paperwork that had to be completed before receiving the vaccines (no experience required for the additional volunteers).
  - o The rabies vaccines were offered at a discounted (wholesale) price, not given away for free.
  - o The event took place on a weekend and coincided with the town’s annual deadline for dog license renewals.
  - o Anne described the event as being a “social event for dogs and their owners” and was very beneficial for owners who work during the day and cannot always make it to the vet during standard business hours.
- Jalisa volunteered to reach out to the NHSPCA about their experiences hosting a traveling rabies clinic and propose the idea of potentially partnering up with us sometime this summer to host an event. She will let them know that we would all be willing to volunteer and help with the event arrangements.

**d. Memorial Day BBQ – Monday, 5/27 from 11:30am-1pm**

- Jane Morse from the North Hampton Recreation Commission emailed Pat back regarding the North Hampton Memorial Day BBQ and said that they are currently fully staffed but will keep us in mind for future events.
- Pat asked that if anyone was to still attend the event as a patron, to please wear their Dog Park Committee T-shirt to increase awareness.

**e. Yappy Hours**

- Paige shared two upcoming dates for “Yappy Hours” taking place at local breweries:
  - o Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at Smuttynose
  - o Wednesday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at Throwback

- The committee agreed that the event on June 6<sup>th</sup> would be too soon to get involved in, but would like to look into getting involved with the event on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
  - o Per Amanda, Meredith volunteered to reach out to Throwback regarding the options of land as well as having a table at Yappy Hour on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Casey and Paige will keep an eye out for when additional dates are posted for Yappy Hours throughout the summer and will report back to the committee once they have been scheduled.

**f. Friday Folder**

- Amanda shared that the graphic used for our advertisement in the North Hampton Friday Folder was designed and formatted for print. Amanda will send Pat an updated graphic intended for web use; Pat will then forward the correct graphic to Jan to update the Friday Folder.

**2. Land Options**

- Pat emailed Phillip again regarding an update on the PanAm land. She has still not yet received a response.
- The committee discussed the ongoing negotiations between PanAm, the State and various Towns regarding the rail trail area.
- Pat/Paige sent a copy of our land request letter to the owner of the land on Route 1 across from Betty's Kitchen. Paige reported that the land owner's personal residence is down south, but will report back to the committee if any response is received.
- The committee discussed who the owner of the Drum Store on Route 1 might be. Paige agreed to look at the tax map to find the owner. The group discussed sending a land request letter if we are able to determine who the owner is.

**3. Banking**

- Paige and Casey closed out the bank account with Service Credit Union. They have now opened an account with TD bank which should now be compatible with the PayPal registration which will allow us to set up the GoFundMe.
- Paige distributed copies of the draft GoFundMe description (a copy of the draft has been attached to the minutes). Pat asked the committee to read over the draft and bring any suggested revisions to the next meeting.
- The group discussed the general concept of a GoFundMe is and Pat asked that anyone unfamiliar with the website to look at other GoFundMe's to familiarize themselves.
- The link to the website is here: <https://www.gofundme.com/> as well as various links pasted below that Casey highly recommended all committee members take a few minutes to check out.

For anyone unfamiliar with how GoFundMe works:

Why GoFundMe	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/why-gofundme">https://www.gofundme.com/why-gofundme</a>
What is Crowdfunding	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/c/crowdfunding">https://www.gofundme.com/c/crowdfunding</a>
Top Fundraising Tips	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/c/fundraising-tips">https://www.gofundme.com/c/fundraising-tips</a>

For all committee members:

Fundraising Ideas for Animal Charities	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/c/fundraising-ideas/animal-charities">https://www.gofundme.com/c/fundraising-ideas/animal-charities</a>
Ultimate Pet Fundraising Guide	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/c/blog/pet-fundraising-guide">https://www.gofundme.com/c/blog/pet-fundraising-guide</a>
Crowdfunding within your Community	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/c/blog/help-your-community">https://www.gofundme.com/c/blog/help-your-community</a>
Fundraising Ideas for Community Projects	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/c/fundraising-ideas/community-projects">https://www.gofundme.com/c/fundraising-ideas/community-projects</a>
Online Funding Without Social Media	<a href="https://www.gofundme.com/c/blog/fundraising-without-social-media">https://www.gofundme.com/c/blog/fundraising-without-social-media</a>

#### **4. 501(c)(3) – *Friends of the North Hampton Dog Park***

- Casey completed and filed all necessary tax paperwork including the 990-N e-Postcard.

#### **5. Paws Walk – Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup> from 10-3pm**

- The committee will be hosting a table at the event.
- **Paige, Casey and Pat will definitely be attending and Jalisa may attend.**
- The event itself starts at 10am but setup can be started any time after 8am. Paige, Casey and Pat agreed to meet to set up at 9am. Paige will bring the dog kissing booth.
- NHSPCA Paws Walk 2019 Team Page for Friends of the North Hampton Dog Park. The team page can be found through the following link: <https://www.classy.org/team/228054>
- The committee discussed looking into getting a pop-up tent to use at this event as well as future similar events. Paige made a motion to invest in one of the tents discussed. Michael seconded. The committee unanimously agreed.
  - o Pat will look into acquiring one of the tents through donation over the next few days and if she is not able to obtain one via donation, she will purchase a tent. She will be reimbursed by the Friends of the North Hampton Dog Park.

#### **6. Mailing**

- Paige has an excel spreadsheet containing all of the addresses of the owners of vacant plots of land in North Hampton. She will go through and remove any that are town owned or associated with the Audubon Society, as we do not need to send postcards to either.
- Amanda distributed copies of the drafted postcard she designed to send to vacant land owners in North Hampton (a copy of the draft has been attached to the minutes).
  - o *Note: The committee discussed that OWNERS of land in North Hampton may not necessarily be current RESIDENTS of North Hampton.*
- The committee discussed the following revisions:

*Did you know the North Hampton Select Board established a committee to create a dog park? Our volunteer committee is actively seeking land for this purpose. According to town records, you are the owner of ~~vacant land~~ **vacant property** in town and we are reaching out to you directly because we are interested in acquiring, **whether through donation or purchase, your land!***

- The repetitive use of the phrase “vacant land” and the suggestion to change one use of the phrase to “vacant property”
- Adding the words “whether through donation or purchase” to the last sentence
- The postcard will be printed, addressed, stamped and mailed through Minuteman Press out of Andover. Amanda will make the discussed revisions and send the final version to Paige. Paige will then send the design to Minuteman Press to request a proof.
- Casey made a motion to officially follow through with and purchase the postcards. John seconded. The committee unanimously agreed.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52pm; made by Roni. Seconded by Amanda.

The committee unanimously agreed to adjourn.

**The Next Meeting Will Take Place on TUESDAY June 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm.**