

**Town of North Hampton New Hampshire**

**North Hampton Dog Park Committee**

Notice of Public Meeting

6:30 PM Thursday, April 26th, 2018

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 6:38pm.

**Attendees:** Pat Mclean, Paige Libbey, Philip Thayer, Ronni Martin, Jalisa Bush, Valerie Gamache, Michael Trotta, Casey Dupuis, Anne Nettleton, John Dover, Colin Smith, Meredith Vallee

**Not Present:** Amanda Jonovski, Marlane Bernardo, Willow Foley

**Approval of minutes from April 6, 2018**

Minutes were reviewed. Minor corrections were addressed.

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

**Outstanding items and New Business:**

1. Review of letters sent to potential sponsors
  - 1.1 Letters were sent out on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
  - 1.2 Pat will provide us with a list of names and addresses that Jaisa sent them to.
2. General discussion and questions on the community garden- Valerie explained the space in more detail to the group.
3. Pat reiterated to the group that there should be no form of communication via email and any questions, topics of discussion or revisions to the comments should be sent to her where she will add them to the agenda to be discussed at the next committee meeting.
4. The group decided to pass around a list to record locations that committee members have already placed flyers advertising for land.
  - 4.1 General discussion suggesting additional locations for flyers to be placed around town.
  - 4.2 Casey distributed additional printed flyers for committee members to post around town.
5. Pat discussed her meeting with Brian, the North Hampton Town Administrator, and their conversation about establishing a 501C.
  - 5.1 In her conversation with him she mentioned that our goal is to be able to do this with limited funds from the town and instead seek sponsorships, donations and volunteers. She stated that ultimately we would like for the town to own and support the dog park once it is established.
  - 5.2 Pat explained to the group what a 501C entailed and described it as, "A way to collect

money legally in order to fund a not-for-profit organization or project”.

- 5.3** Pat proposed the potential future idea that we could do both- have the dog park itself owned and managed by the town and also start a 501C now so that as we move forward with sending the letters if someone does not have available land and still wants to make a donation we would have a mechanism to collect the money.
  - 5.4** The group discussed establishing something similar to “Friends of the Library”.
  - 5.5** Meredith reported back on the conversation she had with her father, an accountant, regarding the establishment of a 501C. He supported the idea and suggested looking at the State of NH website to learn more information.
  - 5.6** Valerie made a motion for the committee to further look into the process of establishing a 501C. Seconded by John. Unanimously accepted.
  - 5.7** Jalisa shared the following links regarding establishing non-profits:
    - <https://www.doj.nh.gov/charitable-trusts/documents/guidebook-non-profit-organizations.pdf>
    - <http://www.nhnonprofits.org/sites/default/files/documents/nonprofitchecklist05052009.pdf>
    - <http://web.law.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/microsites/career-services/Guide%20for%20New%20Hamphire%20Charitable%20Nonprofit%20Organizations.pdf>
    - <https://hagehodes.com/non-profit/>
  - 5.8** The group discussed the idea of down the road launching a “Go Fund Me” page to raise funds for the Dog Park. Unanimous agreement that this would need to wait until we first looked into establishing a 501C.
- 6.** Review land adjacent to Community Garden (update from Philip).
- 6.1** Philip shared that the area by the community garden must be used either for agriculture or recreation- nothing of which says that a road cannot be put in.
  - 6.2** General discussion about a potential entrance and the land that is currently used to drive in which is flat, dry gravel.
  - 6.3** Paige will look into the topography of the land.
  - 6.4** Philip discussed the impact of putting in a road would have on the community garden. General discussion about other organizations and town programs that could be involved, such as seeking donations for gravel from a local business.
- 7.** General discussion about the trails in North Hampton that are already cleared. Philip reiterated that all of these trails allow dogs to be on a leash.
- 7.1** Philip stated that there is a link on the Town of North Hampton website that lists all of these trails.
- 8.** Casey shared the email she received from Nancy, author and publisher of Seacoast Bark Magazine, offering to give the committee a shout-out.
- 8.1** General discussion about what to reply. Casey volunteered to follow up with Nancy and made a motion to tweak the land request letter, pull general information from it and send it to her. Ronni seconded. Unanimously accepted.

9. General discussion about the status of the North Hampton Dog Park Facebook Page that Jalisa was working on.
  - 9.1 Jalisa made a motion to officially launch the Facebook page. Meredith seconded. Unanimously accepted.
  - 9.2 Jalisa explained to the group what the Facebook page would entail and the information that would be available on it. General discussion regarding ideas for the page.
  - 9.3 Casey volunteered to reach out to Amanda to update the land donation flyer to include a link to the Facebook page.
  
10. Casey volunteered to reach out to “Friends of the Library” who publish “North Hampton Community News” three times a year to try to be featured in the upcoming newsletter.
  
11. Pat volunteered to meet with Jan to get the North Hampton Dog Park Committee featured on the North Hampton Town Committee Website page.
  - 11.1 Pat also plans to speak with Jan about being featured in the Friday Folder.

At 7:58pm Ronni made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paige seconded this.  
The committee unanimously agreed to adjourn.

**The Next Meeting Will Take Place on May 10<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm and will be posted.**