

**Town of North Hampton New Hampshire**

**North Hampton Dog Park Committee**

Notice of Public Meeting

6:30 PM Thursday, June 27, 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 6:34 pm

**Attendees**

Pat Mclean, Casey Dupuis, Paige Libbey, Anne Nettleton, Jalisa Bush, John Dover, Meredith Vallee, **New Member Alexa Haley**

The committee has a new member, Alexa Haley. The committee went around and introduced ourselves. We took out the old name tags. We explained that the Friends and the Committee are separate entities to Alexa.

**Approval of minutes from 6.11.19:**

Minutes were reviewed. No changes were to be made. Casey made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by John. The committee voted unanimously.

The committee discussed the community newsletter. Several members received the newsletter and noticed we were on the front page and were thrilled. Pat heard from a woman at the Select Board meeting that she helped get us on the front page to support our mission. Jalisa found a bunch of them in the recycling at the post office and ripped the front pages off and hung them up.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**Tick Talk Update**

Pat asked if Martha has all the information she needs from the library. Paige said yes - she can bring a laptop or flash drive to project onto the smart TV.

The committee discussed refreshments. Paige reached out to Donut Love about donating refreshments and didn't hear back. Paige can reach out to Wicked Sweet Sugar Boutique and if we don't hear back or they are not willing to donate, we can purchase cookies and brownies from Shaw's. WSSB has donated to us in the past for fundraiser raffle items. Pat made a motion for Paige to reach out to WSSB. Meredith seconded. The committee voted unanimously. Paige will let Meredith and Pat know the results of her efforts so that they can get cookies and brownies if not successful. Casey volunteered to bring a water dispenser for ice water

for the attendees. Pat will check at the library if there's a place we can fill the dispenser with water.

Pat said usually Susan Grant introduces the speaker at the library events. The committee thinks Pat should introduce the dog park committee, ask people if they've heard of us, talk about our mission, etc. before Martha speaks. Pat will ask Susan if this will be okay.

Martha gave us 2 infographics about ticks to be printed for the event. One is targeted for children. Casey found several infographics that are dog specific and passed them around. The committee discussed handing out the infographics or having them on a back table for attendees to pick up. We will decide at the event. The committee thinks we should only pick 1 or 2 dog specific ones to add to the 2 Martha gave us. The committee passed them around throughout the meeting for everyone to review and mark their favorites.

Meredith brought flyers that Amanda designed. There are 4 versions with 2 different design concepts – design concept A is our green color scheme and there are 2 versions – one with more info and one with less info. Design concept B has humorous dog – again with 2 versions, one with more info and one with less info. The committee reviewed the flyers and discussed their opinions. Paige made a motion that we go with a flyer that has more info. Casey seconded. The committee voted unanimously. The committee then discussed which flyer to use – green vs. dog. The committee discussed which flyer grabs our attention more. Committee members had differing opinions. We thought maybe if the dog was wearing a doctor suit/stethoscope it would match the tick topic. Meredith will ask Amanda if this is possible.

Everyone likes the dog flyer for Facebook. Jalisa suggested that the way the Facebook algorithm works, this would work better than the green design as a banner because it will be moved higher in the priority queue due to the image. Paige made a motion to use the dog as a Facebook banner for the event. Casey seconded with the condition that we make one change. She would like to darken the date text above the title so that it stands out more. The committee voted unanimously.

Committee members also had differing opinions on whether consistency between the printed flyers and Facebook event was important. Paige made a motion to also use the dog as the flyer as well. Meredith seconded. Vote was 4 for the dog flyer. Pat made a motion to use the green flyer. Vote was 4 for the green flyer also, so the flyer votes were tied. Casey made a motion to have Amanda be the tie breaker and Meredith seconded. The committee voted unanimously. We also discussed having Amanda send the final draft of the flyer to Susan at the library, eliminating Pat as the middle man to save time and prevent confusion. The committee also agreed to have Amanda ask Susan if she minds if we set the Facebook event up and add the library as a co-sponsor.

Jalisa suggested some changes for the green flyer in case Amanda picks that one – she marked up a flyer and gave it to Meredith. The committee agreed with Jalisa's changes.

Paige passed around copies of the Facebook event description that Amanda wrote up for the Tick Talk and

everyone took a minute to review. Casey suggested adding that refreshments will be served. The committee agreed. The committee then discussed refreshments again – John volunteered to make brownies. Anne volunteered to make cookies. Pat volunteered to buy something at Shaw’s. Anne made a motion to do this instead of seeking donated refreshments. John seconded. The committee voted unanimously, changing the vote from earlier in the meeting.

Jalisa suggested edits to the Facebook content for the Tick Talk. The committee marked up the description with her edits. The committee decided we can make these changes ourselves (whoever sets up the Facebook event) instead of giving Amanda more work. Meredith added additional changes and marked up a final copy and gave it to Paige. The new event description reads:

*“Join us at the North Hampton Public Library as Martha Wassell, Director of Infectious Disease Prevention at Wentworth Douglas Hospital leads us in a talk about all things ticks including: bite prevention, checks and removal, seeking care for an attached tick, species found in NH, diseases and symptoms, and recommended treatments.*

*Dr. Craig Kelleher, DVM, of North Hampton Animal Hospital will also join us to address tick-related symptoms, treatment, and preventive care options for our canine friends.*

*A Q&A session will follow. Light refreshments will be served.”*

### **Old Home Day**

Pat spoke with Joe Manzi from the Recreation Commission who organizes Old Home Day. The event is on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Joe told Pat there are kids activities at the school from 9am -2pm and activities for adults and seniors in the center of town. The time and exact location for the adult events is unknown. Joe Manzi was fine with us setting up a table to sell t shirts at the event. He told Pat to let him know what time and where we would like to be. Pat will find out the exact location and time of the adult events. It was agreed we don’t need to stay for the whole time if it is going on all day. Casey made a motion that we have a table at the adult events. Pat seconded. The committee voted unanimously. Pat suggested doing a raffle at Old Home day. Paige asked if it’s allowed. Pat will double check with Joe if a raffle is allowed. The committee discussed raffle options. Meredith suggested having only one big raffle item and giving one free raffle ticket with a t shirt purchase to encourage t shirt sales. John was worried that there won’t be too many people at Old Home Day and if we use a big raffle item it will be wasted on a small event. Paige checked into what raffle items we have left - Seacoast Helicopters, Beach Plum gift card, Story Land tickets and Kurgo Pet Items were a few. Casey made a motion to use the Story Land tickets. Jalisa seconded. The committee voted unanimously. Paige will see what physical item we have for story land – she thinks it’s a brochure. We will do one free raffle ticket with a t shirt purchase and go with our old pricing for just raffle ticket sales. We have a sign already made up for raffle ticket prices.

### **T-Shirt sales**

The committee discussed how many t shirts to purchase. Paige suggested 50 shirts at \$7 apiece, she thinks 100 shirts for \$600 is too much for us to spend right now. John made a motion to do this and spend \$350 on 50 t shirts and change \$20 per shirt. Paige seconded. The committee voted unanimously. Paige will ask

Cactus Graphics about a recommended size distribution for the shirts (how many of each size to order). The committee then discussed bandanas and agreed to go with the square bandanas vs. triangular. Triangular were \$0.60 less but the committee agrees square is more versatile. Anne made a motion to purchase 48 bandanas at \$4.60 apiece, spending \$220.80 and sell them for \$10 per bandana. John seconded. The committee voted unanimously. Alexa asked if we will be able to take credit cards for people who don't carry cash. Casey will look into getting a chip reader from Paypal. Alexa looked it up and its \$50. Paige made a motion to purchase one and Casey seconded. The committee voted unanimously.

### **Select board Meeting**

Pat and Phil went to Select Board meeting on Monday and Pat presented about our idea to use the Panam property for the dog park. Pat reported that the Select Board seemed enthusiastic. Selectman Jim Maggiore reads all of our minutes and gave us a compliment by saying they are the most comprehensive minutes he's ever seen. Phil was very helpful during the meeting and answered questions about the rail trail that Pat wasn't sure about. Pat reiterated that the state is in negotiations to purchase the Panam Land and each town would then need to coordinate with the state on use of the land and access to it. Jim Maggiore is also on the Heritage Commission and they are also in support of the rail trail acquisition. The Select Board asked about access to the Panam land for the dog park. Pat said we would need to use whatever access is assigned to the rail trail in North Hampton and that would be discussed down the road. Pat told the Select Board that the dog park was positioned on the plan closer to the rail trail to be a good neighbor to the abutter and provide them a buffer to the park. That abutter has been using the property as a mowed lawn and maintaining it for quite a while. Paige and Anne discussed adverse possession concerns. Paige said that there will likely be no concerns with the state acquiring the land because the land will continue to not be used by them and that abutter could continue using it as a lawn, but that it could come up as a concern should we try to move forward with using the land as a dog park. Paige will look into how long the property has been used as their lawn. Pat said that Phil thinks that if the state is to purchase the property they will be clearing it and putting stone dust down. We discussed fundraising and construction of the park and future maintenance to fill in Alexa on our plan.

### **Other land options**

Meredith thinks Throwback is starting to develop their land and farm more and using their land for a dog park is probably not possible. Committee members suggested continuing to build a relationship with them by doing Yappy Hours, etc. and maybe in the future they would be willing to be a sponsor, donor, etc.

### **Go Fund Me**

Paige explained the Paypal Giving Fund vs. Gofundme. We are automatically set up with Paypal Giving Fund which is a fundraising platform used for non-profits. Paypal DOES NOT take a portion of the proceeds. Gofundme partners with Paypal Giving Fund to raise money for non-profits so any funds raised through Gofundme go directly into our Paypal Giving Fund account. However, GoFundme DOES take a portion of the proceeds. Paige suggested we ONLY use Paypal Giving Fund and NOT Gofundme. Several committee members had questions – is Paypal Giving Fund user friendly? Paige answered yes, it's just like Gofundme and easy to use. Do you have to have an account to donate? Paige answered no. Many people have Paypal

accounts anyway but they don't have to. Casey made a motion to not sign up for Gofundme and just use - Paypal Giving Fund. Paige seconded. The committee voted unanimously.

Paige explained that the Paypal description can only be 511 characters, much shorter than we had anticipated for Gofundme. Paige suggested that we keep the description on Paypal short and we ask Jan to update the town website with our status update. That way our updated information is on our "official" website which we can then reference on Paypal, Facebook, advertising, etc. The committee agreed it would be good to have this information in an official location. Casey stated that having the .gov website will also legitimize the information.

The committee discussed changes to the mission statement and status update originally intended for Gofundme, now to be used on the town's website. Meredith and Casey marked up a revised version and gave it to Paige. Jalisa made a motion to approve the revised information. Pat seconded. The committee voted unanimously. Paige will email the information to Jan and ask her to add it to the website.

The link to the Paypal Giving Fund donation page is as follows:

<https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/3633632>

### **Mailing**

Casey and Paige have been managing the email and reported that we have received 6 inquiries about land since the mailing went out 2 weeks ago. Paige brought information on each parcel. The committee decided to table this topic until next meeting when there are more members in attendance. John and Meredith had to leave as it is now past 8pm. This topic could also be a long discussion.

### **Adjournment**

Paige made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 pm. Seconded by Pat. The committee voted unanimously.

**The Next Meeting Will Take Place on Thursday July 11 @ 6:30pm and will be posted.**