

MILLBURY DOG PARK COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021
DRAFT

ATTENDANCE: Laurie Connors (Chair), Susan Ainsleigh (Vice Chair-left meeting 6:47 PM), Christine Kelley, Mary Wright

ABSENT: Pam Adams

NON-VOTING-Friends of the Butler Farm Dog Park, Inc.: Monica Delaporta (arrived 6:28 PM), Mike LaTour

1. Call to Order: Laurie Connors called the meeting to order at 6:11 PM. The meeting was held remotely through Zoom due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a meeting room conflict. The meeting was streamed through Millbury Public Access Cable.
2. Meeting Minutes: August 24, 2021
Susan Ainsleigh made a motion to approve the August 24, 2021 minutes of the Millbury Dog Park Committee as presented. Christine Kelley seconded the motion. Vote: All-Aye.
3. Treasurers Report:
 - a. As of 9/16/21 the balance in the account is \$24,171.67.
 - b. Friends of the Butler Farm Dog Park, Inc: \$3,741 as of 9/21/21.
 - c. Number of Registered Tags: 197 as of 9/21/21. 7 tags were sold recently to people from Grafton as a direct result of our attendance at Pet Rock.
 - d. Membership Fee: Pros and Cons of increasing the membership fee were discussed. The fee has never been raised. Costs to maintain the park have increased and membership fees should cover those costs. The board looked at the number of people who currently pay \$5, \$10, and \$20.
Mary Wright made a motion that the annual fee for all members, whether they live in Millbury, Sutton, or any other town, would be \$20 for the first dog and \$15 for each additional dog starting with the sale of tags for 2022. Susan Ainsleigh seconded the motion. Vote: Aye-All.
 - e. Lock: The pros and cons of a locked gate were discussed. Since current members complain about non-members using the park, the board is expected to police incidents and we can't if we don't know who they are. A lock may be seen as a benefit and give members a feeling of "ownership". The park is supported by membership fees, not by the Town. Christine will research types of locks.
4. Capital Improvements:
 - a. ARPA Grant as source to fund stormwater mitigation improvement plan: Laurie has spoken with the Town Manager and Town Finance Director and was told that Millbury will be receiving federal COVID stimulus funds which can be applied to stormwater and park projects. The Town Manager advised Laurie to bid the park project in its entirety. Laurie will add to the project the re-installation of the gate from the parking lot to the path leading to the park, and redefining the swale at the top of the park.
Laurie spoke to Weston & Sampson and asked for an estimate for Construction Oversight Services.
 - b. Extension of Electricity to Dog Park: Pending.
 - c. Seasonal Worker: Reduced hours as of 8/27/21.
 - d. Maintenance Tasks:
 - 1) Status of ride-on mower.
 - 2) Remove vines from fence and mulch area
 - 3) Box of applications at entrance
 - 4) Gate repair-add to stormwater project bid.
 - 5) Poison ivy mitigation:
 - 6) First Aid Box

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5. Payment of Invoices: Laurie has approved \$75 for UMM for trash removal. Last weekend the dumpster was full. Laurie will call UMM and ask for a list of dates that they have picked up our trash. Mike will check the dumpster weekly.
6. Incidences: There were no incidences, other than Laurie received a complaint that a DPW worker harassed someone at the park. The complainant was a new member and stated they would give a negative review on Fido. Laurie found that no DPW workers were at the park that day. Mike stated that a new member has a construction job, wears a vest, and drives a truck that may look like a DPW vehicle. That may have been the person. No other information was available.
7. Fundraising:
 - a. Dog Swim: Raised \$192 on 9/11/21
 - b. Yard Sale fundraiser: May/June 2022 weekend
 - c. Golf Tournament: Mary is still gathering information.
 - d. Pet Rock: 9/12/21 It was decided that attending the event was worthwhile. Our location was ideal. Suggestions for next year: wear identifying t-shirts, walk around with our raffle sales, bigger sign, two people to set up and two people to tear down, Start planning raffle baskets earlier. Ask members to donate raffle baskets, Baskets do not need to be pet related.
 - e. Quite Fetching Fundraiser Ideas: No discussion
 - f. LL Bean: reached out to donate to parks at their grand opening. Laurie RSVP'd in the positive on behalf of the Friends. She was notified that our response will be taken under advisement.
8. Other Business:
 - a. Friends of the Butler Farm Dog Park, Inc.: As a result of adding indicating an interest in joining the Friends to the Park's membership application, Laurie has 4 positive responses to send to Monica.
9. Next Meeting: October 19, 2021 at 6:00 PM at by Zoom.
10. Adjournment: Mary Wright made a motion at 6:53 PM to adjourn. Christine Kelley seconded the motion. Vote: All-Aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Wright

