

MILLBURY DOG PARK COMMITTEE
APRIL 18, 2023
MEETING MINUTES

DRAFT

ATTENDANCE: Mary Wright (Chair,) Susan Ainsleigh (Vice Chair)

ABSENT: Christine Kelley (Clerk)

NON-VOTING: Stephanie Collins-Planning Board Clerk, Conor McCormack-Town Planner, Susan Druker, Jacqueline Shakar, Friends of the Butler Farm Dog Park, Inc.: Mike LaTour

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM and was held via Zoom and recorded. Town Clerk Jayne Davolio swore in Susan Ainsleigh to reappoint her for another three-year term on the dog park committee.
2. Meeting Minutes: February 21, 2023-There were no minutes. Mary will type them up and send them out for approval at our next meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report: Mary Wright made a motion to pay the Belson Outdoors invoice for \$96.94 for the Mutt Mitt bags. Susan Ainsleigh seconded the motion. Vote: Aye-2.
 - a. As of 4/13/23 the balance in the account is \$11,487.51
 - b. Friends of the Butler Farm Dog Park, Inc: \$5,109.75 as of 4/18/22.
 - c. Number of Registered Tags: 93 as of 4/13/23. 186 tags sold 2022
4. Capital Improvements and Maintenance:
 - a. Status of Stormwater Improvement Project: Conor stated that the project is finished and this item can be removed from the agenda.
 - b. Maintenance: Mike has put down some grass seed and it seems to be taking. Sue Druker asked if seed could be placed near the bench at the top of the park. Mike will seed.
Sue Druker asked if dirt could be placed around that bench as well. Mike stated that dirt is needed to fill holes.
Mary Wright made a motion to direct Conor McCormack to ask DPW to purchase ½ load of loam for the dog park, not to exceed \$500, to arrive by the Spring Clean Up on 5/20/23. Susan Ainsleigh seconded the motion. Vote: Aye-2.
 - c. Dog Park Website: Conor will follow up.
 - d. Summer Help: Mike is willing to show the DPW worker which equipment is functional. We have three weed whackers, but only one works.
 - e. Spring Clean Up: It was decided to schedule clean up day May 20, 2023, with the rain date of May 21, 2023. Stephanie will create the flyer for approval.
5. Fundraising:

Pet Rock: No discussion

Dog Swim. Mary will email Greg Williams to get the contact information and get the swim scheduled with Camp Marion.
6. Status of Membership:
 - a. Dog Park Committee: Mary stated that the membership of the committee is in jeopardy as she will soon no longer be a resident of Millbury. She stated that one person emailed her today saying he could not attend tonight, but he will be filling out an application to become a member of the committee.
Conor stated that he reached out to former member Laurie Connors who stated that having a standing committee was required by the Stanton Foundation, who provided a large part of the funding for starting the dog park. Conor stated that the committee is instrumental in the maintenance of the park. Conor will email the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to the committee.

b. Friends: Stephanie will send Mary the list of members who have expressed interest in joining the Friends. Mary will email Millbury residents to see if they would be interested in joining the committee. Mary will reach out to Greg regarding how to move forward with the Friends.

7. Incidences: A bite and scratch of a dog by a dog was reported to the Board of Health, who forwarded the incident to Stephanie. The incident involved a pit bull named Echo. No pit bull by that name is a registered member.

A different person emailed Stephanie to report that she was unable to enter the park with her dog because a pit bull acting aggressively was rushing the gate. The owner would not remove his dog from the gate, correct his dog's behavior, nor leave the park. The complainant did not get a name of the dog nor of the owner.

Susan suggested that a Facebook post be made reminding people to get as much information about dogs and owners as they can should there be an incident. It should also be posted to remind people not to allow their dogs to rush the gate as dogs enter as the excitement could cause an incident. We should also remind people that they are welcome to use the small dog area to ease their dog into the park or keep their dog separate from other dogs.

8. Unanticipated Business: Mike will contact the Butler Farm Use Committee to ask when the water will be turned on.

9. Next Meeting: May 16, 2023 at 6:00 PM by Zoom.

10. Adjournment: Mary Wright made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 PM. Susan Ainsleigh seconded the motion. Vote: Aye-2.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Wright

Susan Ainsleigh
mary