



Omaha Dog Park Advocates

January 8, 2014

Swanson Library 6:00 p.m.

Present - Lynne Newlin, Jeff Lonowski, Bridget Jansen, Jim Kee, Mary Giblisco, Caleb Wheeler, Therese Pogge, Denise Bradshaw, Bonnie Price

Park Maintenance:

Hefflinger - Fountains - Phone tag with Brook over the holidays between Bridget & Brook. Jim will set up a meeting with Brook & Bridget to discuss the Shelters & Petiquette signs and the fountains. The Eagle Scout project for the shelters had a change in project manager and Brian was looking to begin in June when the kids are out of school instead of April. We believe spring would be better due to fewer people using the park. Lowe's can donate fasteners (hardware such as nails & screws), and the wood maybe at a discount. Brian is getting ready to work on blue prints. Denise Bradshaw has a contact at A & R Salvage if the city is okay with using salvaged lumber and they just got a shipment of wood in. Poop signs with the city ordinance have not yet been ordered, but Bridget will follow through with this.

New Business - Jeff set up the Omaha Dog Park Advocates Meetup site on Meetup.com. Jim came up with an idea of having a memorial or an adopt-a-tree for deceased pets to add trees for Hefflinger. We could put a map on the website of what dogs the trees are in memorial for. Another volunteer opportunity would be to water the trees.

Jim would also like to do a dog park user survey through our website and on Facebook to gage how far people travel, are they a member of home owners association and if so would they be willing to help start a dog park, how often do you visit the dog park, etc.

Denise Bradshaw informed us that drug deals are going on and that there are condoms all over the parking lot at Hefflinger and that the 911 operator had no idea where the dog park was. Jim will contact the precinct.

Lynne requested definitions of e-mail lists. She has three groups - Yahoo, Volunteers, Spring Bark in the Park participants & Special Notices. As we only notify people about meetings and volunteer opportunities (Special Events) and because maintaining the lists are so time consuming she wanted to consolidate them into one. After cleaning up all of the lists and the bad e-mails we have 315 e-mail addresses. That does not include an Appreciation Days list Bridget found.

By-Laws - Will be discussed at the next meeting. Please read them. There is no definition of the Board of Directors in the by-laws so we need to determine if we need one and if so, detail out who it should entail. Jody will look into 503C rules because we think we had to have a BOD to qualify as a 503C. Or maybe we can just call the executive committee the Board of Directors.

Grant Opportunities - both Home Depot & Lowes have community improvement grants that we could look at for trees or Eagle Scout project. Mutual of Omaha opens Feb 1st and there is always the Kiewit grant.

Spring Bark in the Park - We had two Photographers contact us who would like to be vendors at SBP. All of the documents for vendors/sponsors are done although minor changes will be fixed. The Google Docs sheet is update. The logo and fliers are good to go. Jody has updated all contact lists. Bridget wants volunteers to handle the rescue groups and the media contacts. Lynne set up volunteer Match which garnered us most of the volunteers we had last year. There were 145 views of last year's request and 6 referrals (which Lynne believes means those who actually contacted her.) Jeff's sister says she has a contact with the Catholic schools and Caleb will work on getting volunteers. We will meet 4:15 Saturday January 11th at Old Chicago at 78th & Cass to discuss further.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 12, 2014 at Swanson Library.