

**Omaha Dog Park Advocates**  
**July 10, 2013**  
**Swanson Library 6:00 p.m.**

**Present** –Jim Kee, Lynne Newlin, Therese Pogge, Bridget Jansen, Ed Sirkorski

**Park Maintenance:**

**Hanscom** –. The trash cans are overflowing at Hanscom so Bridget will send the pictures posted on Facebook to Brook. There was a complaint about the netting that was used to hold down grass seed tripping people along with a large tree branch down from the wind storm. John Williams cut away the netting. John will work with the neighborhood association to get the graffiti removed from the Hanscom sign and his son applied for a Mayor's grant and received funding for a community board for Hanscom. The goal is to have it in place later this summer.

**Hefflinger** – The city has not emptied the trash cans at Hefflinger since before July 4<sup>th</sup>. The trash can located on the Southside of the All Dog side is so full it is also overflowing.. People are putting dog waste in bags, but are hanging them on the fence. The degradable waste bags disintegrate within a week. Bridget will post to Facebook this note that people need to dispose dog waste in the trash bins. With the lush grass, people are not picking up their poop so Ed suggested a Hefflinger Clean up day to scoop poop. The Plexiglas in the message board fell out, but Ed fixed it for now.

Ed & Jody are out of waste bags.

We did receive the quote from Eyman, but we have to speak to the city to see if it is okay to move the fountains and to change the fence. Bridget does not want to spend another \$15,000 on fountains if we can spend \$7900 to move them so they are accessible on both sides. As Jody, Trish and Jeff were unable to attend the meeting Bridget felt we needed to postpone this decision until we hear not only from the city, but from them.

The "Iowa Pump" on the all dog side that is currently open is being used by the dog park people and it is not usable so we will need a sign saying there is no water there.

**Events – Pool Party** – is a go only if someone wants to take this on. Bridget will try to get the contact and will mention this to her mother's friend who does a lot of fundraising for her children's private school. Anyone want to coordinate this?

**Appreciation Days** – Bridget is unavailable until Sept. She'll ask Brian & John if they want a Hanscom appreciation days and let them choose either Sept 20 & 21<sup>st</sup> or the Sept 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>. The Hefflinger Appreciation days will be the other weekend

Bridget will also ask Brian & John if the first or 2<sup>nd</sup> Weekend in November can be designated a Hanscom Dog Park Clean up day so we can rake leaves. We'd like to combine this with a Hanscom/Ford Birth site neighborhood associations get together and if so, if they can promote the clean up event.

**New Business** – We have been getting requests by companies to appear on our website. Jeff Lonowski suggested we charge \$250 a year to appear on our site. We would have to have standards as we don't want Viagra ads on the site. We will ask Jeff if he has any suggestions or a lawyer who can set up parameters.

Jeff started a fundraiser for trees at <http://www.youcaring.com/nonprofits/we-need-trees-to-shade-our-dogs/60045> The fundraiser was open for one month and we raised \$190.00. One of the contributors asked how the fundraising went and stated she wanted her money to go toward trees. Jim will contact Nebraska State Wide Arboretum to see if they want to help us with trees. Maybe use Hefflinger as a test site. If that doesn't work, we will need to decide whether to get trees or to contact the contributors and ask if they want their money refunded or put into the general dog park fund. The thinking is that we've been holding on to a donation designated for a Gazebo for several years. Should the current board members no longer be involved, no one is going to remember this. We don't need another designated sum we have to remember what it is for.

Bridget was able to turn off the meeting notices sent by Yahoo .

Yahoo as a company decided to recycle e-mail addresses that have been inactive for a year or more. E-mails went out to users in mid June. Yahoo Groups is not going away, but if you have not accessed Hefflinger or Omaha Dog Park Advocates Group account is a

year or more, you will have to ask for permission to be given access again. With Facebook now so prevalent this may not be an issue. Once your e-mail is deleted, there will be 30 days before the e-mail is available to be used by someone else.

Tim Carmichael is head of Park Maintenance now that Brook is the Director. Josh Frye is now in Tim's old position so now Bridget can schedule a meeting with the Park.