

**Omaha Dog Park Advocates
November 14, 2012 Meeting
Panera Bread
134th & Maple 6 p.m.**

Present – Ed Sirkorski, Jim Kee, Jeff Lonowski, Lynne Newlin, Bridget Jansen, Theresa Pogge, Mary Gibilisco, Trish Clary

Park Maintenance:

Hanscom Adopt a Park approval has been done and we will do December 2nd 1 p.m. afternoon dog park clean up provided it hasn't already been done when the Neighborhood Association had the Hanscom park clean up. We will clean Hefflinger should Hanscom not need the service. Bridget will see what the Adopt a Park/Keep Omaha Beautiful provides for such clean ups.

Hefflinger – The city did look at the park for garbage coming up from the landfill today, November 14th, and found no issue. Citizens should call the parks department with specific location or to arrange meeting with the city to show them where the issue is. We will send Jim the e-mails so they can contact the citizens. We do need dirt. We will check into putting fountains on the sides currently without fountains. We will have to ask the city if they will allow it. It would be expensive, \$14,000 for 2 fountains and this does not include installation or the running of the water line. Consensus is we would like to do this before opening a new dog park.

We met the requirement for the continuation of pet waste bag dispensers and pet waste bags. So more pet waste bags have been purchased for next year and additional dispensers were purchased and installed. The water jugs used at Hefflinger for waste bags will not be replaced as they break down. Bridget will order scoop poop signs with the regulation on them and see if the city can secure them better than with zip ties so people won't steal them.

The city did plant new trees, but had not fenced them off as of our meeting.

Petiquette Signs – Changes were made and Jody will send to Bridget and Jeff. Bridget will get them to the city to make signs and Jeff who will post them to the website.

Spring Bark in the Park Paula Presents: .has been paid and Trish has it scheduled to pay for the Spring as Trish pays everything on line. Bridget has secured a bounce house for the SBP. It is free. We'll have to have it fenced so keep dogs from peeing on it. We will consider moving the event to the closed (plush side) of the All dog side.

Elections: Trish can remain as Treasurer so officers will remain the same as everyone ran unopposed.

Old Business Jody will see if she can get ahold of the old pamphlet and give to Jeff so he can update and get some created. Bonnie Price and Jody met, but made ear rings instead of wine charms, but no more news on the dog park around Midtown Crossing. Bridget has heard nothing from the city.

Lights – We have heard that citizens have offered to pay the electric bill to keep lights on at Hefflinger between 6 p.m. and 9 .pm. However, The city will not allow lights due to liability. It is a city park and with the unstable ground and holes from dogs digging it is too dangerous. Dog Park hours are Dawn to Dusk and this will be added to the Petiquette Sign.

New Business Oasis was bought by Dale's Trash Service. But we will have ask them pick up the porta potty at the end of December. Lynne suggested a Frequently Asked Question section on the website to address the issue of mud, water and lights that come up everytime new people start using the park. Everyone liked the idea and Jody will get Jeff a list to post.

Form will be submitted to get Swanson reserved 2013 meetings will continue to be held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. January – November.

We got \$150 donation from Omaha Community Foundation and a \$1,000 donation from the Community Health Charities on behalf of Cargill and \$1,000 Arlee Bishop. Trish will send out thank yous.