



**Omaha Dog Park Advocates  
February 10, 2016  
Swanson Library, 6 p.m.**

**Present** – Lynne Newlin, Jody Blakely, Jim Kee; Therese Pogge, Mickey Merriam, Mary Gibilisco, Ed Sirkorski, Jeff Lonowski, D’Ann Lonowski

**Hanscom** – No news. We’ve not heard from the Greyhound Group who wanted to rent the park for an hour or two for exclusive use by the Greyhounds. Perhaps the weather has deterred them.

**Hefflinger** – Lights at Hefflinger. The public has been asking about lights at Hefflinger so the Parks Dept. is looking into this. Jim has put out questions about wind power and solar panel lights and in his research has learned that we would not be able to power the tall lights remaining from the baseball diamonds with solar. The costs for solar lights range from \$3,000 to \$5,000 per light. Lights would only be on for a few hours at night and perhaps only a few nights out of the week and only during those months the sun sets before 7.

Gate going into the closed off section of all dog side is damaged and people are using the closed side of the All Dog Side. We lost trash cans during the wind. Parks Dept. will be notified. People are not picking up the poop mostly because it vanishes into the snow before it can be picked up, but the dog park will be a mess once the snow melts.

Trenches need to be backfilled where Eyman put in the water line.

Jim will ask city if they can put out sand barrels to take care of the ice on the walkway at the dog parks.

The public is now contacting the parks department with their concerns about the dog park(s) hence the parks dept. looking into lights and the decision to leave the park open even if it is nothing but a mud bowl. That decision is up to the parks employee in charge of that park. Hanscom for example, will close off the park during rain/mud to preserve the park. The ODPA is notified in those events and the word is publicized on Facebook.

**Events where ODPA will be –**

**St. Patrick’s Day Parade is March 12<sup>th</sup>** – we are registered. Jim will talk to soggy Paws about us using the store while waiting for the parade to begin.

**Family Night at Omaha Roller Girls – 4/29.** Ralston Arena. Free tickets for 6 people who would like to go and raise funds for ODPA.

When the new fountains are turned on at Hefflinger we want to have a “turn on party”. Hopefully we’ll be given enough notice to accomplish this.

**Omaha Gives – May 25<sup>th</sup>**

**June 25<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Social** 1 to 3 at Hefflinger.- D'Ann has attempted to get ahold of Joe at Ted & Wally's, but he is still working on getting a second store up and running and they have not spoken. eCreamery, Culver's are other options for human ice cream... Blue Bunny has truck that goes to events. Jody will contact Culver's and Blue Bunny for people ice cream and Purina for Frosty Paws.

**July 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Pick a Pooch** – Ralston Arena \$250.00 for the two days. But due to the cost we are going to pass on this event this year.

**Benson Days – July 30<sup>th</sup>.** ODPa will have a booth

**National Night Out –8/2.** D'Ann will look into getting small lights with our logo that for \$5 donation the contributor would get the light. Tie it into fundraising for lights at Hefflinger. And maybe Appreciation Days

**New Business** – Frequently Asked Questions are now on the website.