



Omaha Dog Park Advocates

April 13, 2016

Swanson Library, 6 p.m.

Present - Lynne Newlin, Mickey Merriam, Jim Kee; Mary Gibilisco, Ed Sirkorski, Jeff Lonowski,

Hanscom -Rhiannon from Hanscom Renewal reached out offering help from a new group with fundraising, volunteers and awareness. Ken Tolliver with the parks department notified us that when the park is closed due to mud, someone is breaking in by destroying the gate. And he provided the picture below.



We've also had several people complain about uneducated park users including a lady allowing her intact Dobermans to bully other dogs and another lady letting her children run wild in the park.

Hefflinger – Eyman has not responded to Jim's question about repairing the fountain. Eyman has not back filled the trenches. The double gates were fixed so dogs can't escape, but the city must now go fix the new gate they installed on the NE side of the closed All Dog Park. 20 loads of dirt were brought in by that gate to fill the mud holes and the ruts left by the trucks prevent this gate from closing correctly. People are using the gates to drive their vehicles into the park as it is also not locked.

The Small Dog Side the gate between the two sides is not locked. The city put the padlock on wrong so people can go between the sides. You have locked gate that you can open.

St. Patrick's Day Parade – was dreary and this may be why only two people showed to represent ODP.

April 29th -Roller Girls family night event. We will be selling merchandise. It is Friday night, April 29th at the Ralston Area from 6 p.m. until past the break between the two team matches. Mary, Jody & Jim will be at the event. We have two more tickets if anyone else wants to volunteer.

PetSmart at 170th & Maple **May 14th & 15th** is having a non-profit event starting around 11. We can sell our merchandise. There is no set time that we must attend. Mary will contact Kelly to firm up the plans.

Omaha Gives – May 25th. We are registered. The link will be sent prior to the event and once we have it, we can blast out via Facebook, the Webpage and the e-mail contacts.

June 25th Ice Cream Social is now **Bark in the Park** as we could not find a vendor willing to donate the ice cream. The time is 11 to 3 and will be at Hefflinger. Lynne sent D'Ann the information for getting the event on the American National Bank Marquette at 90th & Dodge. D'Ann will send out 200 letters April 14, 2016 to potential vendors. Jim will see if ODP is to be responsible for registration and volunteers

July 16th & 17th Pick a Pooch. – Lee lowered the fee to 100.00, but we didn't make any money and we would have to commit to five hours for two days and we don't have the volunteers to staff the booth so we will not be attending.

Benson Days – July 30th - we will have a booth.

National Night Out –8/2. – We have the flashlights to give away..

New Business – Creighton's service group contacted Lynne inquiring on volunteer opportunities seeing how we are not having SBP this year. Several other people have also inquired on the event. Lynne let them know about the June 25th event.

Dennis Beyers with the Parks Dept. was going to give Jim a list of vendors who have reached out to the city about providing solar lights. Massachusetts has a dog park where they use a dog poop digester to light a gas

lamp. Park Spark project it is called.. We already have the biodegradable bags which must be used so we think this may get people to actually pick up their dog's poop. Jim has reached out to Dennis to see if the city would allow such a device in the parks.

April 23rd 9 to 11 we will scoop poop at Hefflinger and clean up trash. Jim will reach out to Sonja with Ford Birthsite to see if we can do Hanscom Clean up on May 1st as the Hanscom and Ford Field Club have volunteer events the first Sunday of each month. Lynne will put out an e-mail about the April 23rd event to our list of contacts to see if others will assist us.