



## **Omaha Dog Park Advocates**

**May 11, 2016**

**Swanson Library, 6 p.m.**

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

**Hanscom** - - Both Signs on the gates labeling the sides (All Dog & Small Dog) have been stolen. Jim found who made the signs and reached out to him, but has had no response. We hope to have the Hanscom clean up day June 5<sup>th</sup>. Jim is awaiting confirmation from the Hanscom Neighborhood or Hanscom revitalization committee.

**Hefflinger** – April 23<sup>rd</sup> several of us cleaned up Hefflinger of dog poop, toys and trash. We extended the offer to attend our meetings to several people. Porta Potty is at Hefflinger. Artistic Design was contacted about the all Dog Sign. Fountains are on. Eyman got back with Jim about back filling, but not about the broken fountain. Jim has an idea how to fix, but will talk to the parks dept about fixing. The broken part is the access to shut off the water.

**April 29<sup>th</sup>** – Roller Girls Event. Not much of a turn out, but we had good seats..

**PetSmart** at 170<sup>th</sup> & Maple **May 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>** is having a non-profit rescue event 11 to 5. We can sell our merchandise. We will be sharing a booth with Muddy Paws and we can set our times. Mary will be there Saturday 11 to 2. Jodie, Mickey and Lynne will work on Saturday. Jim on Sunday. Mary will be helping Good Dog Rescue and will stop by on Friday to get a feel of the event.

**Omaha Gives** – **May 25<sup>th</sup>**. We are registered. Jim has the link to our non-profit to Facebook. Lynne will send out a blurb to our volunteers. Jim asked if Jeff can put this on the website.

**Bark in the Park** – we have 6 paid vendors. Mint will do registration, vendors, raffles. Pre-registration will go up on the website next week. Jeff will handle advertising and Media. We discussed selling tickets for the games like is done at carnivals, but with the event being held in the summer we are not sure we would have the volunteers to man games. Jim will put the information on volunteer match to see how many volunteers we

come up with to determine what entertainment we can do. We will look out for an e-mail for a meeting between now and the June ODPa meeting to discuss Bark in the Park..

D'Ann is selling vendor space on the goodie (swag) bags. \$250 for a spot. D'Ann is looking for high valued items for raffles.

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

**National Night Out –8/2.** – Our dog park appreciation will coordinate with this national day as a way to promote fundraising for lights at Hefflinger. We have the flashlights to give away.

**New Business** – Vanessa Conner with a Rottie Rescue contacted us asking permission to hold a fundraiser near the dog parks. She was told she must contact the city. Chelsea Colton also contacted us wanting to hold a birthday party at Hanscom. She was also told to contact the City Parks & Rec.

We were also contacted by Jeannie with Omaha.dog. ***“They we are putting on Omaha Furshion Week, Omaha's first Dog Fashion week on June 3rd and 4th! We want all proceeds to go directly back to the community to fund waste stations and aiding in dog-park funding”*** Jody will touch base with Jeannie to get the times and see if there is a \$25 sales permit.

Lastly, Kristen Whitman with Fox 42 wanted our take on the people driving through the mud at Hefflinger dog Park. She was told that the dog parks are maintained by the Omaha Parks and Rec Department. We work on funding improvements and new dog parks. Not for maintenance of the property so it would be a police and parks department issue.