



**Omaha Dog Park Advocates
July 13, 2016
Swanson Library, 6 p.m.**

Present – Lynne Newlin, Jody Blakely, Jim Kee; Mary Gibilisco, Ed Sirkorski, Jeff Lonowski, Theresa Pogge

Hanscom – -People are now complaining about the mud at Hanscom. If Jim remembers his conversation with the park staff in charge of Hanscom correctly, the section with grass will open when they spray for weeds in the fall.

Hefflinger – We have a family who wishes to donate a bench in memory of their daughter who used Hefflinger Dog Park. . Jim has put her in contact with the city. She wants to be there when it is installed and we will try to be there for the “dedication”, but it is up to her to work out the details with the Parks & Rec department.

The new water fountain on the small dog side was damaged by people filling up a wading pool and the water is constantly running damaging the park.

The gate to the closed side of the Small dog park has also been damaged.

On the All dog Side the chain link that had been laid on the ground at the gates that allow the city workers and their big equipment to enter has been pulled up. Now along with the heavy equipment damage, dogs can dig under the gate(s). Ed has asked that the chain link be laid back down.

The city has started working on leveling the dirt on the closed all dog side, but it appears this is happening whenever the city has a spare moment.

Pricing for solar lights start at \$2000 installation from one company and \$3000 to \$3500 per system (light, pole) at another. Jim is working with two vendors by sending maps as they are not local and cannot come out to the park to discuss solutions. We would only have the lights on for a few hours, but we would need approximately \$40,000. We could open another dog park for that amount. Jim still hasn't heard back from Dennis with the Parks & Rec department to see if any solar vendors have contacted the City. Jody will look for park improvement grant, green energy grant, crime prevention grants, and solar grants to see if adding lights to Hefflinger is feasible.

Bark in the Park –22 of the 23 vendors showed. It rained for a brief moment around 1p.m. and that drove one vendor away along with potential participants. We received the Creighton Women's and Men's Basketball tickets that were for the raffle AFTER the event. We also had a basket from the Bark in the Park unclaimed and if it is not picked up by July 25 we will use it as a raffle at Benson Days. As not all the bills are in from the event final profit is not known, but it is approximately \$4200.00

Benson Days – July 30th - we will have a booth on this day only. Check in is 7:30 a.m. Vendor vehicles off Maple at 9:30. We are across from the bike shop. We must be open at 11 and we can tear down at 4 p.m. We will have some merchandise, a donation jar and maybe a raffle. As always volunteers are needed to man the booth.

National Night Out -8/2. – Our dog park appreciation day will coordinate with this national day as a way to promote fundraising for lights at Hefflinger. We have the flashlights to give away. We will be at Hefflinger from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Paint your Pet – October. Jim will reach out to Cathy to see when and how far in advance she needs to know we'd like to do another fundraiser. We usually make \$300.00 which pays the yearly storage. Fee.

New Business – We had an organization who teamed up with FIX that created a dog park info graphic on how to “Decode” the dog park. They did send the link to it

Additional money from Omaha Gives totaled \$72.21 which helps cover the debit and credit card fees incurred when people donate.

Kelly with PetSmart on 170th & Maple wants to do a fundraiser for the dog park.