



**Dog Park Committee
Minutes
Tuesday, November 27, 2018
Emergency Operations Center
371 Main St., Acton, MA**

Committee Members Roll Call:

Clare Siska, Chair

Mike Perry

Tom Gillispie

Fred Kinch

Joan Gardner

Cathy Fochtman

Karen Martin – Absent

Members of the Public

Joe Will

Bill Alstrom

Cynthia Heiland

Leona Palmaccio

Clare called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Citizens' Concerns

- Bill Alstrom, Cynthia Heiland and Leona Palmaccio, Trustees of the Ellsworth Village Condominium Association, expressed their concerns about putting a dog park on the "Plaza" property located at 145 Great Road Rear. The Ellsworth Village Condominium property abuts that property. Specifically they mentioned concerns about the noise that a dog park would create in their neighborhood and the park's potential environmental impact. Further, they indicated they believe the owner of the plaza was required to locate the plaza in such a way as to allow 5 - 7 acres as a "buffer zone" from the neighborhood and that Ellsworth Village believes that would preclude it being used as a dog park. In response, Clare summarized the history and status of the Committee's work.

The minutes for the November 13, 2018 meeting were approved as amended.

Action Items from past meetings:

- The table at the December 3rd Town Meeting has been approved; Clare and Fred will staff the table.
- Clare contacted Mary Anne Ashton about the Morrison Farms site.
- Clare has not heard back from the Conservation Commission about meeting with them; she will contact them again.

- Clare sent the Acton 20/20 Committee the chart that shows the alignment of a dog park with the goals of that committee.

Preliminary Design Sketches

- Fred and Cathy are scheduled to meet with the Town Engineering Department on Thursday, November 29th.
- After the meeting, Fred will send a brief summary to the committee.

Town Manager Meeting

- Clare is scheduled to meet with the Town Manager on December 11th; the Committee reviewed and made suggestions on the agenda for that meeting.

Acton TV Spot

- Karen has made arrangements to produce a spot for the dog park, and Clare and Karen will handle it.

Review Board of Selectmen Presentation

- The committee reviewed the draft of the presentation and made several suggestions.

Other Community Outreach

- The committee made a list of all the veterinarians and pet stores in Acton; Mike and Tom will provide dog park information to these locations for them to distribute.

New Business

- Given that there is Open Meeting Law training scheduled for Tuesday evening, December 18, 2018, Clare asked if the committee members would be available the following evening. Clare plans to attend the OML training and encouraged others to attend as well.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 7:45 PM, Room 9, Acton Town Hall

Respectfully submitted

Fred Kinch