



Acton Dog Park Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, November 12, 2019

7:30 p.m.

Room 121 Town Hall
472 Main Street, Acton MA

Present:

Clare Siska, Chair
Tom Gillispie, Vice Chair
Fred Kinch
Karen Martin
Mike Perry

Absent:

I. Opening

- A. Clare opened the meeting at 7:30 PM.

II. Regular Business

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

1. The minutes from the Acton Dog Park Committee meeting on October 1, 2019 were reviewed, amended and approved unanimously.
2. The minutes from the Acton Dog Park Committee meeting on October 22, 2019 were reviewed, amended and approved unanimously.

III. New/Special Business

B. Reports and Updates:

1. The committee discussed the results of the OSC meeting on November 1, 2019, the meeting with Joan Gardner and John Mangiaratti on November 5, 2019, and the meeting with the Recreation Commission on November 5, 2019. The OSC has sent a letter to Joan and the Board of Selectmen indicating their position on the DPW and the 70 Quarry Road sites. John indicated that the various questions posed to the town about the DPW site would be clarified after January 1, 2020.



He also requested a sketch of the proposed park as it would be on the Main St. site. He and Joan felt that we should go forward to the Board of Selectmen with only one recommended site. The target is to have the Board vote on the site selection in the first quarter 2020. The Recreation Commission had questions about parking.

2. The Stanton Foundation's position on trees would require substantial clearing of trees on the 70 Quarry Road site.

C. Dog License fee increase:

1. The committee unanimously passed a motion asking Clare as chair of the committee to communicate to the Town Manager, John Mangiaratti, the committee's request for a \$2.00 increase in the dog license fee effective January 2020.

D. Site Discussion:

1. The committee discussed the recent developments and feedback we have received about the various sites.
2. The committee unanimously passed a motion that the committee go forward to the Board of Selectmen with the Main St. site as our preferred site.

E. Parking: In order to research the amount of parking that other towns have allocated for their dog parks, Karen will look at the dog park parking in Ayer, Gardner and Fitchburg, Mike at Great Hill, Clare at Chelmsford, and Tom at Burlington and Billerica.

F. Outreach: The committee discussed reaching out to various individuals and groups. We felt we should contact the Acton Community Housing Corporation Board, the Acton Housing Authority Board, Kelley Cronin – Executive Director of AHA, the Board of Selectmen, and the neighbors around the Main St. site. We discussed the timing given an assumed target date for a vote by the Board of Selectmen of March 1, 2020. Clare will pursue the ACHC and the AHA boards. Tom will contact Joan about the Board of Selectmen.

G. Main St. Site Sketch: Working on this was deferred to a later meeting.

IV. Citizens' Concerns

- A. There were no citizens' concerns.

V. Adjournment

- A. At 9:03 PM, it was moved, seconded and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted
Fred Kinch

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 2020 at 7:30 PM, Room 121, Acton Town Hall

