



**Dog Park Committee
Minutes
Tuesday, October 23, 2018
7:30-9:30 PM
Room 46, Town Hall
472 Main St., Acton, MA**

Committee Members Roll Call:

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

Absent:

Joan Gardner

Members of the Public:

Joe Will

Call to Order:

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

Review and accept prior meeting minutes:

The minutes for the 9/25/18 and 10/9/18 meeting wereread, amended, and accepted.

Follow Up Action Items:

Tom Gillispie contacted two design firms DWG and Cameron Moran. Both firms were fine with using in house design for the preliminary designs. Ideally surveying is done before snow. Design work would be done during the winter with construction beginning in the spring. A Town of Acton engineer is interested in developing some design experience. Paul Campbell will be contacted to help with preliminary designs for Walker and perhaps Great Hill

Tom also attend the Land Stewardship Committee. The committee had ideas and opinions about each of the properties being considered. Concerns about land that may or may not be classified as conservation land and concerns about clearing. The committee also had a presentation on the proposed Great Hill Development.

Fred Kinch researched the Great Hill proposed site historical data. The land is deemed for recreational use. The question is whether a dog park is considered recreational.

Cathy Fochtman shared her understanding of the Great Hill property. There will be a review of the open space land survey and talk with Tom Tidman for clarification.

Clare Siska shared that in her discussion with Bettina Abe that is important to find the written information for any proposed project.

The property of behind Trader Joe's was discussed. Selby has discussed a potential dog park with the Merchant Committee which is reported to be in support.

Clare Siska committed to working on the RFI and seeking input. She drafted a letter of opposition to the Great Hill Development. She reached out to the Lincoln Drive residence for input about the Arlington property and will send a summary email. Clare Siska also created an E-Blast for the survey and will be sending out as part of community outreach. She will reach out to Terri Matlin of the Conservation Committee and follow up with Eva Szkaradek on the special Town Meeting. Clare Siska has reached out to the Town Manager. He will be getting back about a meeting. She will also organize Google Drive.

Fred Kinch will follow up with Eva Szkaradek to check on cost of mailing.

Karen Martin will follow up on two people who volunteered for help in Social Media.

Clare Siska talked with David Honnand the Great Hill property is not considered a part of the historic area in South Acton.

The committee has not heard back from the Acton 20/20 Committee.

Walker Property Discussion and Proposal:

A discussion ensued about the pros and cons of the Walker Property. The committee is in favor of submitting an RFI and open to partnerships with others but will submit the proposal as an individual committee.

CPC Application:

Tom Gillispie has written and is seeking feedback from members. He will attend the next BoS meeting and present. He thanked Cathy Fochtman for her assistance in facilitating the writing of the application.

Support for Great Hill:

The ADPC is in favor of sending a letter of opposition to the development. The letter will be revised slightly to emphasize the dog owner's perspective.

Community Outreach:

Acton TV for advertisement, the Beacon for an article, and E-blast at various media sites. Consider exploring Action Unlimited.

Cathy Fochtman will check in the deadline for the town's quarterly newsletter.

New Business:

Membership: Lola Farrar will not be able to volunteer on the committee.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Oct 30th, 7:30 PM, Room 126, Acton Town Hall

Adjourn at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Martin