



Acton Dog Park Committee

MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, May 5, 2020
4:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Acton MA

Present:

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

Absent:

Tom opened the meeting at 4:04 PM.

I. Regular Business

- A. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Approval of the Minutes for the March 10, 2019 meeting was deferred until the next meeting.

II. Old Business

- A. Tom has spoken with the Town Manager about the document transferring the Main Street property to the AHA; a draft should be available sometime in May.
- B. Karen and Fred reported on the effort to reach out to other dog parks. Karen reached out to 7 and received responses from 3; those results are on Google Drive under “opposition”. Karen will follow up with the 4 parks we have not heard from. She will also make sure that all the objections and answers are captured in our current slide deck.
- C. We will not participate in the Farmers Market due to the vendor limitations as a result of the pandemic.

III. New Business

- A. Tom reported that the AHA has tabled the vote on the dog park until our Committee has had a chance to meet with the neighbors.
- B. Tom Tidman is working on sketches for the dog park; Selby will follow up with him.
- C. We reviewed the spring task list, which is located on Google Drive. Of note:
 1. We will plan to meet with the neighbors mid-June. We are planning on a virtual meeting, but would revert to a physical meeting if a change in the Covid-19



restrictions makes that possible. Neighbor representatives attending the meeting said that a virtual meeting would be OK.

2. We have several presentations/outreach events coming up, including to the Recreation Commission and the Transportation Advisory Committee; we have reached out to the Open Space Committee and the Commission on Disabilities and hope to meet with them as well.
3. Cathy Fochtman has reached out to the Chief of Police Burrows.
4. The Committee discussed how much it would cost to beautify the lower Main Street parcel if it was not used for a dog park. It is hard to get a good estimate, but the landscape upgrade for the Hosmer House cost \$180,000.
5. The Committee is working to establish a website to help with its outreach.
6. Karen is working on other ways to promote the dog park, including a new logo and possibly bumper stickers.
7. Our next meeting will be Thursday May 14 at 4 PM via Zoom.

IV. Future Business

- A. Tom asked Joan if there was any updates from the Board of Selectmen, and there were none

V. Citizens' Concerns

- A. Representatives of the neighbors asked where they could get a copy of the document referred to in Item II A above, and the Committee suggested that they contact the Town Manager, John Mangiaratti.

At 5:05 PM, it was moved, seconded and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Fred Kinch