

City of Gahanna
Dog Park Advisory Committee (DPAC)
Minutes – 12 June 2008
5:30PM
City Hall

Present: Al Adler
Casey Cannon (Chair)
Michele Cutler (Pooch Playground Representative)
Laurel Naegele
Lori Sobul
Lynne Vermillion (Secretary)

Absent: Chief Murphy, Dr Kristy Clay, Cathy Koch, Alan Little, Terri Montigny, John Pizzurro, Don Sullivan, Vinnie Tremante, Deputy Chief Kenneth A. Ball, Troy Euton, Charlie Henderson

1. New Business:

Cannon stated that he wished to discuss whether anyone else was interested in assuming the role of chairperson for the committee and what the committee expected for the chairperson. This will be discussed during the 10 July 2008 meeting. (OPEN)

2. Old Business:

- a. Special Events: This item was tabled until Alan Little is available. (OPEN)
- b. Water Feature: Cannon briefed the Committee on the results of the 4 June 2008 Parks Board Discussion about access to the Creek at Pizzurro Park. As a result of this meeting, Troy Euton will notify OXBOW to establish one creek access point. The current condition of this area will be documented so that the area can be monitored for any deterioration caused by dogs. Signs will be placed by the access area warning individuals of the danger of rapid currents. The Parks Board asked the Dog Park Advisory Committee to research and present for consideration three proposals for providing an alternative water feature at the park. Michele Culter and Lori Sobul volunteered to be on this subcommittee. **Other DPAC members willing to assist this subcommittee should notify Cannon and Vermillion.** (OPEN)
- c. Bench Pads: No change. Awaiting Boy Scout action. (OPEN)
- d. Potable Water: No change. (OPEN)
- e. Final Park Design: No change. (OPEN)
- f. Akita Behavior: Although the Akita has been involved in at least three altercations at the park, there is no evidence that the Akita is aggressive. However, when he is provoked, he responds forcefully and has inflicted puncture wounds. If the Akita's owner returns to the park, a volunteer will discuss the possible use of a muzzle with the owner. A muzzle would prevent the Akita from seriously injuring another dog. Additionally, Brutus' owner will be encouraged to more closely watch her dog and provide more training. (Brutus is scheduled to be neutered in July which may slightly modify his behavior).
- g. Traffic Flow:

- i. In order to slow down cars entering Pizzurro, the DPAC will investigate whether a stop sign could be installed immediately prior to the parking lot area. Although the speed limit is posted as 15mph, most cars travel much faster and a stop sign might slow them down before entering the area where dogs may be off leash. (OPEN)
 - ii. In an effort to lure people away from the gate area, the DPAC wants a picnic table to be placed in the northeast corner not far from the bulletin board. There is some shade there in the evening and people might sit there instead of hanging around the gate. This would be done on a trial basis to see whether it actually helps draw people away from the gate or if it causes additional dog fights or distracts people from watching their dogs. If this becomes a permanent location, a bench pad would be needed under the table. (OPEN).
3. Update from the Parks Department: Not Applicable. No Parks Department representative available.
4. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for 5:30 on Thursday, 10 July 2008. The location is tentatively scheduled for the pavilion at Pizzurro.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Vermillion, DPAC Secretary