



Tri-City Dog Parks 11/29 meeting

Attending Board: Jan Davis, Pres. Dave Cazier, Sec.

Attending membership: Matthew Ulrich, John Butterfield, Alan Jackson, Tom Marocchini, Leslie McLaughlin, Vicki Dahl, Debbie Sackmann.

Meeting began at Hastings, Kennewick then moved across the parking lot to Starbucks.

Meeting began at 2:23 pm

Agenda & discussion

1. Alternative Gift Fair

- This event has been hosted by CUUP the last two years. 18 different charities will be there this year and it will be on Sat Dec 5th from noon to 4 at the church.
- Matt wants to launch the Memorial Brick fundraiser then.
- We need 3-4 persons there to man the table, speak passionately, and sell brick orders, memberships, T-shirts, & other park items to donate toward the dog park.
- We need to send email to membership list to attend AGF and help man the table if needed.
- Jan moved to approve Matt to proceed at AGF and the Brick fundraiser. Tom seconded. Further discussion and the vote was unanimous.

2. Parks meeting

- Naming of park has not officially gone through yet, though, but we anticipate it will.
- Now at the funding process/phase after our huge effort to educate community and officials as to need for dog parks is paying off. With a park (Badger) successfully operating, we need to get funds for the permanent park coming in. Roughly \$300k is needed for full park, access roads, parking, fencing parks, signs and other needed amenities. We now need to focus on fund raising toward that goal.
- Schedule forward:
 - A broad Parks bond set for 2012 would cover all funding if it passes. We see this as a backup so we don't have to wait until then for the permanent park.
 - Parks dept seems to be fully behind our effort to get the perm park and the "city is ready to proceed" as funding becomes available. John mentioned if a large donor came up suddenly to cover a bulk of cost this would certainly speed up the process.
 - Park access road, parking lots, are probably 2/3 of the cost if for this.
 - Signage is available for promoting coming park, we need verbage.
 - Fire hydrants are available to mark off new site.
 - City has a "boulder" for park entrance sign in the budget already.
- WE Need to establish a "Blueprint of process". How to "eat the Elephant one bite at a time", as Matt puts it.
 - Matt is trying to nail down itemized costs for building the permanent park: fence, apron, water, grass, etc.
 - As a Society do we want to let the project evolve during its use or wait for it to be built ant open in complete form? Discussion ensued. Given we do have quorum present we voted to allow the park to open ASAP and develop more after.

- We will work with RP&R to establish that step by step process so we can publicize and fundraise as we go if needed, i.e. 1. Promo signs & mark site, 2. Main 5 Acre fence, 3. Irrigation & grass, 4. Fences to divide small/large areas, etc.
- Dave moved to vote on proceeding incrementally with the park, Jan motioned to second. Matt restated the question & motion passed unanimously.
- We want to also confirm that other dog park projects are still active (Lawless, Lynwood Loop, Columbia) and continue to involve Kennewick & Pasco to get on board.

3. New fundraisers for the permanent park

- a. Paypal is being set up, want to complete this by Saturday to follow up the "bang" of AGF.
- b. Setting up ability to donate through the Richland city site and ear-mark for dog park
- c. Memorial Bricks: Patrons purchase a brick with an engraving; a name or short message in memory of a pet or loved one. \$100 per brick purchase 80-90% goes to dog park.
 - Matt is firming up details of who will make them, the cost, size, text options, etc.
 - What to do with bricks?
 - Concrete apron to park entrance or a wall. Can they be used at the current park and then moved to the new one?
- d. Business Banner fundraiser:
 - \$250-\$500 annually for advertisement banners mounted on park fence.
 - Try to sell 8ft sections, possibly break down to smaller if needed.
 - Work out who will make them, and monitor care and payment/renewal.
- e. Fundraising committee
 - We need volunteers to help coordinate these efforts with Matt.
 - Plan fundraising events & pursue grants, etc
 - Tom, Leslie, & Dave would like to help.
 - Notify membership for more help (web, email)

4. Naming of water fountain.

- Funds from the recent pool party were geared to a water fountain at the current park that could then be moved to the permanent park.
- Matt informed that the fountain will be permanently located about 100 yds from current park and will not move once new park opens. Not what we all initially thought, but it will still be easily accessible to park patrons.
- Matt would like the name of fountain to stay in honor of Cleon Tzemos, as we had previously decided prior to the pool party event.

5. Future Stewardship

- We can & should do minor maintenance until permanent park opens:
 - Keep fence & gates in working order
 - alert Parks Dept. for garbage dump & bag replacement.
 - Continue to bring water jugs, spare bags.
- Need dog park rules in addition to city park rules
 - education of park etiquette
 - perhaps request more signs
 - discuss safety concerns with RP&R.

Next meetings: General meeting, Sunday, Dec 20th, 2pm at Hastings in Richland.
 Possible Fundraising Committee meeting, Friday Dec 18th, 6pm at Hastings, Richland. Matt will verify this date/time with the committee.