



Friends of the Dog Parks, Inc. -- Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 1/27/2015

Location: Gallery 9, 124 S 9th St, Lincoln NE

Present: Peggy Neeman, Pres. Jordan Brasch
Annette Campbell, VP Mike Wensel
Judith Andre Kris Brambila

Agenda (previously emailed by Peggy Neeman):

1. Work on the logo some more

Kris had previously emailed her latest design (attached). Attendees generally approved both its concept and execution. It was suggested that Kris lengthen the fingers of the human hand to make them more distinguishable. She will send out a revised version for review.

2. Look at the by-laws - if Mike and Jordan have had time to work on them

Mike handed out two documents: notes from the By-laws Committee's first meeting, and a version of the FODP by-laws showing recommended changes (both attached). Discussion focused on the identification of candidates for executive positions and the election process itself. Mike will incorporate agreed-upon revisions and distribute a revised document for review.

3. Parks & Rec update

Oak Creek trash cans: Peggy reported that she has three new trash cans in her garage, ready for painting and installation as replacements for the existing cans at Oak Creek. Annette took issue with the "replacement" idea and said that she thought these cans, like the cans requested for Rickman's Run, were supposed to be additional cans rather than replacements. The three existing cans at Oak Creek are frequently full to overflowing, discouraging park visitors from picking up dog waste. Peggy agreed to revisit the issue with Parks & Rec.

Additional poop bags: The question of acquiring funds for stocking poop bags led to a suggestion that we contact the Health Department for funds to match Watershed Management's offer of half the cost. Annette will also contact the plastic company that manufactured the previous yellow bags, inquiring on whether we can save money by ordering blank bags rather than printed ones. Jordan then mentioned the possibility of using the bags as advertising space, which should attract donors. This step may require approval from Parks & Rec (to be researched).

Concrete project at Rickman's Run: Parks & Rec sent us an invoice for \$1100 for the concrete poured in front of the little-dog gate at Rickman's Run. Apparently our grant money in The Parks Foundation was tapped for this amount, but there is still confusion about the lack of communication throughout the process.

Long-term planning project: Peggy reported no news on the identification of a timeline – Parks & Rec just says "in the coming months." Apparently the first stage of the project will be to identify a consultant to coordinate community engagement and meeting plans. She continues to keep her ear to the ground.

4. Look at ballots for March election of officers

Peggy distributed sample election ballots (attached) showing incumbent names for each position. These “combination” ballots were rendered obsolete by the earlier by-laws discussion in which it was agreed to hold separate elections for each office. Ballots will either be redesigned or replaced with simple blank slips of paper.

5. Other topics

- Peggy confirmed that she will file our annual statement with the Nebraska Department of State before the April deadline. She also mentioned that we need to change our Agent of Record (currently Brian Ridenour). The question was raised whether this position should default to a particular executive officer or be assigned to an individual. No decision was taken.
- Annette suggested that we schedule clean-up days before too much longer, as the situation was worsening at both parks. We selected Saturday, March 14 for Oak Creek and Saturday, March 21 for Rickman’s Run. We can announce these dates at the next public meeting.
- Next public meeting: 7:00 pm on Monday, Feb. 23 at Walt Branch on S 14th St. The board will meet at 6:00 pm, prior to the public meeting.