

LEASH-FREE DOG PARK AD HOC COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Paris Customer Service Office
Downstairs Meeting Room
7 Broadway Street West, Paris
Monday, July 21, 2008
7:00 p.m.

Present: Brian Speagle, Susan Dimitry, Marion Hutchinson, George Hatton and Bill Williams

Regrets: Dwayne Budgell

Staff: Leask, Atkinson and Wilson

Mr. Brian Speagle in the Chair.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by – Member Williams
Seconded by – Member Dimitry

That the Leash Free Dog Park Ad Hoc Committee agenda of July 21, 2008 be approved.

.Carried

MINUTES

Moved by – Member Dimitry
Seconded by – Member Williams

That the minutes of the Leash Free Dog Park Ad Hoc Committee meeting of July 7, 2008 be approved.

.Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. The Recreation Programs Manager reported that in the July 7, 2008 meeting minutes, under Maintenance and Liability, the last line should read "The Recreation Programs Manager reported that she has been in contact with the County legal department and will be providing a copy of the City of Brantford's agreement with Dogford Park, once it is obtained, for their reference."
2. The Recreation Programs Manager distributed the County of Brant's copy of the 2008 Industrial Directory and flagged local businesses that may assist with funding for the leash free dog park in Paris. Member Dimitry indicated that she would follow-up with those businesses.

Revised Seed Money Proposal

Member Dimitry reported that she met with the Recreation Programs Manager and that the seed money proposal has been amended.

Maintenance and Liability Issues

The Recreation Programs Manager advised that she has been and will continue attempting to contact the City of Brantford Parks and Recreation regarding insurance liability information and request a copy of their current agreement with Dogford Park to forward to the Committee.

Discussion was held regarding liability issues. It was noted that the Leash Free Dog Park Ad Hoc Committee whether appointed by the County of Brant Council or appointed as volunteers of the County are covered by the County's liability insurance. Currently, Paris Association of Dog owners (P.A.D.), is not appointed by Council or appointed as volunteers to the County and is thereby not covered by the County insurance.

REPORTS

Discussion was held regarding the size required for a leash free dog park, fencing estimates, and appropriate fencing and locations, with Green Lane Park being the preferred choice.

The Recreation Programs Manager suggested that the Committee submit a recommendation including a detailed budget report, maintenance and liability issues, advantages and disadvantages of the preferred locations, and partnership options that are available, including a power point presentation to the Parks and Recreation Committee at the September 23, 2008 Emergency Services meeting to ensure that it be included in the County of Brant 2009 capital budget deliberations. It was suggested that the Committee present information to the Paris Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee September 9, 2008, prior to the Emergency Services meeting. It was noted that County of Brant staff require the recommendation by Thursday September 4, 2008 at noon.

It was suggested that the Committee tour the Green Lane Park and Woodslee Avenue sites and the Recreation Programs Manager agreed to follow-up with Darin Ayres, Paris Arena and Parks Manager regarding a site tour date.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Information regarding Cambridge Dog Park – It was suggested that a copy be sent to each member.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Member Williams suggested that the Committee contact Kevin Feagen in Oshawa for further information pertaining to liability issues involving dog parks.
2. The Chair reported that the Doggy Pool Pizza Party will be held the last day of the Paris pool operation, Friday August 29, 2008, 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m. Member Dimitry inquired if Saturday August 30, 2008 could be considered as the date for the Doggy Pizza Pool Party in attempt to draw a larger crowd and the Recreation Programs

Manager agreed to investigate. The Chair distributed a draft copy of an advertising flyer and noted that Dwayne Budgell has agreed to assume the cost of the flyers. He reported that he has secured sponsorship for 10-15 large pizzas for the party. The Recreation Programs Manager reported that the pet food and supply store By Amelia in Paris has agreed to assist by donating a basket and dog treats and requested that the By Amelia logo be included on the flyer. In response to a question, the Recreation Programs Manager reported that only dog owners' children are allowed in the pool area and all available pool staff will be on duty that day. Prizes will be awarded for events in the water and a donation to P.A.D. will be requested in lieu of a pool admission fee.

ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 8:00 p.m. on a motion of Member Dimitry and Williams. The next meeting is to be determined by the Chair.

Secretary