

Dog Park Feasibility Study Committee
July 10, 2018
Select Board Meeting Room

Attendees:

Susanne Jarnyrd
Tom McKean
Deborah Richardson
Don Shobrys
Bob Schulman
Kate Stout
Jeff Young
Anne Umphrey

The meeting was called to order at 5:40. The minutes from the meeting of June 7 were unanimously approved.

The meeting began with a review of our charter. Tom informed us that the Town is going forward with the purchase of the Gerow property for recreational use.

We had a discussion on the content of our final report that suggested the following outline. Materials already developed by the committee that are relevant to each section are noted in parenthesis.

- Executive Summary
- Committee Charter
- Summary of the committee's activities (Anne's summary at the public hearing)
- Past and current public comment and desire for a dog park (summary of feedback from Jeff's survey and the Public hearing)
- Best practices around dog park amenities and design (Don's write up from earlier this year)
- Dog park development and maintenance costs (Jeff's estimates)
- Review of available spaces in Concord (Susanne's presentation)
- Public education for dog owners and non dog owners
- Committee recommendations
- Appendix: Information sources used by the committee

We then discussed whether additional surveys would get a response. There is interest in Concord in dog related issues, as evidenced by the response to Jeff Young's petition and survey, and the vote at the Town Meeting. Each of these had hundreds of respondents. The committee did make a diligent effort to publicize our public hearing, yet we had only 35 attendees, only 19 members of the public offered comments, and only 4 filled out the survey form.

Jeff will draft a letter to the Editor of the Concord Journal with a midcourse update and a request for additional input with an email address for responses.

Any committee members making future visits to dog park will take pictures and provide brief reports to the committee.

We then defined a target timeline for completing our efforts. Our goal is to get a draft report to Select Board by 9/4 and make an initial presentation in their meeting on 9/10 by 9/4. Our final public hearing will be 10/17. The final report to will be delivered to the Select Board in early December (around 12/3) for presentation at their next meeting after that date.

Our next two meetings will be at 5:30 on July 24 and August 7.

The agenda for next meeting is to finalize the report outline.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00