

## **AMHERST DOG PARK TASK FORCE**

### Meeting #12

6:00 PM, Tuesday, September 11, 2018.

Town Room, Townhall.

### Present:

Jim Pistrang

Ellen Keiter

Mike Chesworth

Gina Fusco

Kaye Sherwood

Jack Jemsek

Ana Devlin Gauthier

Carol Hepburn

Peter Wells

Dave Ziomek

### **Agenda**

Approve minutes from last meeting. Moved. Approved.

### Project Update

DZ: Stanton Foundation monthly report update has been sent.

Contract to be final with BD

Gillford Mooring, DPW head, and I are working to assess the landfill site. Hopefully assessment cost will be less than budgeted

Solar work continuing at new landfill by Cypress Creek

Co. Need to determine how this project meshes with us, DEP, and Heritage.

GF: There will be a meeting with Kestrel Trust tomorrow regarding its involvement

### Design Review

Peter Wells: We reviewed comments from Stanton.

Drew up revised plan.

Survey crew did the final survey of the lot.

New measure for grade differential from top of our site to the road equals 10 feet.

DZ: Heritage wants birds on the ground be unable to see people in the park.

PW: Thus 10 feet. Feels that is sufficient.

DZ: We should put stakes out on the lot to confirm for Heritage.

PW shows us aerial photos, topographic map, site photos, first design map.

PW: Presents revised design:

Rice stone and grass for two surfaces. Turf will be too expensive.

Leveling will need to be done with fill to accommodate rice stone

0.3 acre small dog area

0.9 acre large dog area

Asphalt pad around water facility for ease of cleaning and to avoid mud

Possibly if total site fill is 4ft. deep we could plant trees for shade

JP: Saplings = no shade so still need shade structures.

GF: Note that there is a SMALL DOG area and a LARGE DOG area (not ALL DOG area)

PW: We still need to check with Wetland Conservation Commission to deal with pond buffer zone across the street and northern buffer from that wetland

Overall the design is similar in concept to the first design with materials changes.

We will look for donations of landfill.

Topsoil needs are reduced thanks to the rice stone.

Walkways will be asphalt. Good for ADA, weathering, and cost.

Suggestion for brick pavers at entrance. Could be "Buy a brick" memorial type thing (free)

GF: Tick barrier?

PW: Doable. A matter of cost. gravel skirt or some such.

GF: Can we use the small trees at the south/street point of the park to try to get as much space as possible?

PW: The existing trees won't provide much shade. They are outside the fence at this point.

DEP will be contacted regarding planting trees on this site.

DZ: Proposes a meeting at the site next week if stakes can be put in by Berkshire Design surveyors

PW: Once design is approved, a grading plan will come first.

Move to approve this preliminary conceptual design from PW and BD. Approved unanimously.

ALL: Thank you, Peter Wells

### UMass Civic Engagement Course

JJ: Received an email from a class run by C. Brooks re. opportunity to have three students for two months work on parts/puzzles to supplement our project.

Brainstorming possible supplements they could work on:

Compost/recycling/removing of dog waste.

- How much waste will be produced?
- Local farms/avenues to compost?
- Types of bags

Storm water management

Shade structure designs

### Public comment

None

## Other items not anticipated by the chair

JP: What's the timeline of duties shared with/requested from the town? We need a memo of understanding.

DZ: We need to keep Heritage happy regarding the other ongoing projects offsetting our park. We need the conservation restriction. Need to be in synch with the solar project.

Construction grant to be applied for this Fall

Bids can go out January

Stanton wants bids along with construction grant application.

Memo of understanding with town

- Need to research a boilerplate from another town and its dog park

- Then negotiate with our town

DZ: Fundraising must be kickstarted.

PW: Donations would be great: Boulders, fill, etc.

- Oxford MA dog park is good to look at. Great committee.

## Set next meeting date

Tentative: October 30, 6pm

Move to adjourn. So moved, unanimously.

ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN:

BD to put stakes out on lot

JJ will prepare paragraph with ADG to give to class to start the off

PW: We need consents on this prelim design from Heritage, DPW, DEP, CONSERV COMM

GF: Sign for site at dog park(?)