

AMHERST DOG PARK TASK FORCE
Meeting #7

6:00 PM, Tuesday, February 27, 2018. Town room, Town Hall.

Present:

Jim Pistrang
Mike Chesworth
Ellen Keiter
Jack Jemsek
Kaye Sherwood (formerly Dougan)
Gina Fusco
Dave Ziomek (Assistant Town Manager)

Arriving at 7:00pm
Ted Diamond

Agenda

Approve minutes from last meeting

- A correction to the date.
- Moved, 2nd, Approved unanimously.

Update and follow-up on CPA funding

Town Meeting presentation

- TM can approve, disapprove or reduce CPA money
- Need a presentation
- Date TBD, but sometime in the beginning of May

Public comment on site location

- No comments

Update on Stanton Design Grant application

DZ: - We need a conceptual design and cost estimate
- Met Friday 23 Feb with P. Wells, town engineer J.

Skeels(sp?)

- Review of soil and ground capabilities and issues
- Need to meet with DPW
- Discussed Peter Wells' preliminary design ideas & budget
- Will meet with Nation Heritage Program next week regarding using old landfill for our dog park

JJ: Refuse under the proposed site?

DZ: Our site is the old "stump dump," now capped like the rest of the landfill

JP: Timeline? Can we submit to Stanton in March?

DZ: Yes, our goal is to submit late March. This is realistic.

- Will meet with DPW re: site analysis post closure use test.

Friends Group - best strategy for organization

JP: Lawyer he spoke with adamantly urged not to go alone registering as 501C3 non-profit.

Asking another already-registered entity to take us in as a part of them would be best

Maybe the Dakin Organization?

Perhaps the Kestral Trust?

KS will contact K. DeBore, Kestral Trust

MC will speak with the Dakin, Corrina King or head of development

JP will speak with another lawyer for a second

opinion

Rules subcommittee - Nina, Ted, Carol, Jack, Kaye (volunteering now), JP (at-large)

- set a time to meet & present a proposal to task force

Sustainability subcommittee - Mike, Ana, Carol, JP

- Set a time to meet & discuss MOU, town responsibilities
- Research what other towns do for: Mowing, trash, poop bags, waste removal, plowing in winter, water costs
- MC will research these with other towns

Public comment on other items

Public Attendee: Who are the Friends of the Dog Park Group?

JP: A separate non-profit entity to support and sustain the dog park

Public Attendee: Why has this taken so long for a dog park to come to Amherst?

DZ: The town has so many open trails, it was never a priority

Public Attendee: She has found in other places the creation of a dog park promotes community and is very positive

Items not anticipated...

- Rules Subcommittee will meet 20 March, 6pm

Set next meeting date

Next ADPTF Meeting #8 will be Tuesday 27 March, at 7pm.

Adjourn

Moved, 2nd, Approved unanimously.

ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN:

KS will contact K. DeBore, Kestral Trust

MC will speak with the Dakin

JP will speak with another lawyer for a second opinion

MC will research sustainability, Greenfield, Holyoke,
Granby

- Ask about bags