

SLDogPAC board meeting

12.10.13 – 61 W. 15th St.

Present: Doug Freymann, Pamela Focia, Erin Russell

Minutes

1. Board Business

- *Approval of November Minutes (11.15.13) – passed 3:0.*
- *The Board gratefully accepted the resignation of member Gordon Stewart*
- *Erin Russell nominated and agreed to serve as Secretary – passed 3:0.*

2. Mutt Meet-Ups at DoGone Fun!

- *January Event with doggyloot –
Planned for Sunday, January 12. We agree to promote and attend the event.
Publicity being worked out – Pam will update and we'll get a Fetch! out
beforehand.*
- *Winter Meet-Ups –
Pam is coordinating. Likely to begin late January or early February. We'll work
with DogoneFun!, hopefully to provide room as an in-kind donation to support
SLDogPAC.
Suggestion that we should invite Fido-to-Go.
Suggestion to ask for \$5 donation at the door. Details to follow.
Mention of Chicago Party Animals in the West Loop for future events?*

3. Social Involvement

- *Erin has/will post pictures of the 'local' dogs on the d'Angelo DFA bulletin
board. How best to get pictures of dogs at the other parks?*
- *Decision to start weekly 'South Loop Dog of the Week' post on Facebook. Doug
to coordinate. Erin to start supplying photos.*
- *Future event proposal: Lake Front Dog Walk.*

4. Business/Alderman Outreach

- *Dowell Fundraiser – Erin will attend, if possible.*
- *Planned – Pam to draft letter to the Alderman Dowell thanking her effort re
CPDR Improvements.*
- *FOTP – Approval of \$50 for Park Advisory Committee membership: passed 3:0*
- *Window Clings distribution – Pam to follow-up with Gordon about the window
clings he still has, so that we can distribute them.*
- *QDP Membership – Pam to follow-up with Gordon about promised
documentation of QDP in-kind contributions towards Business Membership.*
- *South Loop Brewery – Doug to follow up with their contact; are they providing
a dog-friendly space?*
- *Doug to follow up with Ward 4 contact re meeting to discuss Grant Bark Park.*

5. Park Business

- **CPDR**
*Issues remaining include: cutting down the 'stupid rock underfoot' located
next to the south entrance; installation of posts to support a bulletin board;
maintenance of the artificial grass surface. Pam is in contact with CPD about
these issues; don't expect action until Spring.*
- **d'Angelo DFA**
235 WVB has withdrawn support for the DFA. Funds (\$200K) that we have been

told for two years were being held in escrow for park maintenance are nowhere to be found; liaison Leslie Recht is no longer communicative about the status of the funds.

SLDogPAC will FOIA the issue (to be submitted to the Dept. of Housing and Economic Development).

Infrastructure not yet complete – need a storage box on site for equipment; also, need to investigate the ‘pea gravel’ and underlying stone, as we are getting reports that this is hurting dogs.

6. Snow Issues

- *Are there any legal issues re snow cleanup at the parks? Doug will raise with Janis Taylor of CPD.*
- *Erin to get boxes of kitty litter to distribute at the parks for ice issues. We should provide guidance (e.g. ‘don’t shovel, use kitty litter’).*

7. Fetch!

- *Fetch topics discussed.*
- *Need to draft letter informing Members that donations are tax-deductible.*
- *Erin to be given Admin access to Facebook page.*

8. Mission

- *Discussion of SLDogPAC mission. The oft-repeated concern from park users– ‘What does the PAC do?’. Erin noted that we need to provide ‘tasty bites’ even as we are ‘making sausage’; need for events; the critical role played by donuts.*
- *Dog Politics as a theme. Can we make ‘dog politics’ a motif in everything we do; consider as layers: me/my dog; activity in the dog park; dog owners/non-dog owners; dog community/city. Approval to develop this theme, vote 3:0.*
- *Erin to coordinate copywriting efforts to articulate the theme. Also, could consider small changes to logo to introduce political element. ‘Puggle power’, improved graphic. Erin to coordinate graphic designer efforts.*
- *Conflict Resources. We should setup to provide forms that people can use when there is a dog conflict at the park. Provide information about what to do, and information that should be recorded and/or provided. Agreement to setup a sign with the information, include a QR code to a web form that facilitates park users notifying police (with a notification to SLDogPAC).*
 - *Get material assembled by Gordon*
 - *Pam has a link to information that we can use, and will provide.*
 - *Will need a box with forms at the parks, and to setup a submission form online.*
- *Consider revising the Mission Statement as we develop these ideas.*

9. Next Meeting

- *Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday January 14th [note: rescheduled for 2/20/14]*