

November Board Meeting
November 26, 2012
Overflow Coffee

In Attendance: Pam Focia, Doug Freymann, Gordon Stewart, Kirsten Agnello-Dean; also Michael Liposak of D'Angello Park, Billy Sunday of Montrose Dog Beach, and Jeanette Johnson of Greater South Loop Association.

1. DFA Issues and Education for D'Angelo Park

- What they need to do: Find a President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Clean up parks (power washing, gravel cleaning), supply poop bags, etc. Dog Tag Compliance Enforcement – DFA is not responsible. Rules for DFAs are on our website. Doug to email Mike information.
- Possible partnership?
- December 4th, 7pm, at Harold Washington Library, Room 8S, board meeting for D'Angelo Park with Leslie Recht. Would we like to attend?
- Doug to create page for their park on SouthLoopDogPAC.org

2. Holiday Event and/or Fundraising (Kirsten)

- December event? January?
- Is DoGone Fun Training Room available on Sunday, December 30th? January 6th? (Gordon is gone 12/29-1/17)
- Event location Ideas: DoGone Fun, Animal Training Academy, Metro Vet? (do they have space), Soggy Paws? (Kirsten to email Katie)
- Do we have an actual fundraiser event? \$25 donation with proceeds to a current cause. Vendors?
- Can Fioretti open up the Fred Anderson space for a winter event? Have vendors? Decorate fence, sidewalk party?
- Have a photo area for pay for dog photos?
- Doug suggests – Create a low cost event. Would rather have activities to pay for (treat table, photographer station) and no entry fee or suggested donation.

3. Coliseum Park (Gordon)

a. cleanup

Scheduling? Not in the winter. Will schedule in future – TBD.
To do over winter: Monitor icing. Provide sand.

b. Dowell's plans (Pam)

- Latest: Alderman Dowell is trying to find funding and had to wait for a council meeting. Community meeting to be scheduled in December. She said she has never promised to share the plans with the Dog PAC before the public meeting.
- Should we waste time making improvements there now? Gordon suggests that frequent users of Coliseum Park have suggested we do our own fundraising for improvements.

- Step one: promote upcoming community meeting?
- Gail Merrit was coordinator for Greener South Loop Alliance project.

Possible contact? Jeanette suggests we talk with Deb Seilig from GSLA about working with Alderman Dowell to move things forward, ask her “how do we work together?”

4. Fred Anderson Park (Pam/Doug)

- 4 million dollar budget
- Total park is ~1.1 acre, dog park is about 45% of this area. Small dog area about 5000 sq. feet, large dog area is about 13,000 square feet: total is about the size of Grant Bark Park. Concrete and faux turf (possibly Perfect Turf), mostly concrete. Board feels there is not enough faux turf.
- Water run outs have a button you can push to start water.
- We need to make an argument about the cost of adding more turf and removing some concrete (the Park District argues concrete is better than asphalt).
- There will be an alley entrance into the large dog area.
- The entrance between the small and large dog area will only be for maintenance and will be locked and not available for dog passage.
- Pam raised concerns about a water feature. Could we get more faux turf if the water feature was smaller?
- Next step: The board should give Michael Lange feedback – less concrete and more faux turf.

5. T-Shirt Accounting (Gordon)

- Gordon sent email with breakdown of remaining t-shirts. Needs to submit receipts for May and July T-shirt purchases to complete the reconciliation.

6. Misc. Business

- Brick campaign – as of now, a failure. How to move forward?
- Membership Campaign for 2013 tied with decal campaign. Start thinking.
- Gordon has discarded metal signs from the city. Need to decide designs and get printed/wraps.
- Holiday Fetch:
 - *Don't forget us in your holiday gift giving (Amazon wish list?)
 - *Holiday/Winter Event?
 - *Holiday safety hazards
 - *Bricks
 - *GSLA Holiday Event (12/11)
- Social Media to do:
 - Post pictures to facebook of dogs are forever (kids and puppies – dogs and adults)

7. Education and Networking

-Billy brings up education issues we should be pushing. How can we have training opportunities? Summer at the Montrose Dog Beach was "horrendous".

-How can we network all the Chicago dog parks?

Intent: we should all know each other, share best practices, stronger voice dealing with the city, education. We need an organizer.

2013 DFA Summit? Feb/March?

*Each dog park shares a topic they're best at?

*Dog people DFA organized (not park district)

*Ideas (Kirsten): Fee to attend, build a website for it, catered, charge an admission fee? Business sponsors can have a table, and then open it up to additional sponsors.

*First should be to solidify ourselves (all DFA boards) as a group, and then long term to offer education opportunities (dog training, social media help, etc).

8. Maxwell Street Event

-Gordon and Kirsten to judge Maxwell Street Market Dog Costume Event on 12/9.

-Kirsten to purchase gift basket, \$25-\$30 plus t-shirt.

9. Board transitions

The SLDogPAC board acknowledges the resignations of board members Elizabeth Tyson (Secretary) and Sarah Tipple (Treasurer), and thanks them for their contributions.

11/28/12, rev 11/30/12. 12/5/12