

SOUTH LOOP DOG PAC BOARD MEETING

SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

PRESENT: Doug Freymann, Pamela Focia, Lynda Young, Gordon Stewart; ABSENT: Juli Valdez, Kate Currin.

MINUTES

AUGUST MINUTES:

Approved 4:0

DOG POO BAGS ORDER

Usage is on track with last year's numbers; average usage is ~29 bags/day at both GBP and CPDR. Order for 10k additional bags proposed, ~\$313, from dogpoopbags.com.

Approved 4:0. **Doug** will place order.

BOARD TRANSITIONS

After over four years of service to the South Loop Dog PAC, and per the term-limit agreement in the ByLaws of the SLDogPAC, board member Lynda Young will be resigning at the end of the year.

GRAVEL FENCING AT GBP

Pam reports that she has requested sample swatches of different mesh densities. Once these are evaluated she will place the order. Expected arrival should be before the GBP clean-up date.

GBP CLEANUP

Finalized scheduled date of **Saturday October 8th, 8:00AM**

Pam will check with the Chicago Park District re water availability, and with the CPD service building re access to the electrical outlet on the exterior north side of the building.

The following tasks are proposed – to be reviewed and prioritized:

- Gravel fencing up
- Paint yellow arrows to locate the drains when they are under snow/ice. (Lynda will supply yellow outdoors paint.)
- Pick up poo.
- Clean the brick area of weeds
- Remove the 'donation bones' to allow re-painting of the board and installation of the big 'Gail Merritt' bone.
- Cleanup outside the dog-park area
- Trim trees (this will require a 'tree lopper')
- Fix fence wiring that has bent out of shape
- Sweep up the GBP area generally.

Immediate goals:

- A. Prioritize this list;
- B. Estimate how many people will be required to complete these tasks in a reasonable amount of time.

We expect that coffee and donuts will be supplied (**Pam** to contact Soggy Paws). **Lynda** will

coordinate volunteer recruitment (DogoneFun, volunteer service, etc...). **Lynda** will design a recruitment/notification sign for posting at the park and in the South Loop.

T-SHIRTS

The board agreed to Gordon's proposal to print SLDogPAC T-shirts. T-shirts to be sold at events, and/or distributed as a member benefit in 2012. Gordon has a contact who will serve as supplier.

Agreed on the concept of 'running dogs/SLDogPAC' in front, 'running dogs/Chicago skyline/website' on back. **Lynda** agreed to coordinate design. **Doug** will provide vectorized graphics. **Gordon** will get information from the vendor about the file format, # of colors, and costs.

Once the design is assembled it will be submitted to the board for approval, and Gordon will request a quote for approval and go-ahead from the board.

A long term proposal is to coordinate with other Chicago DFAs to create 'DFA chapter' shirts that share a common design (e.g. Chicago and dogs as a common element, with a unique graphic identifying the individual group). It was suggested that we look into hats, too.

INSURANCE AS A 'BENEFIT'

The notion of offering some sort of affiliated insurance coverage to members was considered briefly. This would take some work to figure out – feasibility, cost, etc. Might be a 'long-term' idea.

QUARTERLY BYOB DOG PARTY PROPOSAL

Pam will look into venue, costs, and planning for a **BYOB Dog Party** for the South Loop Dog Community. The idea of the party is to offer an event where people can socialize along with their dogs in a safe (warm) place and to promote communication among dog owners in the area. It was felt that an event that allows dogs is better for the cause than an event held at a bar and grill (as has been done in previous years).

The goal is to have something planned by January.

WHITE BOARD AT GBP PROPOSAL

Gordon proposes installation of a white board at GBP, to be mounted at the south gate for easy and in-your-face communication of matters arising. The cost for parts is estimated ~<\$100. Tabled for future consideration.

DFA COMMITTEES MEETING PROGRESS

Doug is still trying to organize a meeting of Chicago DFA committees. Lynda suggested her condo party room as a venue.

BETTER POOLS PROPOSAL

Gordon proposed that sturdier pools might be available ('large blue tubs'). He will look into it. It was noted that the kiddie pools are controversial, and it's essential that pool sanitation be a priority.

16TH/WABASH DOG PARK ISSUES DISCUSSION

Pam and Gordon, as members of the 16TH/WABASH DOG PARK committee, presented issues that continue to concern them. Issues included:

- Perfect Turf as a dog-friendly surface.

- Issues regarding the use of TIF funds.

- Improving the relationship with the Alderman.

Open lots as dog parks city-wide.

The committee will be putting up signs at the 16th/Wabash location, and following up with direct contact to the Aldermans' office, in order to coordinate a meeting of the Committee with CPD and Aldermanic representatives in the near future.

Events suggest that the primary contact may/should be Beth Tomlins at the Chicago Park District (rather than Leslie Recht with Fioretti). Pam noted that Alderman Fioretti's representative Leslie Recht has not responded to emails for some time.

Those interested in helping should contact the committee at the new phone # **630-796-0817**.

MEETING DATES

Decided to facilitate scheduling by committing to holding SLDogPAC board meetings during the third week of every month.

Next meeting scheduled for **Monday October 17th**. Time/Location TBD.

- dmf 9.28.11