

**SOUTH LOOP DOG PAC**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**

6pm, Monday, January 25, 2016, 61 W 15<sup>th</sup> St.

Board members - Doug Freymann, Pamela Focia, Dennis Kalup

Also - Steve Pfeifenroth

1. AGENDA REVIEW:
  - a. Financial update
  - b. Contacts/Board Interest
  - c. Outreach issues
  - d. Mutt Meetups
  - e. Spring Events
  - f. Sound system at Fred
  - g. Winter cleanup issues
  - h. Condo contributions
  - i. Stripe for payments
  
2. FINANCIAL UPDATE
  - a. 2015 Income (Membership + Donations) total: \$4355
    - i. Membership support increased this year, which is good!
    - ii. Donations for events and operations also significant.
  - b. 2015 Expenses (Fundraising \$351, Management (primarily insurance) \$1692, Operations \$2172) total: \$4332
    - i. Distribution of expenses is good (i.e. 50% to operations)
    - ii. Poo bags expenses: \$1238 for the year. That's a lot of bags!
  - c. 2015 Net Income \$22.82
    - i. The first net income year over the last 6 years. This is good.
  - d. 2015 year-end balance \$9238 (\$6143 in Savings, remainder in Operating accounts)
  
3. BOARD INTEREST
  - a. Brief discussion of the state of the SLDogPAC board, and need for more board members!
  - b. Contacts from mid-2015 have not followed up.
  - c. *Do: Reach out again to people who have expressed interest, to attend the next board meeting.*
  
4. OUTREACH ISSUES
  - a. Many dog owners who use area parks do not take their dogs to the dog parks (e.g. if reactive, or if human-focused, etc).
  - b. Steve reports a lot of dog poo complaints at Cottontail Park.
  - c. Question: how can non-DFA users find out about SLDogPAC &/or South Loop dog community issues?
  - d. Possible informal 'meet SLDogPAC' type events in area parks? (i.e. expand beyond our Facebook page + DFA bulletin boards).
  - e. *Do: see 'Events' below.*
  - f. Need to update our business card and distribution materials.
  - g. *Do: DMF will update the 'where are the dog parks' postcard for 2016 + add SLDogPAC information (rather than rules & regs) on the back side. Need this done by early spring. Could use VistaPrint or, locally, Indigo Printing.*

- h. *Do: DK to look into updating business card with logo & etc. Same.*
- i. *Do: DMF - continue developing membership card idea.*

5. MUTT MEETUPS

- a. First 2016 Mutt Meetup scheduled for **Sunday February 28<sup>th</sup>** 12-2pm at Dogone Fun!
- b. March dates TBD (proposed March 13<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>, to be confirmed)
- c. *Do: PJF is organizing the Mutt Meetups*
- d. *Do: Fetch!/Facebook/Signage Announcements to go out.*

6. SPRING/SUMMER EVENT PLANNING

- a. **Mutt Meetups** – February/March (above)
- b. **Vice Event** – May
  - i. *Do: DK will coordinate with Vice to schedule for May.*
  - ii. Longer term – both MetroVet and SLAH have indicated that they would support an SLDogPAC event at Vice (e.g. to help pay room rental costs). Begin planning events every other month or so, preferably with support of local businesses/groups.
  - iii. *Do: Need to begin hinting at this upcoming event in Fetch!/Facebook.*
- c. Big dog-centric event at FAN - June
  - i. Consensus to organize a big dog-centric event at Fred Anderson Park performance area in June. **'Summer Beach Party'** or something?
  - ii. Coordinate with West Town Walkers and SLAH to set this up.
  - iii. Planning to begin / date to be chosen, over the next couple of months (probably should be settled by April).
- d. **Yappy hour** – late June + ongoing over the summer
  - i. DK proposes monthly Friday-afternoon yappy hour to sit and meet with DFA or park users to talk about SLDogPAC/dog community stuff. This is a great idea. To start in May.
- e. Need to get permits submitted
  - i. Agreement last year that we should start working on permit (& etc) paperwork early in the year. This year, we are proposing two big events at FAN ('Beach Party' and 'Wiggles & Giggles').
  - ii. *Do: Settle on dates for both, soon; arrange FANPAC support for these events, soon; and, organize permit submissions, soon.*
  - iii. Goal is to eliminate 'permit-drama' this year!

7. SOUND SYSTEM AT FRED

- a. Proposal to purchase a battery operated portable sound system to facilitate performance space usage at FAN. FANPAC (Fred Anderson PAC) has no funds. Cost of a useful system would be ~\$900.
- b. Consensus reached that this would be very useful, and we should pursue.
  - i. Would make the performance space useful for SLDogPAC events at FAN, and would support participation of community groups.
  - ii. Would facilitate communication at SLDogPAC events at area parks (as a portable system) and park cleanups.
  - iii. Could be rented out to area businesses and groups to recoup costs.
  - iv. Issue of managing access to the system, storage, warranty & etc.
- c. PJF has information and will assemble a proposal.

- d. Possibility of FANPAC purchasing a 'share' of the system. A CPD/Parks proposal submission for funding deadline in the first week of February.
- e. *Do: Encourage FANPAC submission of a funding proposal.*
- f. *Do: Finalize details by early Spring so that the system is available for late Spring/Summer events.*

#### 8. WINTER CLEANUP ISSUES

- a. *Do: contact Jerry about the leaf-blower so we can clean up CPDR.*
- b. *Do: purchase a weed-whacker (discussed and approved at previous meeting).*
- c. Proposal to use a shopvac to clean up dog poo from the artificial turf was discussed briefly. Might be worth trying – but need a long extension cord to reach the 'electrical vault' at FAN. We may not have electrical power at CPDR – need to followup.
- d. Longer term, we need to address the 'winter-clean-up problem' at FAN (summer is not an issue because of the automatic watering system). Possibility of:
  - i. Hiring an artificial-turf cleanup service periodically.
    - 1. Pam reports that the new west-loop Skinner Bark Park has adopted this approach.
  - ii. Purchasing 'professional' dog-turf cleanup equipment.
  - iii. *Do: PJF to followup with turf vendor for specific recommendations.*

#### 9. CONDO CONTRIBUTIONS

- a. 235 WVB contributed support for 10K poo bags at DAP (which is 'their' DFA). Thank you!
- b. Discussion of support from other condo buildings that overlook FAN and CPDR. Possible followup with 1620 S. Michigan (they provide their own bags at their back door), and 1720 S. Michigan.
- c. 14<sup>th</sup>/State condo building across from CPDR another possibility, but 'unlikely' to provide support?
- d. At DAP, possibly the nearby Vetro building could contribute?
- e. Also could consider asking Acadia for support – either for poo bags, or for periodic cleanup at the park.
- f. *Do: PJF to reach out to the neighboring condo buildings about support. (FANPAC board members living in these buildings may be helpful, as well.)*
- g. *Do: PJF will reach out again to Lollapalooza for support at GBP.*

#### 10. STRIPE FOR PAYMENTS

- a. Proposal to migrate from PayPal to Stripe for membership payments discussed. Would require upgrading our web-hosting service with SSL, which will cost ~\$100/yr (current hosting costs are ~\$120/yr).
- b. Approved: 3:0
- c. *Do: DMF to upgrade to SSL and implement Stripe.*