

# **SOUTH LOOP DOG PAC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2011**

Meeting held at 61 W. 15<sup>th</sup> St.

*Present:* Wendy Ito, Stephanie Daugherty, Doug Freymann, Pamela Focia; *Absent:* Lynda Young, Juli Valdez

## **A) ADMINISTRATIVE**

- March Minutes approved 3:0:1
- The IRS 990-N form and the Illinois AG 990-IL forms for 2010 have been submitted.
- Refund of the \$1500 deposit we were required to pay the Chicago Park District for the gravel delivery is still 'in the works' [received, finally 7.6.11].
- Stephanie will deposit membership & donation checks.

## **B) PENDING ITEMS**

- Completed 6.16.11 - *Installation of bulletin board at GBP.*
- Completed 6.16.11 - *FOIA request for the original GBP construction documents. Total construction costs for GBP per Chicago Park District documents was \$259, 923.*
- Completed 6.21.11 – *Posting Pam’s GSLA presentation re 16<sup>th</sup>/Wabash on our website. Blog post at <http://bit.ly/jk2ZN>*
- In progress - *We need to be sure that maintenance/landscaping knows about the installation of landscape cloth at GBP. Pam reports that landscape cloth for the west fence will cost us \$400.00. We will make a decision to purchase in July.*
- In progress - *Website survey for park users (CPDR specifics as above; also regarding membership and involvement). Using a QR code simplifies user access to the online survey when at the park. The 'Kiddie Pool' survey was hand-transcribed for reporting. Going forward, the best approach would be to obtain a SurveyMonkey (or like) account, and begin using it routinely for user surveys. A non-profit account would cost ~\$200/yr. Decision to be made in July.*
- In progress – *Monthly park presence scheduling. However, the last 'park table' was held on May 1<sup>st</sup>.*
- Not done yet - *Contact Café Society &/or Donn’s re holding an outdoor dog-friendly membership party. Wendy Ito indicated that she can check with Donna’s about this.*
- Not done yet - *Juli to reach out to Condo Associations in the South Loop to ask for donations and/or membership support.*
- Not done yet - *Lynda will get the contact information for the various park advisory committees (re: Bag Dispensers in Other Parks).*
- Not done yet - *Lynda to contact a 'realtor friend' to provide a contact list for area condominium buildings.*

- Not done yet - *Arrange to get a new shed for Grant Bark Park.* Note that a new shed will cost \$\$.
- Not done yet - *We will ask users to text SLDogPAC about trash issues, and we will forward the request to Jackie or Lauren for action.*
- Not done yet - *Coordinate meeting of Coliseum Park Users; determine support for Poop911 cleanup; support for 'gravel pockets' reconfiguration.*

### C) **BYLAWS REVISION**

- The Amended and Restated ByLaws of the SLDogPAC distributed on 6.1.11 were approved 4:0 and adopted. They are now available online (at <http://bit.ly/of4xnS>). Changed are Section 1.3 (Service Area), Section 3.2 (Number, Election and Term of Office), and added are Section 3.13 (Participation) and Section 3.14 (Term Limits).

The latter Section, which incorporates changes initially approved in November, 2008, limits members to four (4) consecutive years of service on the board of the South Loop Dog PAC.

- Board Member attrition and the impact of term limits will cause significant issues over the next several months. Stephanie Daugherty indicated that July will be her last month on the board; Wendy Ito indicated that she will remain through July; Lynda Young will have served for four years in September.

**Board member recruitment remains a critical issue.**

### F) **MEMBERSHIP**

- The board agreed tentatively to schedule a public membership meeting for the end of July. Due to other commitments, planning and publicity for the meeting will have to begin in early July.

We will ask Jackie Guthrie and Lauren Polinsky of the CPD to participate in the meeting.

### E) **OUTREACH**

- The issue of organizing 'dog information sessions' for condos and rentals in the South Loop was discussed. However, as a board we currently do not have enough resources to put something like this together (see '*Pending Items*' above!), nor is it clear whether the return on effort would be sufficient.

On the other hand, a meeting with residents of 1401 S. State might be beneficial to everyone in the neighborhood. We will return to the issue in July.

It might be better 'if we had a packet' for distribution – but, again, this idea has been tossed around for years, and has not had sufficient impetus to happen.

- The Ward 02 Alderman's office has forwarded dog-poo complaints to us a couple of times over the last few months. The board's consensus is that a program is available to raise visibility and promote compliance – PooFreeParks. If the Alderman's office wishes to address the issue, **it should be actively helping us to move that program forward.**

Stephanie pointed out that PooFreeParks is an 'obvious plus', and Wendy noted that Las Vegas provides a model for business support for dispensers.

- Wendy emphasized that given the transitions occurring at the City and Chicago Park District it's particularly critical that we keep in touch with CPD personnel about DFA issues on an ongoing basis.

#### **F) DOG PARK ISSUES**

- Park improvements, gravel area reconfiguration, clean-up planning, and banners and signage design were all tabled until the July meeting.
- The bag dispenser program continues to be working well.

#### **E) NEXT MEETING**

- The next SLDogPAC board meeting is scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup>. Location to be announced.

draft – 7.7.11  
dmf