

## **South Loop Dog Park Action Cooperative Annual Community Meeting Minutes 4/22/10**

Meeting started at 6:45pm.

- **Introductions-** Doug Freymann, President introduced the boards meetings, Lynda Young, Deborah Perry, Stephanie Daugherty, Barbara Perez, Treasurer, and absent Wendy Ito.
- **History/Role of SLDogPAC-** in 2001 committee was organized by Gail Merritt passed president, worked with Chicago Park District to raise \$75K of funds needed to build Grant Bark Park. In 2005 SLD PAC became an independent 501K organization. In July 2006, Grant Bark Park opened. The organization role was to promote responsible dog ownership and have a dog friendly South Loop neighborhood. In 2009, SLD PAC adopted Coliseum Dog Park at 14<sup>th</sup> & Wabash.

It was mentioned that the Alderman Fioretti is considering building a dog park at 16<sup>th</sup> & Wabash.

- **What has been done-**
  - Park Improvements**
    - Dog Waste Dispensers in both parks
    - Sand buckets to deal with snow
    - Installed water timers in GBP
    - Installed signs in both parks to promote poop pickup
    - Had park clean up day in both parks
    - New website, blog, face book, twitter
    - Fetch Newsletter
  - Organizational**
    - Restructured our membership
    - Established a Maintenance & Membership Committee
    - Created first time budget
    - \$4000 a year budget for power washing, replace gravel, insurance

It was brought up to add fencing for small dogs to be able to run.

- **Challenges – issues we need to focus on**
  - membership – trying to get 210 members at 60

Lynda indicated most of people attending meeting are south of 14<sup>th</sup>.

One person suggested having information table at park to pass out information. Also to put up signs directly asking for money. Another suggestion was to put up a thermometer.

Pam (?) announced that a membership party would be at Krolls. Date TBD.

- **Improving the Off-Leash Parks**  
Coliseum

- New water fountain, gravel, improve drainage, and change one gate to be double gated.

**Grant Park Bark**

- Replace gravel every 2 years, power wash, maintain poop issues
- Resurface park- Dogone Fund has researched and have not found any better surfaces – K-9 grass goes flat- PAW wax is good.
- Dog licensing/health issues – how do we police that. Furnetics(?) will be willing to help educate people on dog behavior. Discussion about small dog area was mixed because area for small dog to run and not just to section off.

- **Neighborhood Issues**

**Tim Steven from Alderman's office is working with Cedot who get money can install more reciptals for poop bags. ( REVIEW THIS?)**

**Alderman Fioretti has TIFF money to create a new dog park at 16<sup>th</sup> & Wabash- four years out. No designs have been completed. SLD Pac wants to be involved in the decision issues.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.**