

South Loop Dog PAC

Board Meeting Notes/Minutes 8.19.26

11am by Zoom, with doug freymann, erin iseminger

1. Chicago Park District Issues

- DFA Connection Meeting August 12th – The park district DFA liaison organized a city-wide DFA Committee meeting at Horner Park. No park district representative showed up. There was no cancellation notice. DFA Committee members present represented SLDogPAC, MonDog, Walsh Park, Koz Park, Challenger Bark, Pottawattamie Park & Wicker Bark.
- Chicago City-Wide Coalition of Dog Friendly Areas – At the meeting, representatives from Koz Park presented a petition to the Chicago Park District to allocate funding to dog parks that is representative of usage by the citizens of Chicago, and to support DFAs like any other area or amenity of Chicago parks. An informational signup link was provided: <https://forms.gle/MZEBcuqq56FjgSSdA>. They proposed holding quarterly Zoom meetings of DFA reps.
- The park district has been very slow to act on requests for repairs – over the last year some light fixtures at FAN have been out since March, and tree debris from the June storm was left in place into August. At GBP the gate latch at the south end is still unrepaired. Erin proposes setting up an Action Register logging requests for repairs or improvements submitted to the Park District, to be updated and forwarded to the park supervisor on a ~weekly basis. Erin will set this up as a shared google doc.
- Also, we need to establish ongoing communication with the respective Alderman's offices (Alderman Pat Dowell, 3rd Ward, for FAN and CPDR; Alderman Lamont Robinson, 4th Ward for GBP).
- Park Supervisors: Talonna Sharp (FAN, CPDR) Talonna.Sharp@ChicagoParkDistrict.com and Khristina Dela Cruz (GBP) Khristina.DelaCruz@ChicagoParkDistrict.com. The CPKD 'DFA Liaison' is Alfredo Camarena Alfredo.Camarena@ChicagoParkDistrict.com

3. Cleanups

- Decision on dates for late Summer/Fall cleanups -
 - GBP - Saturday, Sept. 12th Possibly include CPDR on this date, later in the morning.
 - FAN - Saturday Sept. 19th Split cleanups to 'small dog' and 'big dog areas.Will announce and schedule to start at 7:30am.
- Preliminary list of cleanup tasks -
 - GBP: Weeds along fence (particularly north end); remove broken planter; repair mesh along gravel perimeter; rebuild picnic table; sweep and general cleanup.
 - CPDR: Power wash; replace broken storage cabinet; sweep and general cleanup.
 - FAN: Weeds along turf; weed concrete cracks; sweep and general cleanup.
- Gravel at GBP – The water hydrant at GBP leaks, although now shut off. There is a large puddle and muddy area at the center of the gravel area under the trees. We reached agreement that we need to add new gravel to the area to address this. One truckload should be sufficient.
 - Gravel installation requires removing the north entry fence to allow truck access.
 - Khristina Dela Cruz (Grant Park Supervisor) was asked at the GPAC meeting 8.19 about support from the park district (eg. gate access, bobcat to spread gravel). She seemed befuddled. Will follow up with this.
 - Pam coordinated previous gravel installation (13+ years ago)? Will ask her to revisit what was required then to order and deliver gravel to the site.

2. Fetch! / Social Media

- Revisited the need to recruit someone willing to coordinate social media and fundraising. Erin has prepared a flyer. This will be included in the next *Fetch!* email.
- dmf will setup a *Fetch!* mailing at Mailchimp within the next few days. Items to include (immediately, or in early September):
 - Cleanup announcements; Social Media recruitment; Parking on Columbus; Jazz at FAN September 2nd; Wiggles & Giggles coming; Grant Park Framework Plan; Volunteers to support parks; CPkD 'participatory budgeting' (voting opens Sept. 1st)
- Also, we need to post the information on our Facebook page. dmf can do that for now, until we get someone who wants to manage the page themselves for us.

4. Next Meeting

- Next meeting - **Wednesday September 19th 11AM**
- Ongoing meeting schedule – 3rd Wednesday of the Month, Morning

5. ToDos

1. Setup an Action Register to keep track of CPkD service requests
2. Contact Kos Dog Park people re: Chicago City-Wide Coalition of Dog Friendly Areas
3. Ask Leslie Recht to add Erin to GPAC mailing list
4. Revisit Pea Gravel order history and process (pjf)
5. Follow up with Khristina re: gravel replenishment support from CPkD
6. Recruit a volunteer to help with social media and/or fundraising.
7. Visit FAN at off-hours to watch sprinklers and identify any issues.
8. Announce cleanup dates through *Fetch!* and social media.
9. Post cleanup signage at parks, including notice that the parks will be closed.
10. Purchase a longer hose for CPDR (e.g. to use with power washer).
11. Obtain access to a power washer (possibly can get from condo).
12. Organize cleanup task lists for each park.