

Shelburne Village Dog Park  
Monday, August 5, 2019  
6 p.m.  
Town Offices MR2

Present: Bob Owen, Lisa Williams, Sally Wadhams, Karen Medsker, Rosalyn Graham, Kay Boyce

Chairman Bob called the meeting to order, noting that we did have a quorum.  
As there was not a quorum at the July meeting, there were no official minutes to approve.

#### Financial Update:

Bob reported that the current financial balance is \$9600.39. Bob will check with Betsy Cieplicki to confirm the date for the annual payment to the SVDP of the \$1 per dog license issued in Shelburne. The check usually arrives in the Dog Park account in late July or early August.

#### DEC Update:

Bob shared an email from Town Manager Lee Krohn (included below) reporting on the visit to the dog park site by Tina Heath from DEC in mid-July and the results of that meeting. Members of the SVDP including Bob, Rosalyn, Jessica Brumsted, Town Manager Krohn, Parks and Recreation Director Cieplicki, and Tom Bock from the Vermont Agriculture Committee (a group that shares the dog park's concerns about the challenge of managing land classified as Class 2 Wetland), welcomed Ms. Heath to the park and spent about half an hour introducing her to the facility and identifying areas of concern and opportunities for compromise.

Discussion of Town Manager Krohn's report included a review of steps already taken to comply with DEC regulations (removing the shed and benches, stopping any grass mowing, boulder removal), plans to comply further by planning to close one of the entrance paths (probably the path from Harbor Road), and welcoming Dori Barton's professional analysis of the property in order to be in compliance with Class II Wetland regulations as the dog park moves forward. There was a discussion of the cost and Bob will discuss sharing of the cost between the town and SVDP.

#### Shelburne Day:

We will have a booth as in years past. Bob has the tent which he will set up, and we will ask SBPA organizers for a table. We will have t-shirts to sell, a donation jar, some signage and a simple hand-out explaining the current status and inviting donations from supporters. Lisa will make Doggy Ice cream (a big hit last year) and Rosalyn and Karen will help at the tent. We will reach out to Friends of the Dog Park to help at the tent during the 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. event.

#### Board Recruitment:

Bob is posting information on Facebook. It will also appear on Front Porch Forum and in the Shelburne News. Kay will contact Erica Eulau to post to the e-mailing list. We need two additional members for the Board.

#### Dog Fair for Humans:

Betsy is handling this, contacting possible exhibitors and participants. Currently the event is planned for Saturday, Sept. 28 from 1 to 3.

*From Lee Krohn:*

*Quick update on the dog park: based on our recent, positive visit with Tina Heath, we reached out to wetlands consultant Dori Barton of Huntington to work with us. You may recall we engaged her to look at the Bay Road site for possible use.*

*We met her on site last week, and she will do some mapping work at the existing dog park, and then help us with the application process with the state. Mapping will be useful, for as you may recall, the application fee for any existing improvement in the legal wetland area (access path, water line...) is \$1.50/sq ft, but only \$0.25/sq ft if in the wetland buffer. Toward that end, we will also remove one of the two paths leading to the park to lessen cost, and show good faith effort toward mitigating existing conditions/impacts. The fabled boulders along the main path have also been removed.*

*The downside of all of this is the initial cost of mapping and applying, and putting ourselves under permanent jurisdiction; the upside is being able to keep the dog park where it is, and with certain useful improvements like the path, waterline, benches, and poop bins. Since we need to fence off an area each year for revegetation, we will state in our application that the small dog park, which has effectively served this purpose this year, will be our 'year 1' area. Dori will help us define approximate boundaries for each successive year to be fenced off, while still allowing the bulk of the park to remain usable.*

*Ironically, under the wetland rules, we could legally pasture animals like goats or sheep who would then have plenty to eat in these revegetated areas for a brief period, but I'm not suggesting that we undermine matters with state staff who have now demonstrated greater flexibility with us here...*

*Dori is also a longtime Selectboard member in Huntington, so understands these town/state issues, as well as costs, and she is happy to collaborate with us to get the job done at least cost. So we will prepare the parts of the application that we can, and then hand it off to her.*

*Hope this helps bring you up to date; thought you'd like to know.*

*Thanks.*

*Lee*