



Munson Township Park & Recreation Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Tim Kearns.

Present: Kristen Bluemmel, John Kaczynski, Tim Kearns, Robert Marn, Michael Roche, Jonathan Schroeter. Absent: Joe Rosboril, Barbara Parkinson, Mark Stukbauer. Others in attendance: Andy Bushman, Carol Peter.

Dog Park

Carol Peter, CPDT-KA (Certified Professional Dog Trainer) from Cold Nose Companions, LLC provided information on starting a dog park in Munson Township. She provided a list of development considerations (attached) for Board Members to review. The Board discussed landscape needs/costs, lighting needs, and land size needs. The recommended size for a dog park is a minimum of 1 acre. The Board also discussed the need to create a "Friends of the Dog Park" group in order to manage the dog park. If the Board wishes to pursue this, next steps include: reviewing the legality of a dog park, searching for available grants, and designing an ideal dog park.

Pond Management

The issue of stocking the Scenic River Pond was raised to the Trustees. Kearns informed the Board that the Trustees have determined that one Trustee has volunteered to select, purchase, and donate fish for the Scenic River Pond. The Trustee will notify the Board of the quantity and type of fish that are stocked.

The recommendation to use Aqua Doc for pond management was not raised at the last trustee meeting. The recommendation will be brought to the Trustees at the 12/31/11 meeting.

Flea Market

The Indoor Flea Market is set for Saturday, February 18, 2012. There is a possibility for some early setup on the day before, for those vendors assigned space in town hall. Schroeter made a motion, seconded by Marn, to hold the Indoor Flea Market on Saturday, February 18, 2012 from 8 AM – 2 PM, with set-up beginning at 7:00 AM. Town hall set-up is to be available on Friday, February 17, 2012 at a time TBD by the office staff. Passed unanimously.

Chairman

The Board must elect a new Chairman to serve beginning 1/1/12. Kearns made a motion, seconded by Roche, to appoint Robert Marn as the 2012 Munson Park & Recreation Board Chairman. Passed 5-0-1 (Marn)

The Board decided to postpone the election of a 2012 Secretary.

Breakfast with Santa

The Board discussed ways in which the profits from Breakfast with Santa might be used. Ideas included creating a small spending account for use by the Board and donating profits to the local food bank.

Park Board

With the resignation of several Board members, the Board discussed the need to raise the number of board members from 5 to 7. Schroeter made a motion, seconded by Kaczynski, to increase the number of Park Board members from 5 to 7. Passed 5-0-1 (Bluemmel)

Minutes

Schroeter made a motion, seconded by Marn, to approve the minutes from the November 16, 2011 meeting. Passed unanimously.

Other Business

None

Adjournment

Kearns adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, January 18, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at Town Hall.



Chairman



Secretary

(acting)

cc: Park Board Members
Township Trustees and Fiscal Officer
Road Superintendent

Attachments: Munson Dog Park Development Considerations (Carol Peter)/Business Card

Munson Dog Park Development Considerations

Submitted by Carol Peter, 10/25/11

Size and Placement:

- The more generous the space, the fewer conflicts arise: ideally, an acre or more
- Separate space should be provided for small dogs (puppies, small breeds under 20 pounds) with separate entrances
- Placed at a distance from roads for safety; away from residences for noise control
- Placed among trees or plant trees to provide shade for people and dogs
- Parking is close to the enclosure

Site Preparation and Amenities

- The ground should have good run-off and drainage; soil should be tested to ensure it can handle the biological load
- The substrate should be easy to maintain: pea gravel is easiest to keep clean and maintain; sand is also a good surface
- All entrances are double gated: one gate into a small "ante" space with a gate to the large area
- Park is surrounded by a six-foot tall chain link fence; minimum four feet
- Have a few seating areas for people
- Provide ample supplies to clean up after dogs: either containers of plastic bags and multiple trash cans or a septic system that solid waste (unbagged) can be deposited into and broken down naturally
- Water should be available at the site for both people and dogs, as well as to clean up when necessary
- Electrical power should be available at the site: for lights for security and if the park is to be open into the evening, as well as for clean-up equipment as may be needed
- Ideally, few or no 90° angles where dogs can get cornered by bully dogs
- Ideal amenities include natural visual barriers such as hills, rocks, trees where dogs can remove themselves from rough play; and fun but safe equipment that dogs can play and climb on for activities other than playing with other dogs

Rules and Maintenance

- All parks have rules to ensure safety and enjoyment of the park, as well as clean operation; they should be posted at the entrance of the enclosure
- Consider having a citizens' dog park committee that develops the rules and guidelines for use of the park, and helps "police" and maintain the park



Carol Peter • CPDT-KA
Certified Professional Dog Trainer

Cold Nose Companions, LLC
440.479.4523
carol@coldnosecompanions.com
www.coldnosecompanions.com

*Professional Member,
Association of Pet Dog Trainers*