

Dog Park Subcommittee
Minutes
Special Meeting
October 3, 2023
7:00 PM

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EAST LYME, CT

2023 OCT -4 A 8:59

Carrie Milton
TOWN CLERK

Meeting location: **Community Center- Parks and Recreation**

1. Call to order
 - a. Jerry Lokken called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Attendance
 - a. Sophia Ryan, Carrie Milton, Jan Larson, Lynn O'Donnell, Quinn Holsapple, Remy Porier-White, Jay Ginsberg, Allison Ryan, Danielle Holsapple, Rachel Porier, Harper Shultz, Laura Schultz, Donna Pumbo, Christy Pyatt, Jerry Lokken
3. Subcommittee Organization and Membership
 - a. Jerry Lokken explained that the Parks and Recreation Commission will make appointments to the Dog Park Subcommittee, and described what the expectations of members would be, including attending meetings, participating in discussion and taking part in any actions. Those in attendance were polled to identify those interested in serving on the subcommittee.
 - b. Sophia Ryan*, Lynn O'Donnell*, Quinn Holsapple*, Remy Porier-White, Jay Ginsberg, Danielle Holsapple, Rachel Porier, Harper Shultz*, Laura Schultz, Donna Pumbo, and Christy Pyatt indicated interest in serving on the subcommittee. Those marked with * indicate a minor under the age of 18.
4. Scope of Subcommittee and Plan of Action
 - a. Discussion included listing key features that people would want to see in a dog park including small and large dog areas, safety entrance, fencing, shade, seating, accessible, portable toilets, water, path around the park, good drainage, agility course, visual barrier between sections and entrance.
 - b. Jay Ginsberg reported that the approximate size of a dog park is about 1 acre or 50,000 square feet. He also shared a reference from the American Kennel Club that had information about best practices for dog parks.
 - c. The group shared ideas for action items including a public survey of interest, assembling lists of dog owners, connecting through social media and web pages, and fundraising.
 - d. It was suggested to contact Kevin Seery to see if a file still exists related to an effort to plan a dog park from several years ago.
5. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
 - b. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center.