



Special Committee on the Feasibility of Creating a Dog Park

May 10, 2016 – 6:06 PM – **Minutes**
Chambers of the City Council– Room 214

MEETING: COMMITTEE ON FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A DOG PARK

DATE: MAY 10, 2016

TIME: 6:06 P.M.

PLACE: THIRD FLOOR MEETING ROOM, CITY HALL, ROOM 314, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

PRESENT: COUNCILLORS NAOMI CARNEY, MARY RAPOZA; JANICE ROGERS; MELISSA BOUCHER

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR DEBORA COELHO, VICE-CHAIRPERSON; EMMANUEL MACIEL; DEB GERGKE

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Councillor Carney called the Dog Park Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read a Communication from Councillor Coelho explaining her absence from this meeting, which was received and placed on file by Mary Rapoza and seconded by Janice Rogers.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Carney, requesting that the Committee on the Feasibility of Creating a Dog Park meet to discuss preliminary design work of placing a dog park in New Bedford, due to the potential grant that the City might be awarded for the creation of a dog park (Ref'd 4/23/15, 7/9/15- forward request to the Recreation Department to issue a RFP for the design of a Dog Park, 10/20/15- award the contract to Pressley Associates, tabled) was removed from the table by Mary Rapoza and seconded by Janice Rogers. (1)

Berina Mattos, 110 Greenwood Street, neighbor was present at the meeting.

An informal discussion ensued on the establishment of the Friends of the Dog Park Committee, names would be submitted and a Committee that will make decisions as it relates to the Park, such as fees to gain access, etc., would be made.

Ms. Mattos agreed to be a member of the Committee as well as Melissa Boucher and Janice Rogers.

Mary Rapoza submitted a packet of Dog Park etiquette which was received and placed on file by Janice Rogers and seconded by Melissa Boucher.

Mary Rapoza explained that the Park would break ground in July, and should be completed as early as the fall but definitely by next spring. The Grant that was received also included a small amount of

money that would be used to maintain the Park; that amount of money is available for the first three (3) years of the Park.

A discussion on the access fee to be charged to the Dog Park and it was said a figure has not yet been approved but could be anywhere between 5 and 25 dollars, with a higher fee charged for non-city residents.

Ms. Motta said she would like to see a pass access parking area, so that it would prevent overnight and illicit parking in the area. The parking lot abuts her home. Mary Rapoza said they would look into this for pricing.

Jay Emperor, Project Manager at Pressley Associates, was present to go over the plan design. He submitted a packet with Park items to be chosen by the Committee, which was received and placed on file by Mary Rapoza and seconded by Janice Rogers.

The following items were approved:

Traditional Pea Stones; Straight black fencing for front of Park, lesser designed fencing for the rear and inner Park; Traditional black metal benches; Black trash receptacles; Black in color dog (poop bag) dispenser; Red/Crimson composite planters; Colored Bollards/black, with possible solar lights

Lighting was reviewed but no decision was made as they need to price out fixtures.

A motion was made by Janice Rogers to adopt the above mentioned Park items that were chosen by the Committee, which was seconded by Melissa Boucher.

A motion was made by Janice Rogers to table the matter and it was seconded by Melissa Boucher.

Mary Rapoza made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Melissa Boucher.

This meeting adjourned @ 6:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Committees