

Westgrove PACK Board meeting May 9, 2024

Attendees: Liz Yap; Jeff Pandin; Sam Longstreet; Steve Zielenski; Shawn Bloom; Michelle Primack

Regrets: Mike Bober; LeeAnn Williams; Yvonne Kinkaid

Financials (Jeff):

\$11,643.63 B&H

\$8,213.08 Paypal

\$0 Venmo

\$19,856.71 total

Old Business

Membership software update (Jeff): Should be finished in about a week. All should be good to go by the end of the month.

Turf & Park update (Shawn/Steve/Jeff): Shawn has tried two different springs for the gates. Phil from the dog park has helped. Neither spring has worked. Using the far south gate as the test gate (very heavy, really wants to swing open). Shawn is going to get a chain to help stop the gate from swinging so far open... we are going to keep trying. Might look at farm supply stores (so far has looked at Amazon only).

- Shawn has also gotten pool noodles to close the gaps but has not had the chance yet to install. Shawn is also working to tie down banners and signs.
- As for turf, aeration was done on May 2 and then the park was reopened late and we got rain. Green is coming in! North End water has been turned on and hose has been moved to the other water source.
- After June 12, Jeff will pressure wash the canopy. POOP BAGS: Liz will pick up some new black bags from the pampered pet hopefully this week.

Status of FIELD TEST Small Dog Park - (Mike/Liz) Mike has 6 people who reached out after Liz's last letter which called for volunteers. Mike is organizing with Caroline Neulight. Liz will keep checking in.

Bird & Bat House update (Michelle) - Will get a date to the board for their approval. Soon!

Safety & Website updates (Steve, Sam, et al) -

- Sam suggested that we wordsmith some of the proposed language that seems to frown upon reading or using phones. We want people to make sure their dogs are behaving and that they're picking up poop, but we don't want to make rules that (a) we can't enforce and (b) are too restrictive.
- The concern is about the 1% that don't pay any attention to their dogs and their dogs cause problems or get hurt by other dogs. Overall, it makes sense to include something like this.
- Steve flattened the website structure to make things easier to find/make the site easier to maintain. He is willing to continue to work on the website (we currently use Weebly). Motion passed to let Steve continue.
- Order Bench for tree? (Jeff) - Friends Groups - Capacity Building Fund Grants for FY2025.
- Hopefully by the end of the week we will know if we have the grant money to contribute \$1000 toward buying the bench. Should we still buy it if we don't get the grant? Seems like a good idea
- Approved via motion. Liz will talk to Jeff about getting this done.

Season kick off HDF: (Jeff) - First will be on May 24th.

- Tie messaging of safety (Steve?)
- Caretaker Table (Liz, LeeAnn and Yvonne)
- Liz will put out a notice seeking sponsorships for HDF.
- Liz will distribute business cards at first HDF
- Shawn suggested we put up QR codes for donations - maybe at the gates (on the inside). Liz will explore and see if we can have something by June

Social media post suggestions (Liz)

- Reviewed examples - Safety messages/advice, fun quizzes, contests, photo submissions, etc. Keep it related to safety/westgrove policies/etc.
- Liz is open to any ideas - send her anything that might be good for our social media posts.
- Another email shout out for volunteers was suggested by Liz as well as at HDF. We will do both.

Friends of Dyke Marsh (invasive Species training)

- need 5 people (Jeff, Liz, LeeAnn (maybe)... need 3 community members.
- Liz will set and follow up.

New Business

Poop bag ordering - Pampered Pet (Liz & LeeAnn)

Follow-up with volunteers - Who would like to coordinate with Liz?

Jennifer French - Communication and HDF
Pei Wang (both dogs just died) - Kiosk
Bill Mould - Board seat?
Beverly Alida - Social media photos
Rich Ableson - Board Seat
Scott Mitchell - Turf

- Steve and Liz will figure out a coffee or cocktail hour and send out invitation.

Signs at Park (new or refresh?) - We need to take an inventory about what we have and how they look.

- Steve said he will do it and get back to us. We are going to create a new thermometer graphic for 2024 - Jeff will get back to Liz with financials.

MOU will expire in August. How do we renew? Need someone to step up.

- Jeff thinks we should put together a subcommittee and start the renegotiation process. Maybe we can get Rich from the dog park to help with legal angle? Jeff will help with negotiations. Mike as well?

Next meeting: June 12 via zoom

Meeting adjourned at 8:04