



## Off-Leash Area Working Group

### Meeting Minutes

### Room 211– City Hall

Robert J. DeRubeis  
Commissioner

9:30am- Thursday, June 29, 2017

**Attendees:** Commissioner DeRubeis, Carol Schein, Officer Ralph Torres; Jason Roberts, Officer Mikoleit, Amy Koel, Susan Albright, Lee McIntyre, Ted Kuklinski, Elaine Gentile, Rich Young, MaryLee Bellville; Ian from Big Dog Walkin', LLC, (visitor)

#### 1. Reports - Officer Torres, Officer Mikoleit, Jason Roberts

- Jason - Cold Spring Park trail and OLA – all being used/seems to be working well
- Ralph reported on Honeywell. Professional dog walkers not wearing their medallions as required. Ian, a professional dog walker from Brighton, attended. Ian has 4 medallions. He said last year there were 32 dog walker medallions and this year there are 6 (4 of which are his). The Commissioner invited him back for another meeting to be focused specifically on professional dog walker issues. Ralph mentioned the need for a sign indicating fenced area only is for Off-leash dogs. Jason said Robin is having signs made.

#### 2. Area Updates

- Cabot has been cleaned. The stones have been raked back into the middle exposing dirt up to the existing grass; steel edging has been removed and relocated to the base of the abutting tennis court fence, with loam added; dead tree removed. *\*\*New tree should be planted in its place in the Fall.*

#### 3. McGrath Park

- Renovation plan by Engineering was shown to the group. It was suggested that the picnic table be moved out of the center of the park area to up against the middle of the tennis court fence. The Commissioner said he has signed the bid request form but the money won't be docketed until October which means construction is most likely to have to wait until spring 2018.

#### 4. Norumbega

- Elaine is working on scope of work for a designer. A couple of public meetings to be included. Parking alternatives were discussed and will be part of the scope. Meetings with the OLA group and Jennifer Steel needs to be included. Commissioner said we will keep pushing this project.

#### 5. New Business

- MaryLee said she and Ruth Balsler met with the state (DCR rep). Very promising discussion about partnering with a municipal friends group to use their state land for an OLA out front on Hammond by Chestnut Hill Mall. She handed out a booklet of other DCR OLA examples proposed for Stony Brook Reservation (attached here). The Commissioner asked her to continue to be the liaison and that he would like to get the DCR rep at one of our OLA meetings. She will send the man's name to Elaine. Refer to booklet.