



Robert J. DeRubeis
Commissioner

Off-Leash Area Working Group

Friday, December 6, 2013

City Hall, Room 202

Meeting Minutes

Attending: Commissioner DeRubeis, Lee McIntyre, Amy Koel, Carol Schein, Carol Stapleton, Bud Grantham, Ted Kuklinski

1. Area Updates

- *Thompsonville Playground: Site Visit*
- There are three areas the group looked at during the site visit
 - Behind the baseball field near Langley Path. Currently there is a lot of brush that would need to be cleared out.
 - The middle area close to the tree line
 - Far end of area, this would be closest to the neighbors
- Further discussion with the neighbors, area Alderman and sports leagues is required. A meeting will be scheduled in January.
- There is an e-mail request for a small dog, fenced area in the Cold Spring Park off-leash area. Mr. McIntyre is concerned that a small fenced area will open the door for the entire site to be fenced. Mr. Grantham asked what the issue is about having a fence. Mr. McIntyre commented the area works as it is and from the start there have been requests for fenced and unfenced areas, some people want a fenced area because they cannot control their dogs. Ms. Koel commented this would not be a great location usually a fence will create frustration with the dogs on both sides of the fence.
- Mr. Kuklinski asked if Spears Park is still an option, Ms. Koel responded yes.
- The request for the off-leash specialist to write citations is in the Mayor's Office and will most likely be brought forward in 2014.
- Mr. McIntyre asked if Newton South High School can be discussed. Commissioner DeRubeis replied yes at the next meeting. A letter of support from the principal is required and someone should check on the school committee process.
- A request, through the Facebook page, was made for an update regarding the Stanton Foundation grant. Ms. Schein commented she will reach out to the foundation and set up a meeting in January.

2. Next meeting

- The next meeting is Friday, December 13, 2013 at 9:30AM