

Dog Park Meeting

The Watson Upper Valley Dog Park Board met on Monday, March 6, 2017 from 7:00-8:30pm.

In attendance was: Tad Nunez, Hartford Parks & Rec. Gaylord Newcity, President. Toni Richie, Communications. Wendy Smith, Events. Jerry Pendleton, Operations. Addi Faerber, Membership.

Online Payments for Dog Park

The dog park membership is live...to create a membership:

1. Log into <http://www.hartfordrec.com>
2. A top of site, click - Activities
3. Once on the activity page, click - Watson Dog Park Annual Membership
4. Create a new account including your name, address, telephone number and email.
5. Follow the prompts to agree to the terms & conditions and to make your credit card payment.

We have an account at Hartfordrec.com where we can view people who have become members through the web.

All memberships also are charged a 3% fee added to \$25 for processing fee. (\$0.88)

Meeting attendees will test out the process of membership. Once tested, we will create instructions on how to sign up, add these to the website and share this information over Facebook and our mailing list.

Spring Operations:

The dog park is closed for mud season.

Park clean up day will be April 29 at 9:00 am. Rain date of April 30 at 9:00 am. The park will have a "soft opening" following clean up. Our official Opening Day will be May 6. We will be organizing an event at the park including new member sign-ups. Addi will follow up with Hartford Parks & Rec to get these events on their calendar. Gaylord will talk with his contacts at Hartford Schools for volunteer students to help clean up the park. We will need some trees cut down, so will need someone with a chain saw and experience using it.

Rules of the Dog Park

We discussed the rules of the dog park, and signs about the rules at the dog park. The board discussed ideas on how to keep the park clean, safe and friendly. We also discussed how to handle situations where we see threatening situations or when a person or dog is not respecting the rules of the park. We will be creating a new sign for the park with the Town of Hartford nonemergency number for people to call if there is an incident at the park. Steve Arkwright can help us to create sign for the park with the non emergency police number.

Park Maintenance

Winter Ops. We lost our yellow snow shovel. We will need to buy another one next winter.

Poop Bags. We're down on the last case of bags. Yes, we need to order bags. We want to order bags with the Town of Hartford to get big discounts on large volume orders. Order sometime between now and May.

Water drainage. We brainstormed some ideas for park drainage and reviewed some previous discussions we had about how to reduce the issue of water building up in the park.

Indoor dog park

The board decided not to host indoor dog park this winter. There were two main concerns from the board: cleaning up the space after dog accidents and potential cost to the dog park to cover renting the space if attendance is low.

Survey of the park

There was interest in conducting a survey of the dog park to find out how many people and dogs are using the park. We discussed the possibility of using very long time-lapse cameras to take regular photographs of the park.