

MINUTES OF AUGUST 26, 2019 DOG PARK TASK FORCE MEETING  
GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT  
999 GREEN BAY ROAD, GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm and roll was called.

Commissioners and Staff present:

President Lisa Brooks, Executive Director/Secretary Lisa Sheppard

Task Force Members present:

Michael Bier, Jay Dembsky, Eddy Eisenberg, Rene Firmin, Laurie Gross, Erich Haupt, Susan Isaacson, Anne Nathan, Stacy Ratner, Susan Stewart, and Tom Zachar

Impressions of other dog parks: The task force shared the following impressions of other dog parks, safety, behavior at dog parks, forest preserve, and neighbor's concerns. Comments included...

- Would travel 15 minutes to a dog park although Des Plaines and Northbrook dog parks are too far, preference to walk to a dog park and not use a car including Turnbull Woods which is up to 45 minute walk
- It's a production to go to Lake Forest when the dog goes in mud and then has to stop for a bath
- Visited two dog parks in the city and did not find them loud over the weekend and did not notice a smell, prefers ones with grass in Highland Park and Lake Forest over the rocks and cement in the city
- The more room the better
- Highland Park's dog park has so much grass because it is wide open and gets sun
- Did not find messes at the dog parks in the city
- Concern if we build a small dog park and then the community is disappointed.
- Not every owner brings their dog to a dog park due to health issues and danger issues
- Glencoe prides itself on being beautiful; dog parks are not beautiful.
- A dog park with a playground on one side and plantings on the other would be beautiful.
- Top feedback from those who don't want a dog park are don't spend the money, smelly, doing things for dogs and not people, not an appropriate location in Glencoe, will affect property values of the surrounding area
- Proof of vaccination requirement could not be done with an open dog park as requested, although an open dog park is not recommended by staff
- It is not that easy for good dog owners to keep bad dog owners in line.
- Green Bay Road shouldn't be considered at all for safety issues.
- Deerfield's dog park, Jaycee, was thought nice by one member and another thought it was muddy and smelly.
- Clavey dog park was a grassy wide open area and still smelled.

- A task force member questioned everyone they met at all the dog parks visited. The initial reaction was positive for dog parks, then when asked if they want it next to their house the reaction was negative.
- None of the locations are far enough away from homes

Choose two-three parks: The task force reviewed pros and cons to reduce the number to two to three parks or less. Comments included...

- The forest preserve's board does not think a dog park is part of their mission. The community would have to put forth the effort to petition the forest preserve. Two locations were reviewed to approach the county: one by 94 and Turnbull Woods.
- Shelton has the least number of cons. Sunken Park cons were reviewed. Linear Park project was reviewed. Sunken Park is the only visible field for open play.
- The goal is to get down to two or three and then approach the neighbors.
- A negative opinion of a neighbor should not outweigh a community need. Concerns should be taken into consideration to alleviate the concern in the design.

Neighbor survey contents, vote to choose sites: The possible contents of the survey was discussed followed by an anonymous vote resulting in Shelton Park and one with Shelton Park and Willow/94 (not park district property).

Executive Director Sheppard reviewed the task force's survey preferences to rank benefits, include information about the task force, an example picture of the possible location, and that it will be an enclosed, well-maintained dog park aimed at xx acres (staff to determine available space). Do not include what the dog park would look like, wait until list of concerns are received from the survey results.

October 2 meeting: The task force will discuss the survey, make changes, and determine who will receive it.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa M. Sheppard  
Board Secretary / Executive Director