

Johnson County DogPAC Meeting  
Thursday, November 21, 2002

Greetings. Many thanks to everyone who came to the meeting tonight. I am not an optimist, by nature, but I feel very optimistic after the meeting that we will get a park established and soon.

First, we agreed the next meeting will be Thursday, December 12th at 7:30 p.m. at Mercer Park. I will call first thing in the morning to reserve the room. If there is any problem getting the reservation, I will let you know. If you know anyone who is interested but couldn't make it to the meeting, please let them know the date/time/place and extend an invitation.

Now, for my short list of assignments:

1. I will check tomorrow about the terms of the current farm ground lease and let you know what I learn. To recap, one of the 40 acre parcels which could be available has been farmed this year. I will find out if the ground is obligated for future crop years, and if so, the terms. We need to know what timeframe may apply.

2. I will double check on the size of the parcel on south Gilbert Street and let you know, and I will double check whether there are other in-town parcels we should be considering. I will also start collecting the paperwork we will need to set up as a tax-exempt organization.

3. Name that Group/Name that Park. jim jacobson (jimj@journalist.com) has agreed to collect suggestions and generally work on finding names for the group and park. Please contact him with your ideas.

4. Design that Park. Beth Fisher (bfisher@avalon.net) has agreed to collect information on existing dog parks. If you see a park in your travels--either in person or on the web--pass the information on to Beth.

5. Fund that Park. Sarah England (sarah-england@uiowa.edu) has agreed to research and collect information about possible grant/funding sources. Sarah, one person you might want to check with is Karen Fashimpaur (Fashimpaur@aol.com). She is one of the principal organizers for the Cedar Rapids park and can share their experiences in the search for grant monies.

6. Find those Allies. I may be mistaken, but I think I recall that Misha Goodman (misha-goodman@iowa-city.org) offered to help contact Coralville to see if they were interested in participating in the project.

7. Design that Webpage. Fred Boehmke (frederick-boehmke@uiowa.edu) agreed to work on a webpage design. He needs material to post: photos; text; information. Send him your ideas and material.

OK. I truly hope I have not forgotten to include any of the names/messages/assignments we agreed upon this evening. If I have forgotten something, or misstated something, send out a note right away.

Be looking/thinking about other community connections on this project. We talked about several tonight. Spread the word. Contrary to past perceptions, this is not a park only for dogs. It is an asset for everyone, including dogs.

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