

Johnson County DogPAC meeting
November 13, 2003

We met at 7 p.m. at the Old Wastewater Treatment plant and the primary topic on the agenda was our investigation to choose a site for the park. We have narrowed the choices to two tracts of land: a 40-acre tract of land on Kansas Avenue and a portion of the present Scott Park on Scott Boulevard.

Several of us met with Steve Ford and Mike Stineman, landscape architects with Shoemaker & Haaland, to walk the 40 acre tract and get their ideas about whether it would be desirable and/or feasible to use it for a park. If this seems like déjà vu (all over again), it is. Kind of. We had to make a similar assessment of the other 40-acre tract on the south end of Kansas Ave. last year. However, this 40-acre tract has completely different topography and presents both problems and possibilities. They have given us their very preliminary observations and will provide a more detailed assessment after they collect some more information. They have also looked at the Scott Park land and will be able to give us some comparative ideas.

There remain some important questions to resolve about the current lease on the 40 acres, and we will be meeting with city staff next week to try to get answers to those questions.

Which brings us to the next step in this process: at our **December 11th** meeting, we will present the information we have collected-- pros and cons of both sites--and make a decision regarding which site to pursue. **We will probably hold this meeting at Mercer Park, rather than the Old Wastewater Treatment Plant.** We will send out meeting reminders as the meeting date nears, but please put this date on your calendar if you think you might be able to attend. We would like to have input from as many DogPACers as possible.

The other topics of discussion at last night's meeting centered on fund raising. To summarize:

- We will contact local vets and dog-related businesses to ask if they will display the JC DogPAC t-shirt. We need to remind people that these shirts are a great way to support the development of the park and will be perfect stocking-stuffers in the upcoming holiday season.
- We discussed the possibility of starting a "Pet Photo Op" series of events, which could be tied to holidays or other major events.
- We discussed the possibility of asking Prairie Lights to help us sponsor a fund raiser—a reading by Susan Orlean of her new cookbook of dog food and treat recipes.