



WILLISTOWN TOWNSHIP PARKS AND RECREATION  
MINUTES 5-18-2021 7 PM

Members in Attendance: Chair: Brad DeHart, Vice Chair: Bernadette Downey; Bob Kacergis; Bill Unrath; Ken Lehr; Grace Frain Absent: Denise VanValkenburgh  
Staff: Mary Hundt, Parks & Recreation Director

**DRAFT**

Administration

Approval of April 20, 2021 Minutes: Tabled

Park Management

Old Business

*Proposed Dog Park*

The Board continued discussing the proposed dog park at Okehocking. Mary began with some general commentary acknowledging that this topic could be a heated one. In an attempt to enable the Board to make an informed recommendation regarding this, she invited two dog training professionals to the meeting to add their perspective to the proposed project.

Mary previously emailed the Board information on Vicki Wooters (<http://www.wootersdogtraining.com/>, training resume, Search and Rescue Dogs of America resume) and Sabine Platten, a Certified Dog Trainer with decades of experience (Mary sent her published article on dog parks to the Board.) Mary also included the following links for Board review prior to the meeting:

The Association of Professional Dog Trainers Dog Park Pros and Cons Brief: <https://apdt.com/resource-center/dog-park-pros-cons/>

A link to the American Kennel Club Dog Park Establishment

Handbook: <https://images.akc.org/pdf/GLEG01.pdf>

Mary reported having previously spoken with Brad and suggesting inviting the small neighborhood committee (3 people) that is proposing the dog park to next month's meeting. The Board agreed.

Mary also reminded Board members that they play an important role in making recommendations on behalf of the community. She emphasized that gathering information and keeping an open mind to the pros and cons of any project and thinking of the greater community is critical as the Board considered any project for the public benefit.

Vicki and Sabine were then welcomed to the meeting. They each gave brief summaries of their opinions on dog parks, the pros and cons. An interactive discussion with the Board ensued.

#### Planning

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss a potential real estate transaction.

#### Adjournment

Ken motioned to adjourn and Brad seconded. All were in favor.

The Parks & Recreation Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm via Zoom. All meetings are open to the public via Zoom invitation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Hundt, Recording Secretary.