

Dog Control Bylaw Meeting #6

Date: 06-20-2023

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Town Hall

Facilitator: Jill Radosta Note Taker: Neil Downing

Members Present: Jill Radosta, Mark Farrell, Kate Pittman, John Moon, Frank Moran, John Thomson, Neil Downing

Public Present: N/A

Handout:

Agenda item:

1. Review/update action items (handout)
2. Research dog parks
3. Research open space for on/off leash
4. Discuss current Animal Control Bylaw
5. Approve Minutes of June 5, 2023
6. Schedule future meeting date

Chair Jill Radosta opened the meeting at 6:00p.m. / Roll Call Attendance (JR, KP, ND, MF, JM, FM, JT) – meeting adjourned; 7:00pm

Discussion:

- John M. and Kate P. shared first draft of revised dog control bylaw (as a working document) – Mark F. will combine documents and forward to Jill for review.
- Continue to discuss current Bylaw and the need for change.
- Need to identify areas of impact that need to be addressed – accountability, enforcement, safety measures etc.
 - Rocky Woods is designated with on/off leash areas, MSH is not clearly designated areas except for “Quad”, North Field – no signage, Rail Trail is clearly designated as on-leash.
- As the town continues to grow and build communities within the town, the Bylaw needs to reflect the increase in animal control, accountability, law enforcement and have clear signage (e.g., Rail Trail, Trustee Reservation, Noon Hill)
- Signage is important to support Bylaw – Safety Rules, post phone number, police non-emergency number for community support/involvement,
- Discussed having Mark Cerel and Eileen Murphy review the first draft recommendation to be clear the committee is moving in the right direction.

Action items

- Mark F. will consolidate the first draft document from John M. and Kate P
- Jill will email first draft recommendation of changes to Dog Control Bylaw to Eileen M. and Mark C for input.
- Off Leash designated areas – *in progress of reviewing open space available* (MSH North Field, Wheelock, Noon Hill?)
- Communication Plan: (review social media networks/platforms Concerned Citizens, Friends of Medfield, Bellforge Website?)
Responsible dog owner, Signage
- Committee deliverable timeline: continue to work on recommendations due December 2023 (Committee)
- Continue to review current bylaw and discuss how to enforce, implement change, educate citizens/visitors of Medfield open space areas

Conclusion/Next Meeting

- Next Meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 17, 2023 @ 6:00pm Warrant Rm, Town House

EMAIL for Public Response:

- ✓ Email for Dog Control Bylaw Committee: DogControlBylawComm@medfield.net