

Dogs in Park Work Group  
September 13, 2006  
Milwaukie Center  
6:30 – 7:40 p.m.  
[Notes taken by Eric Shawn]

Approximately thirty-five people attended the meeting. After listening to a summary of the Stewardship Committee and the role of the work group people expressed the following thoughts.

- The dog is the owner's responsibility.
- What drives the formation of this group? What are the issues?
- There was fear and belief that the dog park will be removed from North Clackamas Park (3). Distrust of government was mentioned.
- Dog owners are taxpayers and have the right to use the park as much as baseball players have the right to use the park.
- What about another location (in the park or in another park) for the dog park?
- Dog owners bring their dogs to the park daily to socialize their dogs and use the park more than most other people do.
- If the dog park is going to be moved develop reasons for moving or relocating the dog park.
- The dog park was built without discussion. It just appeared in the park one day. The dog park used to be a wetland, which has been destroyed by the bark chips. There is noise. Neighbors have outdoor living areas. On some days dogs are in the park as early as 6 a.m. and as late as 9 p. m. There are environmental concerns about feces and about dogs going into the creek. There is limited space in the park now that the ball fields are being constructed.
- In the district there is a very small square footage of park space available for dogs.
- There is also dog and boom box noise in and coming from the neighborhood next to the park.
- North Clackamas Park has the best dog park in the area.
- Is there a way we can have more high quality dog parks in more areas?
- What has already been tried?

- What can we do as dog owners to be good neighbors to each other?
- Add a dog park for small dogs.
- Develop a core of dog park users to enforce good neighbor practices.
- There is confidence among some dog owners that the concerns of neighbors can be addressed.
- There is concern among neighbors that issues have been identified in the past and nothing has been done about them.
- The dog park is more than dogs. It includes a community of people.
- Move the dog park to another location in the park. One idea was to move it to picnic area B.
- It was pointed out that the group attending this evening was largely representative of evening and weekend dog park users with a few neighbors (3-4) who do not own dogs. How can we reach a wider group of park users?
- Some people fear dogs off leash running up to and into them.
- Some people want to walk their dogs off leash in a larger area.
- Build a different kind of fence that blocks sound. [The scout suggesting this was asked to research the topic.]