

Dogs in Park Work Group
September 27, 2006
Milwaukie Center
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
[Notes taken by Eric Shawn]

Approximately fourteen people attended the meeting, including Sally Shook, Jim Schuld, Tony Clark and Eric Shawn from the Stewardship Committee for North Clackamas Park.

Tony Clark distributed copies of an issues list from the year 2000, a history of the dog park developed by NCPRD, and the minutes of the September 13, 2006 work group meeting.

The people present agreed to meet every other Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Milwaukie Center.

Citizens attending the work group identified the following characteristics for a quality dog park.

- Two sets of double gates
- Plumbed water
- Tables
- Large shade trees
- Shelter
- Disposal bags and trash containers
- Parking
- Safety
- Restrooms
- Fenced areas large enough for dogs to run off leash
- Separate fenced areas for small dogs
- Some level areas and some irregular terrain

The following items were also discussed.

- Information and communication are key. Be good citizens and good neighbors to each other.
- Develop a list of rules and guides for dog parks.
- Consider plantings of native trees for noise buffers and visual screens.
- Weekends are the noisiest times at the Dog Park.
- Increase the number dog parks in the district. Kellogg Lake Park was suggested.
- Identify various areas in the district that dog users are currently using and convert those areas to dog parks.

- Ask NCPRD to identify the viability of establishing a large dog park in the Three Creeks areas. Some DAB members and some NCPRD managers have suggested this area.
- Consider establishing dog parks in shared space.
- Some of the neighbors north of the park are discouraged by the longstanding lack of resolution of dog park issues.
- The noise impact of the dog park on the neighborhood to the north of NCP was described as persistent and intermittent with continued barking being more annoying than loud voices.
- There was some discussion of how the dog park came to be. There seems to be general agreement that the work group needs to focus on solutions.
- The work group discussed taking a survey of dog park use to identify the number and geographic distribution of users. Methods include using a web site along with personal on-site tracking.
- Some Portland demographic data was mentioned. 42% of dog owners use parks daily compared to 14% of non-dog owners using parks daily.