

## **Dog Ordinance Committee Minutes**

**April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Robert Gowans

Committee members present: Robert Gowans, William Fraser, Anthony Facos, Neil Martel, Judy Gibson, Yvonne Bird, Donna Bate, Geoff Beyer, Marilyn Mode, Danis Regal, Rick Lee

Also present Lisa Lee, Jenna Krussman, another MHS student

No public comment.

Minutes of previous meeting (March 27, 2017) approved.

William Fraser read and discussed an email from Yvonne. (email attached)

Discussion on leash law data from other Cities with downtowns. Danis presented information from

Anthony Facos advised he needed more time reviewing data.

Danis Regal proposed an annual education program in the schools to reach as many people as possible with information on appropriate dog behavior.

Danis Regal suggested posting new signs with information on appropriate dog behavior.

Danis Regal presented information on the animal control ordinance in Stowe. The Stowe ordinance defines areas of required leashing.

Group discussion on requiring leashing on City streets and sidewalks.

Rick Lee presented on need for City wide leash law.

Judy Gibson shared an example of a recent dog attack, and the possible need to include parking lots.

Danis Regal said we possibly are trying to regulate too much, "can't solve all problems"

Yvonne Bird advised we are talking about public safety.

Anthony Facos stated it's about risk management. Group discussion followed.

Geoff Beyer advised we should change wording in ordinance to say "under control at all times."

Rick Lee would like to see more signage at entry points into city.

William Fraser discussed the ordinance policies and any changes to the ordinances must be enforceable.

The group discussed Yvonne's proposed fine changes.

Neil Martell motioned, seconded by Geoff Beyer: Dogs will be leashed on all streets and sidewalks within the city. We propose to change the ordinance to that dogs will be under control at all times along with changing the fee structure to Yvonne's proposed fees. The committee discussed the motion and the motion passed. Danis proposed an amendment to the motion to exclude dirt roads. The amendment failed for a lack of a second.

Next meeting: April 24, 2017

Next meeting agenda

- Leashing locations
- Reviewing fine structure
- Technical corrections to current ordinance

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 pm