

Hannah's Bark Park Advisory
Minutes June 20, 2022

Present: Lynn Simons, Phil Biscorner, Mark Stuldreher, Amy Barr-Tickle
Sue Gamble, John Dinse
Absent: Easton Hamel

The meeting began at 6:02. A quorum was present.

No public comment occurred.

Phil reported there are currently 209 memberships in Hannah's Bark Park, with no weekly memberships. He noted this is a stable membership.

A discussion occurred about signage at the park which notes Hannah's Bark Park closes at 10:00 and that the key fobs will become disabled at 10:00, so patrons should be out of the park by 10:00. It was noted it is one of the farthest parks and Park Rangers usually start with closing up this park at 11:00 first. Park Rangers are employed only from May until October, as they are seasonal. It was stated that a 10:00 closure has worked all along as people can exit the park before the Park Rangers arrive. In the history of the park, one person has been locked in after hours, and this occurred within the past few weeks. It was noted that the park lighting was installed to make the evening hours accessible, and to enable those who work to be able to frequent the park at night with their dogs. Currently, the lighting is turned off at 10:00. Phil has reached out to the Park Rangers for comment but has not received a response yet. Concerns were raised about people being locked in, and it was again noted this has only occurred once in the history of the park. Mark made a motion to ask the Parks Commission to keep the park open until 11:00 pm. Sue seconded this motion. It was recommended to gather data from key fob use to see the park use in the evening. The motion carried.

Friends of the Dog Park reported that enthusiasm had been expressed about the lights. A survey of membership had been conducted to receive ideas for continued park improvement. The FDP Board reviewed those suggestions and voted to explore putting equipment in the park, on both large and small dog sides. More news to come as the FDP Board explores this.

It was noted future meetings would be in person.

A member raised the idea of knowledge of dog parks that had bathing stations. Phil noted these appear to be primarily in more southern states, due to climate issues. He also noted the water must be heated in a Michigan climate and discussed the distance pipes would need to run to activate a dog bathing station.

The meeting ended at 6:35.

The next meeting will be September 19, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Simons