



Serving the Silver Lake Community Since 2003

1850 W. Silver Lake Drive L.A.
Los Angeles, California 90026

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Anne-Marie Johnson
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SILVER LAKE DOG PARK AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 19, 2019, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

Silver Lake Meeting Room, 1850 W. Silver Lake Dr., LA 90026, street parking/Metro 201

MINUTES (Draft)

1. WELCOMING REMARKS

A. Call to order

- Reservoir Committee co-chair Janis Purins called to order

B. Committee roll call

- (n/a)

C. Self-Introductions of guests

- 16 attendees introduced themselves; two more and Gordon Dupree arrived later

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

A. Nomination and election of two co-chairpersons

- Margaret Kaminski, Molly Meng, and Dana Harris self-nominated. When Janis called for a vote, it was M/S to have all three serve as co-chairs. Janis explained that the Agenda specified two co-chairs, and he would need to consult with the Board to see if three would be allowed.
- Dana withdrew her nomination, pending clarification of the third co-chair position which may be revisited by the two co-chairs after they have been elected.
- Without objection, Margaret and Molly were elected.

B. Review the structure, purpose, scope, and rules governing the ad hoc advisory committee.

- Janis explained how ad hoc committees operate, and that the Dog Park Committee co-chairs will report and advise to the Reservoir Complex Committee. There may be instances where motions or announcements will go directly to the Governing Board, if an item is urgent and the Reservoir Committee will not be meeting in time.
- Janis: The Committee will expire when the new Board is seated in May. At that time the co-chairs will need to ask the Board to move a motion to renew the Committee, and co-chairs will again need to be elected. There are no term limits on committee co-chairs.
- Question: Can the Dog Park Committee form a non-profit to raise funds?
Janis: No, but the committee may collaborate with an established not-for-profit through which to channel donations or other funds that are not granted by the City. In some cases the City Council Representative (CD-13) may have discretionary funds. Attendees mentioned Silver Lake Forward and the SL Conservancy as examples of potential non-profit partners.
- Question: Can't we just go directly to CD-13? Janis: Yes, as an individual citizen but not representing the Committee, unless authorized by the



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Governing Board. OK to report on conditions or to ask questions, but any motions or decisions should be approved by the board.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A. Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction (Up to two minutes per speaker)

- The Dog Park is unsanitary; waste is not cleaned up.
- Dogs on leash should be allowed in the grassy area by the rec center. Several mentioned they were unaware of the "No Dogs" policy in the open grassy area, even though signs are posted. Several mentioned wanting to relax with their dogs on the grass.
- One resident said she did not like the fence that cuts off what used to be a shortcut. Also, it was erected without stakeholders' input. Janis commented that the fence was installed mostly because of dogs wandering into the children's playground. Also, the rec center staff could not monitor strangers who could come and go from behind the building.
- Several were interested in fundraising for dog park improvements.
- Need to mobilize dog park users to participate in the development of the SL Reservoirs Complex Master Plan.
- After a rain, conditions are muddy, and people take their dogs to La Cañada and Pasadena where the ground material does not turn to mud. We could learn from them; their dog parks are nicer and better maintained. South Pasadena, too.
- Margaret suggested that the small dog area be relocated to the top section of the large dog area (across from Duane St.) Currently, when it rains, mud and feces from the large dog area flow down into the small dog area. Also, dogs go behind the utility building and can't be observed by their owners, and the dog feces don't get picked up.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Updates on dog park related topics from Gordon Dupree, Recreation Center Facility Director (subject to his or a representative's availability)

- Gordon said he is available Mon-Fri and can be reached in the rec center office. Any problems can be reported by email: silverlake.recreation.center@lacity.org.
- Janis asked Gordon what the procedure would be to raise funds for the dog park. The Rec & Parks website shows that SLRC is eligible for sponsorship. Gordon will check into it.

5. MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS:

The meeting adjourned before the following agenda items could be addressed; consider for future agenda:

- A. *Motion: Adopt the following Mission Statement: "To engage with Dog Park users regarding caretaking of the facility; dog and owner guidelines; and to identify a representative from the Dog Park users who will bring forward issues and ideas to be considered by the Committee and be an ongoing liaison between the Committee and Dog Park users." Mission Statements need to be approved by The Board.*



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B. Discussion and Possible Action: The following topics were raised at the recent Reservoir Committee meeting. Considering time constraints, Committee co-chairs may change the order of topics and/or defer to a future agenda:

- 1. Cleanup of dog poop. There is a dispenser for plastic bags within the dog park, but it is always empty. The provided shovels are often bent or broken, and there is no “home base” to return the shovels so they are often hard to find when needed.*
- 2. After rain or watering, feces and mud from the main area get washed downslope into the small dogs area, making it unsanitary, muddy and unusable for several days.*
- 3. The way the fences demise the space, the LADWP utility building creates an obstructed view whereby owners cannot supervise their dogs when they run behind the building.*
- 4. Weekly maintenance, as posted by the entrance, is inconsistent, resulting in broken down chairs and other detritus left for weeks, and the shovels and other amenities are neglected.*
- 5. Ground cover – for example, South Pasadena’s dog park’s ground cover is coarse sand that does not turn to mud. Dog Park Committee members should study other dog parks, to see if best practices might be considered for Silver Lake’s dog park.*
- 6. What can be done to protect newly planted greenery? Dogs like to dig and jump – unrealistic to expect netting to be a strong barrier. Possibly use raised containers for plantings with a ledge at seating height to improve the chances for greenery and provide more seating options for dog owners. Something to recommend for the Master Plan, if unable to be implemented sooner.*
- 7. Provide Dog Park Committee members with some kind of emblem (cap with SLNC Volunteer logo, badge, etc.) so that dog park visitors know that this person is a point of contact regarding any concerns or suggestions.*

6. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. n/a

7. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8. Meeting ADJOURNED at 9:05 p.m.