

TOWN OF NEWSTEAD - PLANNING BOARD MINUTES
Newstead Tow Hall – 6:30PM
August 12, 2024

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Tom Cowan, Chairperson
Don Hoefler
John Potera
Erik Polkowski

OTHER: Julie Brady, Recording Clerk
Dave Miller, CEO

ABSENT: Terry Janicz
Andy Kelkenberg
John Olaf

The meeting began at 6:37pm.

Ken Merle, Leisurewood Board of Directors President and board member Liana Reamsnyder were in attendance seeking a special permit for a dog park within Leisurewood Campgrounds, 5720 Cummings Road. On July 22, 2024 Ken M. came before the planning board for a pre-application conference for a dog park consisting of a four-foot-high fence 150' x 60' separated for large and small dogs.

The site map and rules were reviewed by the planning board members.

Tom C. explained that there are a few items that need to be addressed prior to recommending this project to the Town Board. First, the maximum occupancy of dogs in the park at any give time. Second, all dogs must be registered, with updated vaccinations and licensing. The question we would like the attorneys to answer is if each dog needs to be registered with the Town of Newstead.

Ken M. stated that Leisurewood will be having a board meeting next Monday and these questions will be addressed at that time.

Dave M. asked if the Leisurewood attorney could reach out to our attorney regarding the licensing of the dogs and if turf could be used instead of grass. Ken M. agreed to put that on the agenda for Monday also. Ken M. also stated that the residents in Leisurewood cannot claim that address as their primary residence. The park does require that dog owner's show proof of licensing and vaccination. The park manager also rides around and can check their files.

John P. asked if there is a guideline for what constitutes a small versus a large dog. Dave M. stated it is usually done by weight. Erik P. suggested tying it back to a veterinarian to establish those rules. Ken agreed and would update the rules with that information.

Tom C. explained that because this would be a change in the site plan for Leisurewood, the Town Board will hold a public hearing. Ken M. said that Leisurewood puts out a weekly newsletter every Thursday that they can notify the park residents of the public hearing. Tom C. stated that this item will be put back on the agenda for two weeks (August 26th).

Erik P. stated that the planning board is generally in favor of this dog park, the licensing just needs to be worked out with the attorneys and the dog control officer.

John P. asked if people in Leisurewood are aware of the potential for a dog park. Ken. M. answered that in two weeks they are holding an open public meeting at the park to discuss it.

The Planning Board continued the meeting with the discussion of other items of interest and upcoming projects. The minutes were tabled due to not having a quorum.

John P. motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:38pm. Don H. seconded the motion. Hearing All Ayes, No Nays, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Brady, Recording Clerk