

**Minutes of the Newburyport Parks Commission
Special Meeting
5 May 2016**

Call to order at 6:10 p.m.

A quorum was present.

In attendance: Steve Sawyer, Ann Dykes, Karen Popken

Also in attendance: Lisë Reid, Judy Corsetti, Jeanne Deffley, Ray and Janet Domingo, Ghlee Woodworth, Susan Crawford, Councilor Charlie Tontar, Councilor Robert Cronin

NEW BUSINESS

Issues

Dog Park at "Colby Farm" Property

Parks Director Lisë Reid presented plans to apply for a Stanton Foundation grant to build a fenced in dog park on city-owned Lot 8 of 183 Low Street, commonly known as "Colby Farm." Public comment and a question and answer session followed the presentation.

Comments included a plea for strict regulations, a request that other off leash areas not be discontinued as a result of this new park, and a suggestion that a fee program similar to Brookline's Green Dog Tag program be established to support maintenance.

Ms. Reid commented that the commission wanted to gauge public response to the idea of a fenced in dog park at this location to determine whether it should proceed with the grant application and that design of the facility and related rules would be discussed further during the design phase should the city secure grant funding. She said there would be an online survey available to the public in the coming days.

Meeting adjourned 6:48 p.m.