

Bylaw Review Committee
August 31, 2021 - 7:00pm

Board Members Present: Tom Gay, Ellen Hillery, and Glenn Trindade

Board Members Absent: Tim Fagerson and Maryjane White

Also Present: Allison Potter

Call to Order: At 7:00PM, Mr. Trindade called the meeting to order.

Public Comments: There were none at this meeting.

At the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Trindade shared that one of the committee's first focal points should be adjusting the current bylaws about dogs. His specific concerns were in regard to waste disposal and leashing, as well as determining appropriate locations for dog walking. He also suggested creating stations with bags and trash bins to ameliorate the waste disposal concern. Specifically, he shared that he has been in contact with a handful of companies who are willing to sponsor these bins.

After brief research on this matter, Mr. Gay shared that the approximate cost of these stations would be \$225.

Moreover, Mr. Trindade also suggested that the committee meet again in the near future in order to establish the new bylaw language prior to the fall town meeting.

Next, Ms. Potter shared the latest version of the bylaws and department head feedback with the committee.

In response, Ms. Hillery suggested increasing the penalty fee for failing to follow the dog waste disposal bylaws. Mr. Trindade expanded on this idea, suggesting the installation of cameras to dissuade individuals from leaving waste behind. He mentioned that it could be particularly effective to post signage that notifies people that they are being surveilled. Furthermore, he also addressed the potential to make failure to dispose of dog waste a police offense.

Ms. Potter also underscored the importance of the bylaw language being clearly enforceable; otherwise, it is difficult to hold individuals accountable.

After the committee generally reviewed and debriefed on the department heads' feedback, Ms. Potter reminded the committee members of the ability to separate bylaw changes into their own articles.

Due to the absence of the other two committee members, Mr. Trindade stated that the committee members individually take steps towards understanding and adjusting the new bylaw language in the interim. Specifically, he suggested that they thoroughly read the material and make note of any glaring issues or areas for improvement. He also stated that he will look into solutions for the dog waste issue.

After coordinating schedules, the committee members agreed to meet again on Wednesday, September 15 at 7PM.

Motion to Adjourn: At 7:31PM, Mr. Trindade offered a motion to adjourn. Ms. Hillery seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Gay: aye, Hillery: aye, Trindade: aye.