

TO: TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: PLANNING DEPARTMENT
RE: REQUEST FOR DONATION - LOOMIS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

ISSUE

Council is asked to consider donating money (reimbursement) to the Loomis Grammar School. Councilman Scherer was approached by a teacher at the school regarding the school's field being utilized by dogs and their owners. There is a lack of clean-up being done by those individuals who are utilizing the schools' field for their dog(s), which has become an issue. The request was for the Town to fund the purchase of a "Doggie Station" so dog owners could have access to bags for clean-up should they forget to bring their own. The Park, Recreation & Open Space Committee, at their August meeting, reviewed the request and recommended the Town cover the cost of purchasing a Doggie Station for the School. The "Doggie Station" located at the Blue Anchor Park cost the Town \$249.99.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve donation for the cost of a "Doggie Station" (up to \$300, whichever is less).

**CEQA**

There are no CEQA issues because it is self evident that these kinds of donations will not impact the environment.

MONEY

Not to exceed \$300.00

DISCUSSION

Loomis Grammar School seeks a donation for use in reimbursing the purchase of a "Doggie Station" (as installed at the Blue Anchor Park) in order to promote the cleaning-up of their dogs on the school's property. The "Doggie Station" located at the Blue Anchor Park cost the Town \$249.99.

ATTACHED

August 16, 2011 Park, Recreation & Open Space Committee Staff Report & Minutes

TO: PROS Committee
FROM: Planning Department
DATE: August 16, 2011

DISCUSSION

Rebecca Kattenhorn (8th grade Math & Science teacher) approached Councilmember Scherer (via email) regarding an issue the school is having with dog owners not cleaning up their dog's feces on their property. She asked that the Town consider helping the school with this issue by purchasing and installing a doggie station (bags/garbage) at their school (presumably near the fields).

Council member Scherer responded (in summary):

In as much as we do have a mutual use agreement with the schools, so that the townspeople can use the facilities after hours, it seems appropriate for the town to take some responsibility for the issues that emanate from that agreement.

I guess the first thing we do is to bring this matter to the attention of the Parks Recreation and Open Space Committee (PROSC), and ask for their recommendation. I will include the town manager, Perry Beck, in this, so that it can be on the next PROSC agenda for discussion and a recommendation.

*NOTE: The Town has not been formally approached by the school or School District regarding this issue.

ISSUES

- Does the PROS Committee wish the Town to use Park Development Funds on School District property for this purpose?
- Who will maintain the doggie station? Will Town staff have to make sure the doggie station has bags in it? Does Town replace if/when damaged?
- Should, or why can't the school install signage restricting dogs on their private property and enforce accordingly?
- Is this really a Town issue?

RECOMMENDATION

Hear staff report, discuss and instruct staff to forward the PROSC's recommendation to Council.

A motion to solicit the Planning Commission and Town Council for additional volunteers to help run a Town booth was made by Committee member Newton and seconded by Committee member Seers and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

- **Blue Anchor Park Outreach Update**

- Update the PROS Committee and staff on any outreach updates (volunteer of time, materials, et cetera) for the Blue Anchor Park development.

Public Comment on Work Plan items:

Walt Scherer (3683 Frost Lane) – Hopeful that the PROSC can staff an educational booth at this years Eggplant Festival to answer questions about the Blue Anchor Park and other tasks that the Committee has accomplished over the last year.

4. Request for Discussion

Council member Scherer was approached by a Loomis Grammar School teacher about the possibility of the Town purchasing and installing a doggie station (bags/garbage) at Loomis Grammar School.

Recommendation: Hear staff report, discuss and instruct staff to forward the PROSC's recommendation to Council.

Public Comment:

Walt Scherer (3683 Frost Lane) – It's not the schools responsibility to clean-up after our Town residents who do not clean-up after their dogs. Posting a sign would be helpful as well as purchasing the doggie station. It would be a nice gesture to the school.

A motion to recommend that the Council pay for a doggie station for Loomis Grammar was made by Committee member Seth and seconded by Committee member Seers and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Cancel Regular Meeting of August 23, 2011

Public Comment:

A motion to cancel the regular PROSC meeting of August 23, 2011, was made by Committee member Seers and seconded by Committee member Newton and passed by a unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN: 7:16pm