

Lansing Unleashed eNews: January 3, 2007

Hello, Friends of Greater Lansing Dog Parks:

Welcome to our January 2007 eNewsletter issue. In this eNewsletter:

1. Monday, January 22, 2007 General Membership Meeting Features Park Opening Timeline
2. Lansing Dog Park 2007 Officer Elections
3. Annual Membership (January-December) Due for Renewal Now
4. 2006 Year End Appeal--A Reminder from The Dog

1. **Monday, January 22, 2007 General Membership Meeting Features Park Opening Timeline:** Please join us at our next General Membership meeting on Monday, January 22, 2007 at 7 p.m. at Foster Community Center, 200 N. Foster, Lansing, MI. We will begin with a short membership meeting with content prescribed in our bylaws.

The agenda includes:

- a. Welcome with Review and Approval of 2006 Annual Membership Meeting Minutes
- b. Financial Report
- c. Membership Report
- d. Meeting Schedule for 2007
- e. Election of Officers
- f. Dog Park Status, Update and Future Directions

Following our business meeting agenda, we will continue with a program featuring a detailed update on dog park tasks and timelines for construction and opening of the 17.5-acre park in 2007. Murdock Jemerson, Lansing Parks & Recreation Director, and Mike Bristol, Project Manager for Landscape Architects & Planners, will present. They will outline the dog park construction project tasks, timelines for completion and target date for opening the park. We will also see site plans and review proposed rules for use of the park. You will have an opportunity to ask questions you may have. Join us for this exciting update!

2. **Lansing Dog Park 2007 Officer Elections:** We will be electing our President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer for 2007 at the Annual Membership Meeting on January 22, 2006. Remember to renew your membership so that you can exercise your right to vote on the slate.

The following people have agreed to be nominated to serve as volunteer officers for the next year:

- a. President, Ellen Sullivan. Ellen has been President of our organization since October 2004, having served previously as Vice President. Ellen and her husband Mark, have two Scottish Deerhounds, Rhys and Nellie.
- b. Vice President, Cindy Ballard. Cindy has been our Fundraising Chair since 2004 and Vice President since 2005. She and her husband Bob have two black lab mutts, Sly and Jake.
- c. Secretary, Morgan Haeger. Morgan has been a member of FGLDP since early 2006 and has experience in starting and running a nonprofit prior to moving back to Michigan for nursing school. He and his partner have two rescued dogs, Domino and Bandit.
- d. Treasurer, Rebecca Vanvelzor. Rebecca has been a member of FGLDP since 2005 and works for a local credit union. She and her daughter have one dog, Teddy.

This is our published slate of candidates; we will accept nominations from the floor at the January General Membership Meeting. To be eligible for an office you must be a member with dues paid in the current year. To vote for officers, you must also be a current member. Join or renew now online at our secure web site:

<http://www.lansingdogparks.com/membership.html>

3. **Annual Membership (January-December) Due for Renewal Now:** FGLDP is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and donations (including membership) are fully deductible for income tax purposes. Renewal notices were sent to current members and invitations to join were sent to those currently on the mailing list only. Remember that almost all of our membership dues and donations go to starting the park; since we keep our operating expenses to a bare minimum. Join or renew now at: <http://www.lansingdogparks.com/membership.html>

4. **2006 Year End Appeal--A Reminder From The Dog**: Dear Favorite Human, remember that email (or letter) you received from me a couple of weeks ago? Well, I am still looking for donations to the Friends of Greater Lansing Dog Parks to help fence in part of Scott Woods. Donate now to get an early start on your 2006 tax benefit-- like I really care about that but I know you might. My dog park friends tell me that you can go online to their donations page and contribute by credit card right now. Follow this link to the website to find out more about making a donation online: <http://www.lansingunleashed.com/>

That is all for now. Woof! Stay in touch through our web site at: www.lansingunleashed.com

Our organization does most of its direct mail communication via email to save on postage costs. Email addresses are used for information on dog parks and dog related events and are not shared with third parties. Paid members without email access will receive mailings through the U.S. Postal Service.

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