

Somerville Dog Owners Group  
Questionnaire for Candidates for 2005 Municipal Elections

Name: Sean T. O'Donovan

Office for which you are seeking election: Ward Five Alderman (incumbent)

1. How many times a month do you visit Somerville parks and/or playgrounds? Please list the parks you visit, and, for each park, the number of times per week and the reason(s) you visit.

I visit Conway, Albion, Lexington and Trum most frequently as a spectator and as the Alderman. In the summer I visit these approx. once per week.

2. Somerville City Ordinance, 12-51, "Dogs in Parks and Playgrounds," leaves it to the discretion of the Commissioner of Public Works to post "No Dogs Allowed Signs at city parks. Do you know of any parks under the jurisdiction of the City that are *not* posted "No Dogs Allowed"? If so, which ones?

In Ward 5 I do not know of any, but the Commissioner is ordering new signs and rectifying this problem.

3. If elected in November, what will you do in the upcoming term to improve the equitable distribution of open space in order to serve the many and diverse needs of Somerville residents?

Require developers to enhance and create additional open space. Especially along the undeveloped bike path from Cedar St. eastward.

4. In 2005, the City Clerk mailed out a brochure about responsible dog ownership along with dog license renewal applications. 2005 was also the fifth year that the Animal Control Department and the Health Department participated in the state-wide Annual Rabies Vaccination Day. What else do you think the City of Somerville can do to promote responsible dog ownership?

Encourage membership in various "dog" organizations and create a dog owner's task force like that of the bike commission.

*Somerville Dog Owners Group Questionnaire (continued)*

5. Do you own a dog/dogs?

Not now, I owned a Chinese miniature pug as a kid (16 yrs.).

***If you answered “no” to question 5, please skip to question 6.***

5a. Please provide your dog(s) name(s) and describe a typical day in the life of your dog(s).

5b. How many times per week does your dog get a leash walk off his territory (i.e. off your property)?

5c. How many times per week does your dog get to play off-leash with other dogs (not including dogs in the same household)?

6. In your opinion, what is the place of dogs in our families and communities?

A necessity, all families must experience it especially those w/ children.

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