

10.1.1

October 7, 2005

City of Halifax
P.O. Box 1749
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

Re: Safety at Seaview Park

Since my we adopted our dog nearly a year ago, we have been enjoying going to Seaview Park to allow our dog to socialize with other dogs and play off-leash.

During the summer, we became accustomed to taking her to the park in the evenings after work; however with summer over, it is getting darker and darker earlier and earlier. There is a substantial number of dog owners who are at the park every evening without fail; however, those of us who linger as it gets dark are now feeling unsafe and unwanted.

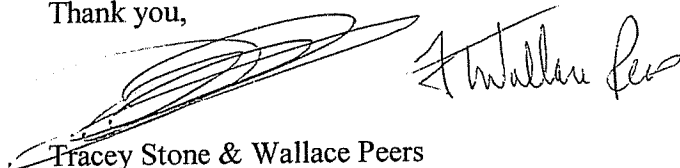
A number of individuals come to the park at dusk, looking for 'companionship' for the night, and although we keep our dogs to the far end of the park away from the parking lot, these individuals often 'cruise' towards this area, and then become verbally abusive if the dogs get too close.

There is an unspoken rule that if a person is seen walking alone in the park after dark towards where the dogs are playing, the dogs are put on their leashes until the person moves on. Another unspoken rule is no one stay alone in the park after dark; it is just not safe.

These individuals come to the park by choice; as dog owners who are looking for a place to allow our dogs to freely and safely play off-leash, Seaview Park is our ONLY option.

On behalf of ourselves and other dog owners, we would like the City to consider occasional patrols of the park and to also consider installing a light in the park, toward the far end picnic table, where dogs and their owners congregate. It would allow us to not only feel safer but extend the time we can enjoy the park with our pets.

Thank you,



Tracey Stone & Wallace Peers

cc: Len Goucher, Councillor for Bedford
Patrick Murphy, Councillor for Halifax North End