



PO Box 274 - Eastham, MA 02642
www.easthamdog.org

MINUTES

August 18, 2011

Hot Chocolate Sparrow

The meeting began at 6:20 p.m.

Attendees: Richard Brezner, Cindy Blum, Katrina Boucher, Kathy Herrick, Karie Miller, Ellen Murray, Cindy Nicholson, Noelle Smith, Lu St. Aubin

Review of Minutes: Minutes from May 2011 meeting were approved.

Board Membership: This was Cindy Blum's first board meeting. Welcome, Cindy!

Correspondence

- We received the final legal bill for securing our federal non-profit status (501c3). The bill was for \$1480 and it will be paid by the Mullin Foundation.
- Claire Bransfield continues to send flowers and/or cards to members whose pets have died. She pays for this out of her own pocket. EDOA received a thank-you letter from Pete & Norma Trincherro for acknowledgement of the death of their lab Marco.
- Mutt Mitts - Agway allots 18 cases this year, and we've used 14 cases so far. Because these are biodegradable, their shelf life is only one year before they begin to disintegrate. Noelle will donate another 2 cases, and CindyN will let her know when we need them.
- Town of Eastham approved an additional one-year Transient Vendor permit that will allow us to sell clothing at various events (e.g. Bow Wow Bash, Windmill Weekend).

Donations: Jim Nicholson bought a new set of banners to replace the ones he mistakenly threw out.

Clothing Supply: A new order was placed for t-shirts and sweatshirts. However, no caps were ordered. A motion was made and subsequently approved to spend \$445 for 36 caps. Katrina will order these.

Board Membership

- Jim Lear has resigned from the board because of time constraints.
- Question arose as to whether Colleen has resigned as board secretary or as a board member, and Cindy will write to ask her to clarify her intent in writing.
- Mary Beth O'Shea is willing to rejoin the board if no one else is interested. Her knowledge of Town Hall processes has been valuable to EDOA.
- Board members were asked if they knew anyone else who might be interested in joining the board. Cindy will draft a letter to be sent to members who expressed an interest on their membership form and invite to our September Board meeting.

Lost Dog Committee: The committee has not met since June. We need to improve communications including the functionality of the online system that still only alerts 5 committee members of a Lost Dog Report and requires human intervention to distribute this information to the broader membership. Noelle questioned whether it would make sense to involve a computer professional to help with this since our internal efforts have not made progress in enhancing the system. She will check with a company she knows to get an estimate of costs should we decide to employ them, and will have this information for discussion at our September board meeting.

- Kathy purchased 3 pairs of two-way radios for use by searchers. A decision was made to keep these at Nauset Pet Services, rather than assign them to LDN members, because NPS has someone onsite 24-hours a day. Radios have been labeled with inventory tags. Kathy will create a form for searchers to sign radios out and back in after use.

Membership Committee

- CindyN will update the system with some new members.
- The mailing to 100 licensed dog owners in Eastham who are not currently EDOA members generated only 1 new membership. This effort will not be repeated.
- A question arose about whether the town would be willing to include EDOA membership information when they mail their annual dog license renewals to residents.
- Karie will look into obtaining "window clings" with the EDOA logo. These would show the number of pets in the house in case of emergency. We could give them out over Windmill Weekend.
- Will we offer a discounted \$10 membership at Windmill Weekend? Yes, this will be offered only during the weekend. The membership will be valid through year end.
- Vendors who offer EDOA member discounts will start requiring that those requesting discounts show their EDOA membership card. This will preclude the problems these vendors have had in trying to check current memberships.

Emergency Shelter: CindyB reported that CCDART President Holly Rogers indicated that the Nauset Shelter will not be opened in the foreseeable future because opening Nauset would negatively impact her ability to open Sandwich and Dennis-Yarmouth shelters because of a shortage of volunteers. This is significant because more than 50% of the committed CCDART volunteers are from Eastham, and all have their primary interest in staffing a Nauset Shelter. Holly also said that the Towns of Sandwich and Dennis-Yarmouth have been much more supportive of CCDART than the Town of Eastham, but EDOA has no idea what this means or how to measure it. Holly told CindyB and several other CCDART members from Eastham that we can split off on our own to open Nauset if we want to. CindyB and Kathy agreed to evaluate the feasibility of EDOA supporting a Nauset shelter independent of CCDART.

Liability Insurance: Kerry Insurance has not provided any of the requested updates. Because of this, we will reach out to Rogers and Gray Insurance for a quote. Lu will continue to take the lead on securing this information.

Annual Meeting: Our annual meeting will be held on Thursday, October 20st from 6-8 p.m. at the Chapel in the Pines on Samoset Road.

- Program: Ellen has arranged with Nancy Bishop from CARE to discuss geriatric dogs, their care, conditions such as arthritis, and treatment modalities. A suggestion was also made to ask whether Nancy is qualified to speak about pet anxiety, fear of firecrackers/thunder/lightening, etc. and how an owner should deal with this.
 - In an effort to continue to provide ongoing educational information to our members, Noelle and Richard will work together to discuss a quarterly lecture series.
- We currently have open seats on the board. Lu will also check the terms of current board members to verify if any terms are expiring.
- Elections for officer positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer will be voted upon at this meeting. Officers are elected for two year terms. These positions must be filled from within the board and are not open to the general membership.
- A suggestion was made to solicit ideas from attendees at the annual meeting about topics they would be interested in learning more about and directions they'd like to see EDOA take.

Windmill Weekend

- CindyN is coordinating the EDOA booth with volunteers scheduled on Saturday and Sunday in 2-hour shifts. There are a few time slot openings at this time that she is working to fill.
- Parade theme this year is "Eastham - Gateway to the Cape Cod National Seashore." A decision was made to use many of the same props we used last year on our float, but to enhance it with American flags, etc. since the parade date is the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attack. Katrina has flag bandanas she will donate to dogs that are walking in the parade, and walkers will be encouraged to wear red, white or blue shirts.
- Noelle will draft a general message to the membership about our sponsoring a float again this year (a cooperative effort between EDOA, Cape Cod Dog and Nauset Pet Services), plus how to get involved with decorating the float and/or walking in the parade.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, September 15 at 6 p.m. Location TBD.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Herrick
Board Member