

EASTHAM DOG OWNERS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Thursday, January 11, 2007 @ 6:30PM

Eastham Police Conference Room

PRESENT: Cindy Nicholson, Bernie Kaplan, Loretta Neilsen, Pat Engstrom, Kay Hartman, Karie Miller, Lynne Bates, Linda VanNest, Fred Fenlan, Bill O'Shea, Val Young

Fred Fenlon called meeting to order at 6:45PM

MINUTES – Previous meeting minutes reviewed and accepted with the addendum of including Val Young to the “present” category.

TREASURERS REPORT – Val Young stated no change from last month, balance **\$536.00.**

MISSION GOAL – Confirmed wording complete, accepted unanimously.

MUTT MITTS –

- ♦ Lynn brought in one carton of mutt mitts for show & tell. Agway will provide five cases per year, total of 4,000 year. Additional would cost \$55.75 case/800 mitts per case. Discounted \$10.00 per case. They would also provide one mutt mitt box at no charge which uses a standard key. Lynn will contact Katelyn at the Natural Resource Department to obtain keys for Loretta and Pat.
- ♦ Lynn to maintain Rock Harbor and suggested it be moved to the dog path. At a previous Selectmen's meeting, it was noted they would move it. Not moved yet.
- ♦ Boxes are main concern. Loretta brought up \$8000 allocated for trail maintenance from previous town meeting. Should we be asking Town Hall status? Consensus was not to at this time.
- ♦ Pat mentioned First Encounter Beach has had complaints of individuals not picking up after dog.
- ♦ Loretta will coordinate another “poop pick-up” in the spring at Wiley Park. We should also consider First Encounter.
- ♦ Bernie discussed possibilities of composting poop.

MEMBERSHIP COUNT:

Cindy Nicholson reported there are 770 registered dog owners in Eastham and to date 99 have signed up with association. The membership form has been updated to include registered voters and copies were distributed. Bill O'Shea asked copy of form be emailed to all.

BLOG: Fred worked on. Asked Cindy to try edoa>edoa.blogspot.com. Cape Cod Today has blog as well.

BY – LAW STRATEGY

Fred took floor. Letter was sent to Sheila Vanderhoef and Lillian Lamperti at the Town Hall. He saw Sheila before Selectman's meeting and she was willing to meet. Yesterday Fred rec'd call from Lorraine to schedule a meeting. Set for 10AM Tuesday morning – meet 9:50AM. Lillian and Police Animal control officer to join them. Monday Fred to drop off revised By-Law.

Feedback from board:

- ♦ Go in with open mind, positive attitude and be prepared to listen as well was the general consensus of how to approach. Bernie questioned if any selectman were going to attend. Not known.
- ♦ Bernie – reiterated to stay positive and remember what are we after? How do we work together to make it happen?
- ♦ Fred – Possible too much on warrant already?
- ♦ Loretta – We are willing to postpone if town would appeal present by-law
- ♦ Lynn questioned if possible to eliminate some concerns?

There is a deadline for presenting the amended by-law. Sheila opened up warrant at Selectman's meeting. Town meeting is generally held early May. Cut off for warrant is February 7, 2007.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Need registered voters and it was questioned what method:

Telephone solicitation?-

- ♦ Kay – negative response. When people signed up at the post office specifically asked not to be called.
- ♦ Lynn – committee needs to be formed
- ♦ Post card – soliciting new membership. Perhaps at bottom any questions to call?
- ♦ Val –suggested to invite dog owners to open meeting.
- ♦ Bill O'Shea questioned to telephone solicited or send post card or self mailer. Voted to send mailer. Cindy, Pat, Carrie and Lynne formed committee.
- ♦ Fred – leave it up to the committee to create and send out. Time is of the essence. Respond via email, telephone or mail.

- ♦ When the town meeting gets closer, advertisement is needed.
- ♦ Membership – separate members by email (Cindy)
- ♦ Website – contact Lisa Benson.

STORM SHELTER FOR DOGS AND OTHER PETS: Pat Engstrom has been trying to reach Chief. Bill has Regional Contact if go ahead is needed. He will help. Val brought to our attention a notice in newspaper of special meeting for those interested in learning about shelters – to be held at the Wellfleet Senior Center.

THERAPY DOGS INTERNATIONAL:

Cindy spoke with Kathy Gill at the COA regarding working together to visit those sick or home bound. She suggested contacting Pat Kofuske (508-255-3139) at the Friendly Visitor Club. Pat is in charge of the Eastham "shut-ins" and possibly would work with us to visit the sick and/or elderly.

Fred emailed Therapy Dog International website to all. Val to follow up with Fred.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Fred suggested incorporating as non-profit organization. Fee is less than \$100. Bill to work on with Fred.

Next meeting Feb 8, 2007 @ 6:30 PM Eastham Police Conference Room.
Meeting Adjourned 7:45PM

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Nicholson