



Eastham Dog Owners' Association April 18, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes

Attending: Per Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Ed Daniels, Larry DiBona, Kathy Herrick, Karie Miller, Kathleen "K2" Mueller, Ellen Murray, Cindy Nicholson, and Tracey Plantier

Absent: Katrina Boucher, Lu St. Aubin

Minutes of the March 2013 meeting were approved. (*Motion to accept minutes by CindyN, Ellen 2nd, passed*). Ed will post a link to our minutes on the EDOA website.

Treasurer Report – Lu was not in attendance to provide this report.

Correspondence – There were three comments/inquiries received this month. One writer wrote to say she loved our EDOA newsletter. Another raised a question about the dog park survey that is currently in distribution to our members. A third asked about availability of dog walkers in town. Responses were provided to each.

Dog of the Month = Cooper. K2 is Cooper's human, and they share a friendly personality. Cooper was the runt of his hound/collie mix litter, and is now 18 months old. He shares his home with his humans plus two other dogs, including his blood brother Charlie. K2 rescued Cooper when he was 7 months old after learning that his front leg had been shattered and needed to be amputated. This different ability does not hold Cooper back. He can run up and down stairs with hesitation, and he loves to retrieve. Although Cooper is afraid of water (think Great Pond at Wiley Park), he loves babies, probably due to his original family having a newborn in the house. Cooper's happy face and playful nature provided all of us with smiles this evening.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*Motion to accept committee reports by K2, Karie 2nd, passed*)

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – A team meeting was held last Thursday, April 11th with 15 people in attendance. We reviewed our 2012 activity and the four alerts that have been received so far in 2013. We reviewed our LDN alert process, the use of coordinators as the liaison between the owner and EDOA, discussed how to further market LDN and that we are replenishing stock of Find Fido folders at local businesses (e.g., Eastham Police, Town Hall, Cape Cod Dog, Nauset Pet Services), and distributed some accessories (e.g., slip leads, 2-way radio, LDN lawn signs). Two people from WOOF (Wellfleet Owners of Fido) attended to learn about our network, and they already have 14 people interested in starting a LDN in Wellfleet.

- Kathy asked the board to consider how to proceed with WOOF LDN. Should they develop their own team or should we expand EDOA LDN to include them in an Outer Cape LDN? Because of the nature of our process, with proprietary computer systems, our own LDN phone number, and the potential challenge/limitations of modifying these processes/systems, etc., the EDOA Board agrees that WOOF should operate independently. We would seek a liaison/contact between each group to share information, but believe that operating separately is a better solution of EDOA.
- Kathy intends to resign as the chair of LDN and is looking for another board member to assume this role. Over the course of the last few years, all processes, training, reference materials, member lists, coordinator lists, equipment, activity records, etc., have been documented and maintained, and this should enhance a smooth transition in leadership. Tracey expressed interest in taking on this role, and she and Kathy will discuss this further.

Emergency Shelter – CCDART conducted a volunteer information session a few weeks ago that had 12 new people in attendance. The organization's basic responder training program is scheduled weekly from March 30 – May 18 at the Dennis Police Headquarters. This program also includes a one day shelter simulation exercise.

Buddy Scholarship – The committee selected Katie Flanagan as our 2013 scholarship winner. Katie graduated from Nauset High School, and is enrolled in pre-vet studies at UMass. We will meet Katie and award the scholarship at



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either the May 16th board meeting or the May 18th Bow Wow Bash. Once the award is delivered, we will send an acknowledgement to all donors to the Buddy Scholarship who made this award possible.

Membership – We currently have 118 members and we expect this number to grow from our involvement in several upcoming local events. All membership cards have been sent out, including a copy of the EDOA Newsletter and a Lost Dog Network magnet. The recent plea for current members to recruit others resulted in several new or renewed memberships.

- CindyB brought a sample marketing package that we might want to consider giving to local vets to hand out to new puppy parents. Her sample included a slip lead and dog cookies, with business cards from EDOA, Cape Cod Dog, and Nauset Pet Services. They were nicely packaged. CindyB will check with local vets to see if they would be interested in distributing this package, and she will also check with Town Clerk Lillian Lamperti to see if the town would be willing to do the same when people register for their dog's first dog's license.

Education – Ellen asked for specific ideas for our guest speakers to address at our annual meeting on October 17.

- Ideas for dog trainer Donna Iovanni – How to Control Dogs when excited or highly/easily distracted; Territorial Issues like meet and greet, resource guarding, exiting cars, etc.
- Ideas for veterinarian Dani Schutzenzel – Home Emergency Medicine including cuts, using peroxide to induce vomiting, choking, etc.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rabies Clinic (held Saturday, March 30th) – thank you to the 8 members who volunteered to help. A suggestion was made to send a thank you to each volunteer who helped with this event and to make it a practice to always issue a thank you to our volunteers at any other events.

Bow Wow Bash (Saturday, May 18th, Rain Date May 19th) – We have the site permit and will obtain the fire and transient permits needed. K2 will check to see if representatives from Fairy Dogparents will attend to talk about their organization. Ellen will also check to see if Companion Animals can join us. CindyN ran through a list of supplies, roles, etc. that are needed to make this event a success, and obtained commitment from board members for those various items. A suggestion was made to put a teaser on the EDOA website about selling our merchandise at this event.

Hands on the Arts (Saturday June 15: this the corrected date) – Four members have already volunteered to help. We will participate only on Saturday, June 15th in this two day event. Ed, Tracey, Larry and Ellen will help with planning with CindyB in the lead.

Paws for Celebration (Saturday, June 22nd) – CindyN will lead the planning. The event is scheduled from 11 am to 4 pm but will require setup and takedown before and after.

Windmill Weekend (September) - CindyN and Karie will again co-chair this event for EDOA. They want to simplify the effort, in particular by significantly reducing the number of raffles, so that we have more focus on talking about our organization and getting our message out. Because we cannot have dogs on the green, a suggestion was made to create a slide/video show on a portable computer to attract attention to our booth. K2 will work on this, and if possible, will get this ready for use at the Bow Wow Bash in May.

OTHER BUSINESS



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Mutt Mitts – Per installed a roll dispenser at Dyer Prince. Now the town can refill this dispenser when needed. There are two dispensers at Wiley Park, one at the front and one at the back of the park. Agway will continue to supply us with mutt mitt bags and dispensers for another year (First Encounter, Salt Pond, and Hemenway).

Dog Park Survey – The survey has been distributed to members. The response period will close sometime next week, but over 20% of membership has already responded. Respondents thus far are most concerned that having a dog park will result in a dog ban everywhere else in town, and have opinions ranging from 1 to 10 when asked if Eastham is a dog friendly town. Final results will be tabulated for next month's board meeting.

Newsletter – Although K2 has some ideas for the next newsletter, she is open to any additional suggestions. Her plan is to publish in about 2 weeks. Dog trainer Donna Iovanni offered to contribute articles, but a suggestion was made to wait until after her presentation at our annual meeting in October.

Chamber of Commerce – No one was able to attend the last meeting. Ed will get the upcoming meeting schedule out to board members so that people can plan to attend. We will need to review the cost of our membership and benefit of attendance before we renew our membership for next year.

Sunshine Gift – Claire gave Katrina a gift certificate to Karoo for her mom Noreen.

Advertising for Vendors – This topic arose again with a dog fence vendor potentially interested in providing a discount to EDOA members. Per will check further with this vendor to understand more about what they are thinking, but again, we have to develop a plan and policy about whether we want to promote a vendor who is not an EDOA member, how and where we would list their offer, what that listing would convey, etc. It is a topic we've discussed but never worked through the details.

EDOA Website had 160 unique hits last week, down 57% from the prior week, but both statistics show interest in what we are doing as an organization.

Humane Society – CindyB mentioned a Humane Society gathering in Boston on April 25th with a plan to speak with elected officials about puppy mills and protecting farm animals in Massachusetts, both being addressed in two bills before the state legislature.

A person running for Selectman asked to speak at an upcoming EDOA meeting, but we will inform her that this does not fit into our plans or time frame.

Next month's Dog of the Month will be Sophie, CindyN's black lab.

A motion to adjourn was received from CindyB, Cindy N 2nd. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 16th at 6 p.m. at Willy's Gym on Route 6 in Eastham.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Herrick, Secretary