



Eastham Dog Owners' Association April 16, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

Attending: Vicky Anderson, Per Bentsen, Ruth Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Dianne Cullen, Ed Daniels, Larry DiBona, Kathy Herrick, Karie Miller, Ellen Murray, Cindy Nicholson, Joanne Baldauf Absent: Tracey Plantier

The March meeting minutes were approved with revision. (*Motion to accept by CindyN, Per 2nd, passed*).

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth presented our year-to-date activity against our 2015 budget. Income through today totaled \$2900 with expenses through the same period totaling \$595. Our account balance is currently \$14,659.60 (\$12,212.11 bank balance, \$2034.61 CD, \$412.88 PayPal). *Motion to accept Treasurer's report by Vicky, Dianne 2nd, passed.* Ruth is also working on a State Form 4PC that is due on May 15. All other state and federal forms are filed.

CORRESPONDENCE/NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

- We heard from a member who expressed dismay at the amount of poop at the side entrance to Wiley Park (off Herringbrook Road) and that there is no trash can there. The trash can was removed a long time ago because people were dumping their personal trash in it. There are signs telling people to pick up but that doesn't force them to do it or to properly dispose of their poop bags.
- Natural Resources Officer Dick Hilmer assured us that they'll invite EDOA to participate in any meetings they hold about how to maintain parks like Wiley as it relates to dogs and their owners.
- Another member suggested that we might want to allow members to "pre-register" their dog/contact information on our system so that it is available if the dog gets lost. Ed advised the member to submit his information and we'll think about how we could host and track this information.
- A member who is also part of our Lost Dog Network volunteered to donate the cost of any supplies she might need as an LDN member. Thank you for this offer.
- We heard from the daughter of former board member Bernie Kaplan about what happened to his beloved dog Moxie. Happily Moxie has found a new home on Cape with a big family that has a big yard.
- Eastham Police Officer and Animal Control Officer Diana Back send a very complimentary letter thanking us for our Lost Dog Network activity and recent training program.
- West Roxbury hosts a Bark-B-Que which sounds similar to our Bow Wow Bash.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*Motion to accept all committee reports by Dianne, Tracey 2nd, passed*)

Education - Ellen reported that we have 13 people signed up for the Cooperative Dog training program scheduled for May 17th along with 1 person who will audit the program. She will provide refreshments and will need a few tables for setup and registration that morning. Nauset Pet Services owner Kirsten Davis has been great in offering her site for the event. Rain date is May 24.

EDOA Newsletter – our next newsletter is due in May. Kathy volunteered to write about LCAST and others should submit to CindyN any information they want included about their committees.

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – CindyN and Karie welcomed 19 people to the Searchers' Training held on April 11th. There was good discussion and we were happy to add four new team members. CindyN brought some new Find Fido folders – Dianne will take some to Brewster ARL and Larry will take some to Eastham Police and Fire Department. Our partners at Cape Cod Dog and Nauset Pet Services have an adequate supply of the folders.

- CindyN distributed new LDN ID badges to those team members in attendance at tonight's board meeting.
- New LDN team member Bob Smith, who is also chair of Windmill Weekend, clarified that there is NO town regulation that restricts dogs from Windmill Green. At the end of this year's parade, dogs on leash will be allowed on the Green.
- Tomorrow Larry is going to Advanced Embroidery to order additional LDN vests.



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- Coordinators' Training will be held on April 25th at Tracey's house. An email reminder is forthcoming from Tracey.

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST)

- The "forms" training session will be held this Saturday, April 18th at 9:00 a.m. at the Eastham Fire Department. Twelve people have RSVP'd that they can attend.
- The LCAST Operations Manual will be distributed at Saturday's session.
- CindyB presented an overview of LCAST at the Emergency Preparedness Seminar on March 27th at the Eastham Council on Aging. It was well received, and although many of the people in attendance did not have pets, they were excited to tell their neighbors and friends who are pet owners that the emergency shelter accepts pets. The program was so well received that the COA is planning to hold another session in advance of the upcoming hurricane season.

Membership – We have 146 memberships for 2015. All membership cards have been mailed.

Buddy Scholarship – Five applications were received. The committee met this evening and made the decision to award the \$500 scholarship to Kayla Drake at our May 16th Bow Wow Bash. Kayla is a Nauset High Senior who is planning to attend Cape Cod Community College for two years and then transfer to UMass Dartmouth to study marine biology. Congratulations, Kayla!

Mutt Mitts – Ellen received the key and a supply of Mutt Mitts to stock dispensers at Dyer Prince, Hemenway, and Salt Pond. The recent Poop Pickup Party was unfortunately poorly attended since there was a great need for assistance in cleaning up the park. Irresponsible dog owners continue to leave their dog's poop and/or filled poop bags for others to pick up, even though bags and trash cans are available. Future poop pickup parties will be scheduled on a weekend in hopes of getting better attendance.

Merchandise – our merchandise supply is adequate.

OLD BUSINESS

Wiley Park Bulletin Board – Vicky brought pictures of options and associated costs for boards that will match what we have now. A new board will be made of recycled plastic wood that will not rot or otherwise deteriorate in the weather. The original wooden board was purchased with a grant but those grant monies are no longer available. Eastham Parks and Recreation will accept the donation of a board and DPW will install it. A team will meet tomorrow to finalize the selection. *A motion to budget up to \$1500 for a new board to be installed at Wiley Park was made by CindyB, Vicky 2nd, passed unanimously.*

Board Member Nominating Committee – CindyB and Karie received clarification that the goal of this committee is to seek and vet potential candidates for open board positions. Our board consists of 12 members, each of whom serves a staggered 2-year term, meaning that every October, six terms expire.

Eastham Rabies Clinic – Per, Ruth and Joanne volunteered at the recent clinic. At last count, over 50 pet owners attended and 67 animals received their rabies shot for \$10 each. This is a cash only event, which several attendees did not know in advance. Ed also reached out to Orleans Animal Hospital to offer our services at their recent rabies clinic, but they said they were appreciative of our offer but didn't need our help.

- Per made the point that our having a 10% discount for EDOA members at Eastham Veterinary Clinic and Orleans Animal Hospital was a great conversation to have while people were waiting. We might get some new members who learned about EDOA and the discount at this event.



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NEW BUSINESS

We learned that Orleans Animal Control will start to patrol Kent's Point to enforce the dogs on leash requirement that was stipulated on the original land donation but was never enforced. Be forewarned.

Bow Wow Bash planning – CindyN made flyers. We need 5-6 tables (2 for food, 1 for CAP, 2-3 for merchandise). CindyB has two we can use and Karie can get more from the coffeehouse. Ed will work with folks to pick up and transport the tables. In next year's budget, we might want to plan to buy some tables for use at the many events in which we participate.

Two ideas were raised about how EDOA might be able to help local residents and their pets. Neither idea was acted on but we discussed both.

- What about residents on limited resources who cannot afford to have their pet vaccinated against rabies? If we focus on the pet, we certainly want the pet protected, but how would we assist, how would the resident prove that they had financial need, and who would fund it? This sounds like a nice idea to help the pet, but it gets very murky when thinking about identifying financial need.
- What about elderly or persons with limited ability to walk their dog on a regular basis? Again, when focusing on the dog, it would be great to help out, but who has the time to do this, what kind of need is there, and how quickly could this get out of control from a volume perspective?

Paws for Celebration – Dianne reached out to ARL to reserve a table for EDOA at this May 30th event at Drummer Boy Park.

Meet the Candidates Forum – There is only one contested race this year, a position on the school committee. Although Jim Russo at the Chamber of Commerce is interested in partnering with us again, we do not believe the one contested position justifies our co-sponsoring again this year.

Finance Question – how do we track donations earmarked for particular committees or activities (i.e., for Lost Dog Network, Buddy Scholarship, etc.)? Do we need to create separate bank accounts? No. As long as the earmark is noted in the appropriate financial category as supporting a particular committee or activity, there should be no reason to create separate bank accounts.

UPCOMING EVENTS – updated from last month

- April 18, 9:00 am – LCAST Forms Training
- May 16 – Bow Wow Bash
- May 17 - The Cooperative Dog Training Session (rain date May 24)
- May 30 – Paws for Celebration
- June 20 – Hands on the Arts
- September 12-13 – Windmill Weekend

A motion to adjourn was made by CindyN, Larry 2nd, passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 21st at 6 p.m. at the Eastham Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Herrick, Secretary