



Eastham Dog Owners' Association April 21, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors (BoD) Attending: Vicky Anderson, Per Bentsen, Ruth Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Dianne Cullen, Kathy Herrick, Kimberly Inman, Karie Miller, Tracey Plantier, Susie Williams. BoD Absent: Barbara Komins, Ellen Murray.
Members Attending: Joanne Baldauf, Ed Daniels, Kathleen Mueller.

The March minutes were distributed for review this evening. Please review, send any updates to Vicky, and be prepared to vote to approve them at the May meeting.

DOG OF THE MONTH: Six-year old Gracie brought her human Cindy Blum to this evening's meeting. This golden retriever dressed for the occasion by wearing a pearl necklace. Cindy and Gracie demonstrated a new trick they've been working on that will allow Cindy to use a hand signals rather than voice commands to instruct Gracie to stop, lie down and stay until she is released. This will be a valuable command when Gracie is running on the beach. They performed it flawlessly.

NEXT DOG OF THE MONTH: Per and Ruth will bring Micha.

CORRESPONDENCE/NOTEWORTHY ITEMS – none this month

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth discussed our Year-to-Date Actual versus Budget report and our Profit/Loss YTD Comparison with all the associated details.

- Our bank balance is \$18,855.14 (\$16,358.37 checking, \$2039.64 CD, \$457.13 PayPal).
- *Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Tracey, Vicky 2nd, passed.*

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*Motion to approve committee reports by Tracey, Cindy 2nd, passed*)

Education –Truro Police Officer Steve Raneo will be our keynote speaker. It is possible that Officer Raneo could be called away that evening if police activity is required, but the BoD decided that should this happen, we will not secure an alternate speaker. Instead, we will go into more detail about committee reports, etc. Officer Raneo and Ellen will meet prior to the October meeting to ensure that he covers topics of interest to our members.

Lost Dog Network (LDN)

- The search for Sam was successful after three days on the run. He returned numerous times to Cindy's yard where two other dogs were playing. Because he ran every time someone tried to approach him, Tracey and the LDN team decided to pull back search activities since he'd established a pattern and we knew where he was. When Sam's owner came to the area on Sunday afternoon, she called to Sam and he ran right to her. Thanks to all who helped with this search.
- There have been no sightings of little 6-pound Dutchess since the night she escaped nearly two weeks ago. The family has also pulled back in responding to our inquiries. We will remain vigilant when passing through the area where she was lost, but active searches will be discontinued until a sighting is reported.
- Ed's lab Monty helped find a lost dog in his neighborhood. Monty barked, the other dog responded and then came to Monty. It was a brief outing but a successful conclusion.
- Reminder: LDN meeting this Saturday, April 23 at 10 a.m. at the Nauset Baptist Church on Great Pond Road. Our speaker, the leader of Animal Rescue League's Rescue Services, is coming from New Hampshire.

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST) – Ed, Cindy and Kathy agreed to be interviewed for a video that is being produced by the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC). This interview will be held in Dennis before the monthly REPC meeting on May 4th. Interviewers will be calling to set a schedule.

Membership – We have 166 members, including three in the last month.



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Buddy Scholarship – Cindy and Karie met today and selected a winner from the three applicants. The award will be presented at May's Bow Wow Bash. Ed will notify the winner and we will wait to publish the name until after that notice is confirmed. This will be a \$1000 scholarship. Additional donations will be target toward the 2017 award.

Mutt Mitts – all ok.

Promotions – Ed and Cindy met and reviewed ideas about what this committee could handle. The goal would be to have a group assigned the responsibility to maintain periodic contact with our members, our town contacts, our vendors, and the community. It would also be the focal point for creating, ordering and distributing brochures, business cards, flyers, etc. that promote our activities. Right now, all of this work is being accomplished but it is not centralized or consistent. Please review the handout distributed at tonight's meeting and be prepared to discuss in further detail at May's meeting.

- Current Facebook administrators are Ed, CindyN, Kathy, Katrina and Tracey. Only Tracey posts to Facebook consistently but her focus is Lost Dog Network only. Susie said that she is on Facebook on a regular basis, and because she is now responsible for our EDOA Newsletter, it would be easy for her to post items periodically on our Facebook page. Administrator posts are more prominent on our website although anyone can post to it. Ed and Susie will discuss this further and see if the potential makes sense.

OLD BUSINESS

Wiley Park Bulletin Board – Per and Ruth finished repairs today. It looks great. Thank you!!

Rabies Clinic – Ruth, Joanne and Vicki represented EDOA. They were about 50 animals and it ran smoothly. Attendance was lower than in prior years, but many more communities are holding rabies clinics in their towns.

EDOA Newsletter – Susie distributed a draft of the newsletter. She had trouble using the template used in prior editions but was told tonight to use whatever format worked for her. It need not be fancy or difficult...content and outreach to our members are most important.

Bow Wow Bash – Cindy Nicholson has everything ready to go on May 21. Life is good.

Candidate Forum – EDOA will co-sponsor this forum with the Eastham Chamber of Commerce. Vicky is our coordinator, and she will need assistance with name tags, handing out and collection question cards, etc. The program will start at 6 and volunteers will need to arrive about 20 minutes early. Candidates will give opening statements starting at 6:20 p.m., and questions from the audience will start at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Vicky if you can help.

NEW BUSINESS

Change of Directors – Barbara Komins recently resigned because of time commitments. EDOA by-laws allow the BoD to select a candidate to fill an unexpired term. (*Motion to appoint Joanne Baldauf to fill the unexpired term vacated by Barbara Komins... by Vicki, Tracey 2nd, passed*). Note that because Joanne is a member of the town's Animal Advisory Board, she will recuse herself from any vote that could be construed as a conflict of interest.

Massachusetts Humane Lobby Day – Tracey attended this event at the State Capitol in Boston. For the first hour, she and others met to learn about proposed legislation regarding humane treatment of animals, and then was sent off to lobby for support with legislators. The organizers had already scheduled appointments with the appropriate



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legislators so Tracey met with State Senator Dan Wolf and State Representative Sarah Peake as well as their counterparts in her home town of Wilbraham. What she learned is that there are thousands of pieces of legislation to consider, and that legislators have to pick and choose what to pursue. It is an overwhelming and often frustrating task. Animal rights proposals are often not at the top of mind. Senator Wolf said that the Rules Committee sets priorities, and Tracey was certain to let the day's organizers know this. Tracey will send a thank you to Senator Wolf and Representative Peake for their attention and will include information about EDOA and our activities.

Motion to adjourn by Vicky, Susie 2nd, passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 19, 2016 at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.

Note: Kathy will not be able to attend this meeting so someone will need to record and publish meeting minutes.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Herrick, Clerk