



## Eastham Dog Owners' Association January 17, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes

Attending: Cindy Blum, Katrina Boucher, Ed Daniels, Larry DiBona, Kathy Herrick, Karie Miller, Kathleen "K2" Mueller, Ellen Murray, Cindy Nicholson, Tracey Plantier, Lu St. Aubin

Absent: Per Bentsen

Minutes of the December 2012 meeting were approved with two corrections. (*Motion to accept minutes by Tracey, CindyN 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*)

Our Dog of the Month is Sydney, an Australian Labradoodle owned by Lu St. Aubin. Sydney is apricot colored with a curly fleece coat, and she does not shed. She loves to get dressed up in clothes and has a wonderful personality. She also clearly enjoys smiling for the camera.

- Sydney was so photogenic that someone suggested we might want to consider creating a dog calendar as a fund raiser for 2014, but Ed cautioned that these are easy to put together but expensive to publish.
- Katrina noted that pictures posted to Facebook get the most "likes," and perhaps we should post our Dog of the Month pictures to our Facebook page.
- Tracey's pooch will be February's Dog of the Month.

Treasurer Report - Balance \$9904.10 includes \$2000 CD. \$100 was left in the PayPal account in case we need to make a transaction, and another \$600 is in the Buddy Scholarship. Per made an additional donation of \$50 to the scholarship in memory of Murphy from East Orleans, and with his company's match on this and a prior donation, we expect another \$450 to be added to the scholarship fund. Thanks to Per and others who have donated. (*Motion to accept report by Larry, CindyN 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*)

Correspondence – CindyN received a thank you letter from former board member Jean Hliva for the donation in her dog's name to the Buddy Scholarship.

### Lost Dog Network

- Kathy still needs to get Lost Dog Committee suggestions on design of the lawn signs and revisions to the LDN magnet. She will reach out to the members this week for their ideas, and will forward the decision to Ed to order magnets and CindyB to order lawn signs. Last month we approved \$250 for 15 lawn signs, 20 stands, and 500 magnets.
- We received a lost dog alert from a man in Queens, NY whose dog was stolen in December from his neighborhood. Kathy responded via email to explain that our efforts are concentrated on Cape Cod.
- CindyN and Karie attended the Eastham Chamber of Commerce event last week, and were able to speak with a real estate agent from Kinlin Grover about the possibility of distributing our Lost Dog Network magnets to those rental properties that accept dogs. CindyN is awaiting a call back from the agent.

Emergency Shelter – CCDART has posters around the Outer Cape advertising for new members. An information session was held on January 14<sup>th</sup>. A new 1-day training class has been developed to provide interested persons an opportunity to work in a shelter in non-animal handling roles (i.e., registration, security, etc.). Those classes are being held from 9 am to 4 pm on January 26<sup>th</sup> and March 9<sup>th</sup> at 44 Main Street in Orleans. Questions can be directed to CCDART at [info@capecoddart.org](mailto:info@capecoddart.org) or 508-737-9467.

Buddy Scholarship – CindyB spoke with a guidance counselor at Nauset High School and learned that we need to get the scholarship information into them by the end of next week to be included in a listing of scholarship opportunities. The school is sending CindyB their standard form to post scholarship details, and she and Ed will compare it to the draft application form that Ed posted onto the EDOA website. Nauset imposes a March 29<sup>th</sup> deadline by which students must apply for scholarships. This year's Buddy Scholarship will be for \$500. Several board members agreed to distribute Buddy Scholarship pamphlets to vets, library, post office, town hall, etc.



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Membership – So far we have about 75 members for 2013 (we had 144 in 2012). Another email blast and a post card will be distributed shortly. Karie made a suggestion that we include an area on the membership form asking where the person heard about EDOA.

Dog Park Survey – We agreed that this board should not decide on its own whether or not to pursue a dog park in town and instead to learn from our members of their interest. The Town of Eastham Planner is designing the parking area at Sandy Meadow but is not working on a design there for a dog park. Tracey will revise the survey form used in Springfield for our use, circulate it to board members for review, and then distribute to our members. Gathering this information will allow EDOA to learn viewpoints that can be shared with the membership as well as others in town.

Chamber of Commerce – CindyN and Karie represented EDOA at this month's meeting, and Katrina and CindyB attended representing their businesses. Local business owners attend these meetings, so it is a great opportunity for EDOA to expand awareness as well as find opportunities for those businesses to offer incentives or discounts to EDOA members. CindyN and Karie spoke with folks from The Superette, Kinlin Grover Real Estate, Nauset Disposal, and Inn at the Oaks, and will follow up with them. The next Eastham Chamber meeting is at the Local Break in Eastham on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

Merchandise – Ed has been playing around with the website to see if and how we can sell merchandise on our website. Most of the templates he found would fit our needs but it is a lot of work. Katrina suggested that we might want to reach out to Cape Cod Tech to see if a student there might want to do this for us as a project. CindyN suggested that even if we can't do the sales online, perhaps we could post pictures of available merchandise and point persons to the locations where it can be purchased. At the recent Chamber of Commerce meeting held at The Superette, CindyN and Karie met with the new owner who is interested in displaying some of our merchandise starting later this spring.

Wiley Park Poop Pickup – the event was successful and the usual group of volunteers worked. It is discouraging that some people who use Wiley continue to show that they think leaving poop is okay, perhaps because they know that others will eventually pick it up for them. We discussed various strategies to encourage responsible dog ownership (e.g., additional signage, flyers left on car windshields, offering offenders poop bags, confronting repeat offenders, additional help from the town in posting people who can give summons/fines for failure to pick up, etc.) but did not reach any conclusions about how to proceed.

Newsletter – K2 already has some ideas and expects to have a newsletter ready by the end of January. The next newsletter will be planned for the end of March. Please send any ideas for articles/stories to K2.

Professional Organizations – Kathy will send a second request to those who have not yet responded with their affiliations. She will also reach out to Ed and CindyN for more background information on EDOA's history.

Drummer Boy Park – Selectmen have reinstated the ban on dogs here while they appeal a judge's order to cancel the ban. Police are patrolling the area. The Town of Brewster has already spent \$14,000 in legal fees.



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### NEW BUSINESS

K2's EDOA article in Cape Women Online was well received. We should send the link to our membership.

Mutt Mitts – CindyN picked up two cases of mutt mitts from Agway and two rolls from the Town Recreation Department. She spoke with Recreation Director Mark Powers and suggested that we need an additional dispenser installed at Wiley Park. Remember, the rolls require a special dispenser and cannot be used in the existing dispensers around town.

2013 Budget – Ed distributed a draft budget spreadsheet. He asked board members to review it and bring comments, suggestions, and errors/omissions to next month's board meeting.

Meeting Space – We have been very fortunate to be able to use Katrina's space for our meetings, but she announced that this will be the last that we can use her space because she is renting it out to a store owner. Katrina volunteered to speak with Barbara at Willy's Gym about letting us use space at that facility.

Advertising on newsletter or website – As a benefit to members who also own businesses, should we offer them free advertising on our newsletter or website? Should we consider advertising for those businesses who are not EDOA members but who offer our members discounts? Both questions were discussed at length and we agreed both appear acceptable solutions. We could possibly solicit more benefits for EDOA members by offering this opportunity to local businesses. Ed will write up a proposal, distribute it to the board for review, and then include the final approach in our March newsletter.

Education – Ellen is pursuing the Animal Rescue League's Center for Shelter Dogs for participation in our annual meeting in October. CindyB also suggested that we might want to contact Search and Rescue organizations to learn about how they train dogs for urban and wilderness searches. Ellen also suggested that we might want to try some different approaches to fund raising (e.g., dog washes, dog walks, etc.) rather than soliciting in front of the post office, plus she also raised the question of whether we could generate interest at local radio stations in promoting EDOA since we are a non-profit organization.

Bow Wow Bash – CindyN confirmed our site reservation for May 18<sup>th</sup> at First Encounter Beach.

Paws for Celebration will be held on Saturday, June 22 from 11 am to 3 pm at the Nauset Middle School in Orleans. Katrina suggested that EDOA may want to get additional exposure by sponsoring the event or some portion of it since sponsor names get free advertising. The sponsor contact is Marci Tildsley at [marci@capepr.com](mailto:marci@capepr.com). Ed will contact her to determine what is available and at what cost.

A motion to adjourn was received from Katrina, K2 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion was passed and meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 21st at 6 p.m. Location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Herrick  
Secretary