



Eastham Dog Owners' Association
January 19, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors (BoD) Attending: Vicky Anderson, Joanne Baldauf, Cindy Blum, Tony Cantore, Dianne Cullen, Kathy Herrick, Karie Miller, Susie Williams. BoD Absent: Ruth Bentsen, Kimberly Inman, Ellen Murray, Tracey Plantier. Members Attending: Adele Blong, Ed Daniels, Cindy Nicholson.

Minutes from December were approved with one minor revision. (*Motion to approve by Susie, CindyB 2nd, passed*).

CORRESPONDENCE

- We received two notes thanking EDOA for the work we do.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth submitted the monthly report for our review. In the last month, we had income of \$768 and expenses of \$150. Our bank balance is \$21,577.75 (\$19,103.46 checking, \$2047.48 CD and \$426.81 PayPal). With our merchandise inventory of \$2,134, our total assets are \$23,711. (*Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Kathy, Tony 2nd, passed*).

- Inventory discussion – Should we sell off our current inventory of tee shirts and sweatshirts in a “fire sale” to make way for new merchandise? We have a mix of sizes and colors, and storage remains an issue. The purpose of offering clothing is to get exposure. It would make sense to keep the logo but limit colors.
- Discussion continued with 2017 annual budget planning. We discussed our 2016 income and expenses, and made the following recommendations and motions.
 - Increase MERCHANDISE expense to \$2500. (*Motion to approve by CindyB, Susie 2nd, passed*).
 - Increase WEBSITE expense to \$500. (*Motion to approve by CindyB, Karie 2nd, passed*).
 - Increase PROMOTIONS expense to \$2000. (*Motion to approve by Susie, Kathy 2nd, passed*).
 - Increase LCAST expense to \$1000. (*Motion to approve by CindyB, Tony 2nd, passed*).
 - Increase LDN expense to \$1000. (*Motion to approve by CindyB, Dianne 2nd, passed*).
 - (*Motion to approve 2017 budget, subject to Treasurer's final review, by CindyB, Dianne 2nd, unanimously passed*).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education – Eastham COA is no longer interested in having EDOA do a presentation. Instead, they will contact Sgt. Raneo and Ella as well as continue their Companion Animal Program.

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST) – Can we discuss using the February 16th meeting for LCAST Refresher and Recruitment? Yes. We agreed to use the first 30 minutes for a board meeting, and the next hour for LCAST. We are planning to reserve a room at Eastham Library.

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – Tracey submitted a report indicating that we ended 2016 with 103 calls to our Lost Dog Network phone. This compares to 25 calls in 2015. As of January 19th, we are aware of two dogs that are still lost – Monty in Orleans and King in Wellfleet. There have been no recent sightings of either dog.

- The annual Lost Dog Network meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 22nd from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Tracey is considering two different ideas for topics. One is to invite some of the other “lost dog” search groups that are active on the Cape and have them talk about what they do. The other is to teach folks about the types of tracking devices available for dogs such as GPS collars. She welcomes feedback and suggestions on discussion topics.
- Cindy Nicholson asked if we should consider going back to a rotation for LDN Coordinator since Larry DiBona and Tracey are fielding all LDN calls. With the volume quadrupled in the last year, it does not seem fair to rely on just two people, and at the same time, others who were trained as coordinators have no opportunity to put that training into effect.
- Should we revise/refresh the Lost Dog magnet? Ed will look for a new picture.

Buddy Scholarship – At last month's meeting, we approved a \$1500 award for May 2017. CindyB has been in contact with Nauset High School and advised that the application cutoff date is April 3. CindyB will get information to Ed for posting on our website. We already have \$140 allocated to the 2018 award and received \$40 in donation to the Buddy Scholarship in the last month.

Membership – As of tonight, we have 129 memberships for 2017. Ed will send renewal reminders to about 100 people who have been members over the last two years but have not renewed. Karie offered to fold and stuff these reminders for mailing.

- The cookies we supply at Town Hall for dog license registrants remain popular.

Mutt Mitts – Ellen and Claire continue to fill the various dispensers. There are no issues.

Public Relations/Promotions

- Thanks to CindyB and Susie for looking for potential gifts to include with membership cards. The idea of including a small gift with membership cards (e.g., something other than a LDN magnet) should be reconsidered for 2018 since all members have already been mailed their membership cards. We should discuss this in the fall to prepare for 2018.
- Ed purchased the big stuffed dog, and it is housed with Vicky. Ed will put out an email blast for a contest to name the dog.
- Thanks to board members who've already reached out to our vendors to thank them for their support. Update Ed when you've made contact so that we can track it.



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- Susie is targeting late March for the next edition of the EDOA newsletter. She has regular articles planned – Canine Comment, Dog of the Month, President's Letter, etc. Please forward suggestions for content directly to Susie.

OLD BUSINESS

A month or so ago, we learned anecdotally about a proposal by the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to form a committee to review all animal related rules and regulations in town. Tonight, EDOA member Adele Blong gave us more detail from information that is available on the town website (i.e., meeting agendas and meeting packets). The Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator have asked our town planner to identify and assemble current animal related rules, bylaws, and regulations in Eastham. At some point, it is anticipated that he will draft a recommendation that will be reviewed by a yet-to-be-assembled committee. EDOA needs to be a member of that committee, and we will continue to follow this. Thank, Adele, for giving us some additional insight.

NEW BUSINESS

2017 Schedule of Events - Cindy Nicholson suggested that we again put together a comprehensive schedule of events for planning purposes.

- May 20: Bow Wow Bash. CindyN will apply for the permit.
- June 17-18: Hands on the Arts
- Others?

Meet the Candidates – For a third year, the Eastham Chamber of Commerce and EDOA will partner to sponsor a Meet the Candidates night. Town meeting is May 1. Should we plan MTC before or after town meeting? We decided it made more sense to schedule before town meeting so that questions about warrant items could be asked. Vicky will lead our effort and will target Monday, April 24.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m. (*Motion by Susie, Karie 2nd, passed*).

NEXT DOG OF THE MONTH: TBD

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, February 16, 2017 at 6 p.m. at Eastham Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Herrick, Clerk