



## Eastham Dog Owners' Association June 19, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes

Attending: Vicky Anderson, Per Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Dianne Cullen, Ed Daniels, Larry DiBona, Kathy Herrick, Kathleen "K2" Mueller, Ellen Murray, Cindy Nicholson

Absent: Lu St. Aubin, Tracey Plantier

Minutes of May 2014 were approved with a minor revision. (*Motion to accept minutes by K2, Larry 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*).

Dog of the Month – An energetic Charlie joined his human K2 at this evening's meeting. He is a 2 ½ year old hound mix who was rescued as a puppy from Tennessee. He was found in a home that was about to be bulldozed, but the bulldozer operator heard noises within the home as he arrived, and went inside to find Charlie, his mother and his siblings. K2 also adopted Charlie's blood brother Cooper after his first family decided they could not handle a puppy. Charlie is tall and long, weighing in at 80 pounds, but he is a gentle giant who very quietly attended the meeting.

Treasurer Report – Ed distributed our 2013 Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statement through May 2014. Our budget has been coordinated within QuickBooks to our accounts. All filings with the Massachusetts Secretary of State and Attorney General offices are current. We also received a letter from the Internal Revenue Service correcting their error and again recognizing us as a 501c3 non-profit organization. All records are maintained on our OneDrive account. (*Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by CindyN, CindyB 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*)

- Our original filing with the Secretary of State listed our address as 2500 Stare Highway. Because the various State and Federal agencies with whom we file want a street address rather than our P.O. Box address, we've updated our street address to 1005 Nauset Road, Eastham MA 02642. This will be used going forward to reflect the organization's address on filings.
- We are reconciling the Buddy Scholarship donation records to ensure that budget allocations are accurate.
- We received our Transient Vendor Permit from the Town of Eastham. It expires 6/16/2015. Kathy will maintain the original copy of this permit.
- A glitch with PayPal has been corrected. No financial transactions were impacted but instead had to do with notifications from the service.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – Our only correspondence this month was related to responses from members who were volunteering to assist with various events.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** (*Motion to accept committee reports by CindyB, K2 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed.*)

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – Larry has received three calls recently. One was from a lady whose dog was lost but she learned while on the phone with Larry that her neighbors found the dog. Another was from a woman who found a dog, and Larry agreed to meet her at Nauset Kennels, where the dog was later retrieved by its owner. The last event actually resulted in a search for a dog that ran through its Invisible Fence perimeter. Larry and Carol DiBona, CindyB and Kathy searched the bay beach area. The DiBonas found the dog in a neighbor's yard. The dog apparently did not want to cross back into its own yard to avoid being zapped, but the owner was able to get his dog and safely return her to her own yard.

- The question arose again about when LDN Searcher training is going to be scheduled. There are new people interested in joining the LDN effort, plus a refresher for others is always helpful. Although we've had few searches this year since so many dogs have returned home on their own shortly after the lost dog alert was issued, we really don't know how many on the search team still want to be involved. Kathy mentioned that both LDN and LCAST rely on volunteers, and some kind of regular interaction with them (i.e., emails, news updates, etc.) is important to keep them involved and aware of activities. Larry will reach out to Tracey to let her know that a training session is still needed.



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- Larry needs someone to cover the LDN phone for him for a few weeks. Kathy will ask Tracey who to point the LDN phone to.
- Larry also asked if we can get more searcher vests. We originally ordered 8 vests, but since we are uncertain how many of the searchers with them are still active, we will wait to see an actual number of vests that we might need for new members.

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST) – A walk through drill is being held on Wednesday, June 25 from 5-7 p.m. at Nauset High School. Per and CindyN will lead the event. Although we'd hoped to host a Saturday drill with live animals and role playing, we are at the mercy of the school and BCREPC to gain access to the building and this date is the one made available to us. This walk through will familiarize attendees with the physical layout of the pet shelter as well as location of the Conex box, proximity of the Red Cross shelter, a review of GoKit items, etc. so that we have familiarity with the facility and our personal preparation. CindyN has photo ids and tee shirts ready to distribute to those who attended our May 18<sup>th</sup> training session. As of tonight, 12 people have responded that they will participate in the drill. Additional training opportunities will be scheduled during the year.

- The June meeting of the BCREPC (Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee) has been cancelled. Per receives these notices and he'll forward them to Ed, CindyN, CindyB and Kathy when he gets them. Sheltering is just one of a myriad of items that are discussed at this meeting.
- Although we would still like the BCREPC to pay for CORI checks, we voted several months ago that EDOA would pay for them. Ed is still trying to determine through the town what the actual cost is.
- Per asked whether we are working on an LCAST manual to distribute to members. Kathy can pull from a variety of sources but has not worked on updating that information. She will start work on this, thinking more along the lines of checklists for various tasks. As she makes progress on this, she'll pass it by the core team for review before publishing and distributing to members.

Membership – Membership is up to 144 members, with two new added from Hands on the Arts.

Buddy Scholarship – We have a few new donations. Two \$500 scholarships were awarded at the Bow Wow Bash.

Education - Ellen will reconfirm with our speaker for the annual meeting in October.

Mutt Mitts – With beaches now closed to dogs, activity at Wiley Park has increased significantly. Claire makes a point to question dog walkers at the park about their need to pick up poop since bags and garbage cans are provided but she is sometimes rebuffed. There are fines for failure to pick up, but a town official must witness the action before fines can be levied. There appears to be more of a problem with irresponsible dog owners at the "back door" entrance to the park.

- There are again complaints about the poor quality of poop bags provided by the town.
- A poop pickup party should probably be scheduled again soon.
- Vandals recently broke the plexiglass window on the bulletin board and smashed garbage cans.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- The PAWS for Celebration event was the biggest turnout ever with nearly 1500 people attending. There was only one dog disagreement. The first 400 people got a bag of goodies, and next year EDOA should figure out how to get our information into this bag. Booth staffing went well, and a thanks goes out to our members who helped with setup, staffing, and break down.
- The Hands on the Arts event generated about \$200 with donations, new memberships, and merchandise sales. Crowds were better Saturday morning than in the afternoon. Our booth location was unfortunately placed right in line with the speakers for the music so we had trouble hearing and talking to passersby.



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**NEW BUSINESS**

- Windmill Weekend planning will be managed by CindyN and Karie Miller. The event is scheduled for September 6-7. There is still indecision about walking with dogs in the parade, in large part about the potential for hot pavement on the dogs' paws as well as the prohibition of dogs once we get to the windmill green. We will likely not create a float for the parade, again because of the amount of work involved for a shortened parade route.
- The American Red Cross has a new Pet First Aid application for smart phones. This is a free app. K2 will find out more about this and insert an item into an upcoming EDOA newsletter.
- Are we missing opportunities to distribute our EDOA brochures? Can we put them at the Chamber of Commerce office, Superette, Arnold's, etc.? Each could potentially advertise EDOA, LDN, LCAST and other activities.

Although we typically cancel the July meeting, Ed is planning the next meeting at his home. Stay tuned...if he feels that we do not have enough to discuss, particularly about planning Windmill Weekend, he may change his mind.

A motion to adjourn was received from Vicki, Larry 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, July 17th at 6 p.m. Location TBD (maybe Ed's home).

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Herrick, Secretary