



## Eastham Dog Owners' Association March 20, 2014 Board Meeting Minutes

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

Absent: Lu St. Aubin

Minutes of February 2014 were approved as amended. (*Motion to accept minutes by Vicky, Larry 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*).

Dog of the Month – Tracey brought her tall boy Rigby to this month's meeting. Rigby has joined us once before, and he regularly attends meetings in Tracey's hometown where he has even been on television. This three-year old golden doodle must get his height from his dad because his mom, a poodle, only weighed 40 pounds.

Treasurer Report – no updates.

- 2014 Budget – Ed redistributed a draft of our 2014 budget and provided a review of line items that were modified. Of special interest was the allocation of \$1000 for use by the new shelter team (see details below) and additional funds to support events as discussed at last month's meeting. After discussion, a motion was made to approve the budget with a few other changes. (*Motion to approve 2014 budget by CindyB, CindyN 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*). Ed reiterated that once the budget is approved, committee heads can spend up to the limit approved in the budget without having to come back to the EDOA Board for approval.

**CORRESPONDENCE** – We received a letter from the Massachusetts Department of Compliance asking for additional information so that EDOA to be registered and properly filed with the State Department of Public Charities. CindyN, Ed and Lu will work together to respond to this request.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

- Vicki continues to plan the Ask the Candidate's Forum but there is a change of date to Monday, May 12, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Earle Mountain Room at Eastham Town Hall. Candidates asked that the forum be rescheduled since the original April date seemed too soon for them. At this time, two people are running for Moderator and four for Town Clerk, but candidates for other positions are unopposed. Candidates have until March 26<sup>th</sup> to submit their paperwork to the town. All candidates will be asked to attend and will be offered a 2-minute opening statement, followed by questions from the audience submitted on cards. Vicki is working out publicity with both the Eastham Chamber of Commerce and Ed Atwood who maintains Facebook pages regarding Eastham activities. She will also seek assistance from EDOA with logistics at the meeting as well as contributions of refreshments, and will have more details next month.

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

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – Ed has more LDN magnets if anyone needs some.

- Larry received a phone call from a woman who found a dog near Tedeschi's Store and wanted to know what to do. He recommended calling the Eastham Police who picked the dog up from the store and took it to Nauset Pet Services. There were no lost dog postings on their website so we suspect the owner was quickly identified.
- Several years ago, EDOA donated a "universal" microchip reader to the Eastham Police Department. This reader is capable of reading both formats of microchips used in pets. Is EPD using this reader? Since they always take found dogs to Nauset Pet Services, does it make more sense that NPS have the reader? Larry will follow up with Animal Control Officer Diana Back to discuss this.
- Tracey will host a LDN Coordinator meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. This one hour meeting will precede the monthly EDOA Board Meeting. Board members are welcome to attend but the emphasis will be on updating LDN Coordinators on lost dog activities and processes. A LDN Searchers meeting will be held sometime in May.



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Emergency Shelter – EDOA received approval from the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC) to assume responsibility for operating and staffing the emergency animal shelter at Nauset Regional High School. A meeting was held with Eastham Fire Chief Mark Foley, the 2<sup>nd</sup> in command at REPC, to finalize the transfer from CCDART to EDOA. Those in attendance included EDOA members who have animal shelter training and are committed to ensuring our success in this new effort.

- A leadership team comprised of Per, CindyB, Ed, Kathy and CindyN has been working to review needs and do initial planning and will work with the shelter committee to finalize organization structure, develop teams, train volunteers, etc. The full committee will meet on Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Eastham Police Station.
- The leadership team recommended naming the committee “Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST)” with a mission “to serve the emergency animal shelter needs at the Lower Cape Regional Shelter.”
- Discussion followed with the EDOA Board seeking approval for the committee to operate under the auspices of EDOA. This arrangement accomplishes several benefits including expanding the community service offered by EDOA with an existing membership that has repeatedly expressed interest in supporting the shelter, and also the added benefit of being able to use EDOA’s 501c (3) non-profit status to qualify for grant monies should we need funding in addition to that we obtain from REPC. (*Motion to establish LCAST as a committee within EDOA by Tracey, K2 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*).
- A volunteer recruitment meeting is planned for Thursday, April 24 at 6 p.m. at the Eastham Fire Department. CindyN is leading this effort.
- Dianne learned that an Animal CPR course is being sponsored by Animal Hospital of Orleans on April 26<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 p.m. Class size is limited to 12 people and cost is \$90 per person. We will discuss funding her attendance at the LCAST committee meeting next Tuesday.

Buddy Scholarship – CindyB contacted Nauset Regional High School and learned that several applications are in progress and will be submitted in advance of our March 28<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Membership – Ed reported that we have 125 members, mostly renewals but with a few new members. He is offering all members a challenge...to get one more person to join EDOA and meet a goal of expanding to 200 members. A letter has been sent to all members with details about this challenge and also includes details of new discounts being offered by our vendor partners. He will shortly send an update to members explaining our new responsibility with the emergency animal shelter as well as to seek more volunteers. A suggestion was made to use our Eastham Chamber of Commerce membership to get the word out about LCAST.

### Education

- The Companion Animal Program has agreed to participate in the Bow Wow Bash scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Ellen contacted the animal behaviorist in Boston (discussed last month) and she is willing to be the keynote speaker at our annual meeting in October. This woman is highly credentialed and offered a variety of topics on which she can speak. Ellen will distribute the email listing those topics and asks that board members reply back to her with their preferences, keeping in mind that we limit our speakers to 60-90 minutes at that meeting. A question was raised about whether we could sponsor a seminar with this behaviorist sometime in the summer months so that our part-time residents could benefit. Ellen and Vicki will check to see if this might be possible and at what cost, but several board members cautioned that we do not want to lessen enthusiasm at the annual meeting if the same speaker is the keynote.



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**OLD BUSINESS**

- The Rabies Clinic will be held on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 12 noon behind the Eastham Fire/Police Department buildings. Animal Control Officer Diane Back asked for assistance from EDOA, and Per, Larry, Ed, Ruth Bentsen and Carol DiBona will help out. Joanne is also available if more help is needed.
- Poop Pickup Party is being organized by Claire Branfield for Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Wiley Park. No prior registration is required. Please help to clean the park so that it is ready for the next week's Children's Easter Egg Hunt.
- Maintenance of the Wiley Park Bulletin Board is being discussed by CindyN with the Department of Public Works. The window and cork on the board have been wind and water damaged. We are seeking repair by DPW since they installed the board.
- PAWS for Celebration is being held on Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at Drummer Boy Park. This fund raiser supports the Animal Rescue League of Boston. Dianne reached out to ARL and has secured a booth for EDOA at the event.
- CindyN was already asked if EDOA wants to walk with dogs in the Windmill Weekend Parade. Not being able to bring those dogs onto the village green is problematic for owners. Our participation in the parade will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Ed will send a general solicitation email to members seeking volunteers to help with the upcoming public events.

**NEW BUSINESS** – an unnamed town resident asked a board member about the apparent leaving of deer parts on a property near Bridge Road to attract coyotes. Is this legal? Who should be made aware of this behavior? The resident should be told to contact the Natural Resources Department.

A motion to adjourn was received from Vicki with Larry 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Herrick, Secretary