

Eastham Dog Owners' Association
March 17, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes

Directors in attendance: Vicky Anderson, Per Bentsen, Ruth Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Diane Cullen, Kimberly Inman, Karie Miller, and Ellen Murray.

Directors Absent: Kathy Herrick, Barbara Komins, Tracey Plantier, and Susie Williams.

Members Attending: Joanne Baldauf, Ed Daniels.

Per Bentsen called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

First item on the agenda was our "Dog of the Month." Casey, an 8+ year-old golden doodle attended the meeting with her human Vicky Anderson.

It was decided that Gracie will be invited to attend the April meeting with her housemate Cindy Blum.

Minutes of the February 18, 2016, meeting were approved unanimously after a motion made by Diane Cullen, and a second by Cindy Blum.

Ruth Bentsen submitted the monthly Treasurer's Reports which were accepted by all upon a motion by Vicky Anderson with a second by Ellen Murray.

Ellen Murray confirmed that we will have Officer Rainey at our annual meeting. However, she pointed out that if he were to be called to a crime scene, that call would definitely take precedence over us. Therefore we might want to consider having the vest folks do a co-operative presentation with Officer Rainey and Ella. Ellen will investigate this further and get back to us. The Veterinarian in Orleans has offered to give Ella care for life. We should be aware of this and acknowledge it wherever possible.

Cindy Blum reported that she had attended a regional meeting at which a video was shown for the public. The idea is to familiarize folks with the shelter availabilities in an emergency. People need to understand why they should bring their animals to a shelter. She told the Board that the new Fire Chief, Kent Farrenkopf, is supportive of our work.

Membership increases have slowed down a bit, but we are approaching 160 members and that number exceeds last year's totals by 20.

We want to make sure that the vendors who give us discounts are being attended to. Whenever you are in one of their places of business, be sure to let them know how much we appreciate them. We need to develop a message concerning the benefits these vendors offer to our membership. Businesses in town are constantly being asked for breaks for services; this can be an annoying thing, so we should be aware of how

fortunate we are to have these membership benefits and act accordingly in a sensitive fashion.

Cindy Blum has contacted NRHS in re the applicants for the Buddy Scholarship that we award each year. She has not had a response from them as of now.

Ed Daniels suggested that we have a promotion committee. This will be discussed in greater detail at our April meeting.

Upon a motion by Cindy Blum and a second by Kimberly Inman, the Board voted unanimously to accept the committee reports.

The Rabies Clinic is scheduled for March 26, 2016, from 10 AM to 12 PM in the area behind the Eastham Police Department. This service is a great convenience for the residents of Eastham. It was pointed out that payment for the vaccination may be made by check or in cash only.

Under Old Business it was announced that Kimberly Inman will replace Cindy Nicholson as the head of EDOA participation in Windmill Weekend.

Vicky Anderson confirmed that the "Meet the Candidates" Forum is on track for Monday evening, May 9, 2016, at 6 PM in the Earle Mountain Room at Town Hall. The Annual Town Meeting is Monday, May 2, 2016, and the Town Election is May 17, 2016.

Under New Business, a letter of complaint in re dogs on leash and dogs off leash in Wiley Park was circulated to the members. The writer of the letter seeks to have all dogs on leash in the park and is quite vehement in this demand. It was pointed out that responsible pet owners who have concerns should let others know right away not to let your dog approach, for whatever reason that might apply. After further discussion, including the possibility of publishing a memo on "petiquette" – or – "how to behave when walking your dog off lead," Ed Daniels offered to send a reply to the complainant.

Also under new business, Ed Daniels updated us on the web site. He stated that it is working and sort of "limping along"

Finally, under new business, the Board was made aware that a member who came on in November has attended only one meeting. Vicky Anderson agreed to contact the member and explain that attendance at meetings is important; we are an active group and we need active bodies. This just may not be the right time for this member to be a part of the Board of Directors.

Upon a motion made by Vicky Anderson and a second by Ellen Murray, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2016, at 6 PM in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Anderson, substituting for Kathy Herrick