



Eastham Dog Owners' Association  
March 16, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes

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

Minutes from February were approved as presented. (*Motion to approve by Susie, Karie 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed.*)

Our sincere condolences go out to our treasurer and past president, Ruth and Per Bentsen, on the loss of their beloved Mi sha. Mi sha was a sweet and gentle girl, full of energy and curiosity, and she will be missed by those of us who knew her.

**CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER INFORMATION:**

- Board Member Kimberly Inman informed us that she will serve out her term that ends in October 2017 but will not be able to seek an additional term on the board.
- April 8<sup>th</sup> is the Eastham Rabies Clinic. It is held behind the Eastham Fire Station. Joanne, Ellen, Ed and Vicky will volunteer to assist.
- June 3<sup>rd</sup> is the Eastham Historical Society yard sale. We had a table there last year and will discuss this further at an upcoming meeting.
- July 15-16 is Paw Palooza at Dennis-Yarmouth High School. It runs from 9 am to 7 pm on Saturday and 9 am to 4 pm on Sunday. We've had a table at the predecessor event that was called Paws for Celebration and will discuss our participation at an upcoming meeting.
- We received information from a company in South Carolina that created a state-by-state interactive map that allows pet owners to learn about veterinary and related regulations in other states. They see this as a resource for those people looking to move to other states. They asked us to consider posting a link to their site on our EDOA website. We will evaluate this further and will discuss at a future meeting.
- Barnstable County is again planning to close the rest area/rest rooms between Exits 6 and 7 along Route 6 eastbound because of financial constraints. This is the only rest area between the bridges and Provincetown and the operational cost this year is estimated at \$36,000. The county is seeking community funds or private ownership to keep the area open.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ruth distributed monthly reports and indicated that we've had minimal activity with income or expenses in the past month.

- Our bank balance is \$22,400.62 (\$19,921.91 checking, \$2047.48 CD and \$431.23 PayPal).
- *Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Tracy, Joanne 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed.*

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** – *Motion to accept Committee Reports by Tracy, Cindy B 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed.*

Education – Ellen deferred to Tracy regarding a speaker for our annual meeting in October. Tracy has reached out to a Ludlow, MA police officer who rescued and adopted a severely abused Pomeranian that was found in a snow bank in terrible weather. Her care of this dog, named Jamison, has changed the police officer's life.

- Ellen suggested that we might want to do a brief overview of LCAST activities at the annual meeting. Cindy and Kathy will think about how to modify their recent training class for an annual meeting audience.
- Ellen will ask Companion Animal Program to attend our Bow Wow Bash in May.
- Ellen and Tracy are both planning to attend the May 9<sup>th</sup> Lobby for Animal Day at the Massachusetts State House. This is an opportunity to speak directly with our Cape Cod House and Senate representatives. Those interested in attending must register in advance for a minimal fee. Ed will alert our membership about the opportunity to lobby for animal friendly legislation.

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – Tracy reported that from January 1 to today, we've had 12 lost dog calls. In the same period last year, there were no calls.

- LDN training is planned for Saturday, April 22 from 10-12 noon at Nauset Baptist Church on Great Pond Road in Eastham. Tracy is awaiting confirmation that members of Missing Dogs of Massachusetts can attend to talk with us about their search activities.

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST) – Cindy B and Kathy reported that we held a training on February 23 at Eastham Public Library. Three new members joined current LCAST members in reviewing how LCAST was formed and learning more about care and sheltering of dogs, cats, birds and pocket pets (e.g., hamsters, guinea pigs, ferrets, etc.), all of which are accepted at the emergency pet shelter that we support at Nauset High School.

- A training drill will be held on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 10–12 noon at the Wellfleet Fire Department on Route 6 in Wellfleet. We will review equipment available to us and forms related to animal intake and care followed by a shelter setup exercise. The session is open to EDOA members interested in joining LCAST.
- Vicky floated an idea about starting a "Friends of LCAST" group to fund raise for LCAST, since no funding is provided by the Barnstable County Regional Planning Committee. This may be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

Membership – Ed and Ruth reported that the recent postcard campaign generated 3 new members. Thanks to Karie for her help with the mailing. Current membership is 175, and this surpasses membership totals during this same period in prior years. Cindy N said that the Town Clerk's office continues to get positive feedback about the goodie bags (i.e., dog cookies, LDN magnet, EDOA info) supplied by EDOA and given to those who are registering/reregistering their dogs at Town Hall.



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Buddy Scholarship – CindyB reported that one application has been received thus far with an April 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline for applications. She has a supply of info/donation cards if anyone wants some or has a place to display them.

Mutt Mitts – CindyN recently picked up a few cases of mutt mitts at Agway. Ellen and Claire continue to stock bags at various dispensers in town.

- The Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Elks Club in Eastham this year instead of at Wiley Park. While this relieves the urgency of a Poop Pickup party in the park, the effort is needed, especially now that snow has melted.
- Last year, the National Park Service allowed dogs on leash on the Nauset Trail leading from the Visitor's Center to Coast Guard Beach. Unfortunately, it appears that many people using that trail are not picking up after their dogs. CindyB will contact the new NPS Superintendent to introduce EDOA to her and to thank them for their support of dogs, but also to let them know of EDOA's continuing efforts to educate dog owners about their responsibility to clean up after their animals. We do not want irresponsible dog owners to ruin access for us and our dogs along this trail.

Promotions and Public Relations

- We've received five suggestions so far to name Big Dog. Ed will send a notice to members that the naming period is being extended to allow for more suggestions.
- LDN Magnets – Ed found another box that he will give to Vicky to include with our Town Hall goodie bags. He will order additional magnets with a new picture and design that he shared with board members tonight.
- Merchandise Inventory - Ruth distributed an inventory of clothing, bandanas and hats. Tonight a "clothing committee" was formed to determine how to proceed with any additional purchases. Ruth, CindyB and Vicky agreed to participate. If you have any suggestions, contact one of these board members.
- Ed will be sending board members a reminder to conduct their spring visits with designated EDOA vendors and town officials to thank them for their continued support.
- Ed and Susie will meet soon regarding how to proceed with website design and updates. The current "editor" program that allows us to update the website is no longer supported by the website provider. This means there is very limited functionality allowed, but we continue to "limp along." We may need to spend some money to consult with outside help to determine what options we have.
- Susie passed out her ideas for topics in the upcoming March-April 2017 newsletter. Deadline for submitting content is March 22. We decided that the sponsor highlight will be Cape Cod Dog. Ed will write up something about the April 8<sup>th</sup> Rabies Clinic and will also update his Winter in Eastham column from a prior edition. CindyN will submit an article for Canine Column about how her lab Sophie lives with 2 parrots. We may include a "member opinion" section about Benefits of Essential Oils, but Susie will contact the member who submitted the idea before deciding on its inclusion in the newsletter.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Calendar of Events – A listing of upcoming events is on the EDOA website and was printed for distribution at tonight's meeting.

Meet the Candidates – This event, co-sponsored by EDOA and the Eastham Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled for Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at Town Hall. Five candidates are running for two Board of Selectmen positions but the deadline for application is open until 3/29. Vicky would like all EDOA board members to attend. We will supply small bottles of water to attendees.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dogs in Hot Cars/Hot Sand/Hot Asphalt Cards – CindyB will order another supply of cards for our use this year and will charge the expense to Miscellaneous Community Service Expense.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. (*Motion by Tracy, CindyB 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*).

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 6 p.m. at Eastham Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Herrick, Clerk