



Eastham Dog Owners' Association May 21, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

Attending: Vicky Anderson, Dianne Cullen, Ed Daniels, Kathy Herrick, Karie Miller, Ellen Murray, Cindy Nicholson, and Joanne Baldauf. Absent: Per Bentsen, Ruth Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Larry DiBona, Tracey Plantier

The April meeting minutes were approved with revision. (*Motion to accept by Karie, Ellen 2nd, passed*).

TREASURER'S REPORT: No report available.

CORRESPONDENCE/NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

- We heard from a member who was very happy with last weekend's *Relationship Not Leadership* workshop with Vera Wilkerson of The Cooperative Dog.
- We heard from former board member Kathleen Mueller who made a donation to the Buddy Scholarship and said she is looking forward to catching up with us when she gets back to the Cape.
- Ed provided copies of our Form ST-2 Massachusetts Certificate of Exemption to both CindyN and Kathy. This will allow us to avoid sales tax on any purchases. The certificate is good for 10 years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (*Motion to accept all committee reports by Ellen, Vicky 2nd, passed*)

Education - Ellen reported that 17 members participated in last weekend's Relationship Not Leadership dog training workshop. Weather was good for this outside program but it did get hot in the afternoon. Fortunately, Nauset Pet Services owner Kirsten Davis provided a hose for water and kiddie pools, and several dogs took advantage of the opportunity to cool off in the pools. Vera sent each participant a video link and an addendum to training tips at the conclusion of the workshop.

EDOA Newsletter – CindyN is finalizing our next newsletter and will distribute it soon.

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – Tracey held a training refresher for LDN Coordinators on April 25th. It was a good opportunity to discuss our use of a new contact/ mailing system. We need to encourage more people to become coordinators since there are only five of us actively involved.

- Ed's lab Monty helped to rescue a pup caught under a deck. The pup dug his way under the deck but either couldn't or wouldn't come out even with the coaxing of his owners. Then Monty arrived on scene and the pup rushed out to play with him. Good job, Monty!

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST)

- Joanne led our "forms" training session on April 18th. The session provided a refresher to team members about the various tracking forms we use when deployed to the shelter. We also distributed our recently written LCAST Operations Manual that details how we will run the shelter.
- Per has been researching our obtaining a storage trailer (aka Conex Box) for sole use by LCAST. Having our own storage would facilitate our shelter setup, inventory and restocking since our supplies are now stored in a trailer that has a mish-mosh of supplies used by all of the volunteer shelter teams. That trailer is also stored at the far end of the school building, away from the pet shelter area, which means we have to have trucks to transport our supplies around the school to our area. Ideally, our own storage trailer would be positioned adjacent to the pet shelter location.

Membership – We now have 155 memberships with six new members from the Bow Wow Bash and another requested through PayPal. All membership cards have been mailed. We heard from Katrina at the Cape Cod Dog that several of these new members stopped by her store right after the Bash to take advantage of the EDOA discount. We also know that the EDOA discounts offered by Eastham Veterinary Services and Animal Hospital of Orleans are incentives to membership.



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Buddy Scholarship – We awarded a \$500 scholarship to Kayla Drake at our May 16th Bow Wow Bash. Kayla is a Nauset High Senior who is planning to attend Cape Cod Community College for two years and then transfer to UMass Dartmouth to study marine biology. Congratulations, Kayla!

- We are well on our way to funding our 2016 scholarship.

Mutt Mitts – Ellen is restocking at Salt Pond and Hemenway. Claire Bransfield restocks Wiley Park and Al Sette does First Encounter. The Town of Eastham is now supplying Dyer Prince. We are very fortunate to have dedicated volunteers who perform this valuable task in helping to keep our popular dog areas clean.

- Wiley Park continues to be a challenge with irresponsible dog owners not picking up after their dogs. There are signs indicating the need, bags, trash receptacles, etc., but still people don't abide by the rules. This frankly ruins it for the majority of dog owners who are responsible. We should plan another Poop PickUp Party in June. Although Saturdays are ideal to attract the most volunteers, a weekday might be necessary.

Merchandise – we had a few sales at the Bow Wow Bash.

OLD BUSINESS

Wiley Park Bulletin Board – Per did a tremendous job repairing the bulletin board. He worked with DPW to gain their approval on plans and spent about \$200 instead of spending significantly more to buy a brand new board. Thanks, Per!

Board Member Nominating Committee – no updates.

Bow Wow Bash – this was an awesome event. Thanks to CindyN and Karie for coordinating the event. It was a nice, cool day with lots of people and dogs and plenty of hot dogs eaten. There was one suggestion that it would be nice to have a porta-potty at our event site instead of having to use the one at the entrance to First Encounter Beach parking.

NEW BUSINESS

Paws for Celebration, May 30, Drummer Boy Park in Brewster, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Dianne will work with Ed to coordinate setup and staffing. Joanne will store and bring our supplies in her vehicle since Ed is unavailable to transport this year. Booth staffing will plan for at least 2 volunteers assigned to shifts over the course of the event. We will set up starting at 10 a.m.

The Eastham Visitors Booth is now open. They called looking for our literature.

Katrina Boucher from the Cape Cod Dog talked to Ed about our possibly supporting the Animal Rescue League via attendance at a book release party. The book, "Dogs of Cape Cod," is a fund raiser where 100% of sales go directly to ARL. Discussion ensued. We did not budget funds for donations to another non-profit and attending the book release party was not of general interest. However, we recognize the value of having ARL as a partner in animal care here in Brewster. *Motion to transfer monies out of general funds to make \$100 donation to Brewster ARL by Vicky, Dianne 2nd, unanimous passed.*



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Credit Card Functionality - Ed is looking into how we can start accepting credit cards for purchases. We accept credit cards via PayPal online, but it would be nice to be able to accept credit cards at the various functions we hold or attend. We think this could increase sales of our merchandise. We pay a non-profit rate on PayPal and would likely pay about 2.75% fee per credit card transaction otherwise.

"Home Again" Chip Fundraiser – Dianne will put her contact in touch with Ed to discuss how we could potentially use this as a fund raiser. There is a base cost to us for having a vet inject the chip into the pet, and we would charge an additional fee that would be our profit. There was discussion about whether there is an annual fee for Home Again to keep that chip number in their database. Some attendees are charged an annual fee and others aren't. Stay tuned for further information.

Transient Vendor Permit – CindyN received the new permit and gave it to Kathy for safekeeping.

Windmill Weekend Planning – CindyN and Karie will coordinate this event. We discussed that we've had too many raffle items at prior WWs, and that the sheer number detracts from our message. This year we might have 1-2 raffle items but will concentrate on promoting EDOA and responsible pet ownership.

- A decision was made by the WW Committee to allow dogs on the Windmill Green this year. EDOA did not influence this decision. We'll see how this works out, but we recognize and have advised the WW Chairman that not all dogs are suitable for attending events with crowds or where they will see other dogs. Hopefully, owners with dogs who might not be suitable will recognize this and not bring their dog to the event.
- It would be nice to have a slide show running on a laptop computer at the event. In the past, seeing the screen has been problematic since the sun can negatively impact viewability. Kathy will check at Staples to see if they have sun shades that could affix to the screen.

UPCOMING EVENTS – updated from last month

- May 30 – Paws for Celebration (see above)
- June 20 – Hands on the Arts. Ed will coordinate. We will only participate on the Saturday of this 2-day event. Vicky will assist, and Karie will check to see if she is free to help, too.
- September 12-13 – Windmill Weekend (see above)

A motion to adjourn was made by Vicky, CindyN 2nd, passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, June 18th at 6 p.m. We will keep our room reservation at Eastham Town Hall but Ed may host this meeting at his home. Stay tuned for details.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Herrick, Secretary