



## Eastham Dog Owners' Association

### November 19, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

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

Vice President Vicky Anderson led this month's meeting. The meeting started with welcoming two new board members: Barbara Komins and Susie Williams. We all introduced ourselves and told about our four-legged family members.

- It was nice to hear that Susie adopted Maizy, the 5 month old terrier mix who attended our annual meeting. Maizy and her new Jack Russell Terrier brother Jake are getting along well.

The October meeting minutes were approved. (*Motion to accept by Cindy, Karie 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*).

**DOG OF THE MONTH:** Elvis, a Boston Terrier who visits regularly, attended with his human Dianne. Next month, Karie will bring LuLu to join us.

#### CORRESPONDENCE/NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

- Mary Nee, President of the Animal Rescue League of Boston, sent a very nice note thanking us for our donation to their organization. ARL was our keynote presentation at last month's annual meeting, and because their speaker could not accept a speaker's fee, we donated to the organization itself.
- Cindy Nicholson, past Vice President, sent a thank you for the gift given her in recognition of her many years of commitment to EDOA.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Ruth sent her monthly and year-to-date income and expenses report to Vicky so that we would have the update in her absence.

- Our bank balance is \$15,456.04 (\$12852.01 checking, \$2037.26 CD, \$566.77 PayPal).
- *Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Susie, Barbara 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS (*Motion to approve committee reports by Cindy, Susie 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed*)

Education - Ellen is seeking ideas for keynote speaker at next October's annual meeting. Suggestions made tonight include Massachusetts Search and Rescue (Cindy will get contact information to Ellen), Guide Dogs for the Blind, and inviting off-Cape organizations that are advocating to keep public/natural areas (e.g., Callahan State Park in the Framingham/Sudbury area) open to dogs and their responsible owners.

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – Tracey sent a report that was read. In summary, Larry is the current coordinator. There is a lost Jack Russell Terrier on Ocean View Drive in Wellfleet who has been missing since early November. We advised the owners about contacting local police and animal control, hanging posters, etc., but we do not have an active search for this dog. Tracey also raised the issue of organizing social media to centralize information and communications about missing pets, and she will follow up on this effort at a future meeting.

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST) – Cindy and Kathy provided updates:

- On October 24<sup>th</sup>, we conducted a "tabletop" training exercise for LCAST members, posing scenarios and then discussing how we would approach them. Twelve LCAST members attended (no one new to LCAST).
  - We also discussed planning for our next deployment: what can we stage in advance, what supplies need replenishment, etc. Cindy is keeping a list and will work with us to ensure we are ready.
- On November 9<sup>th</sup>, Cindy and Kathy attended the Regional Shelter Branch Director training at the Dennis Police Department. This session discussed the responsibilities of the Branch Director (who oversees the entire



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shelter with its support teams). We attended because we thought that it would be helpful to understand the Branch Director role and how our support with LCAST fits into that responsibility.

- Our new Eastham Fire Chief Kent Farrenkopf is aware of LCAST, and will be reaching out to talk with us once he settles into his new role. Retiring Chief Foley assured us that we will be able to form a strong relationship with the new chief, and also that the new chief will be playing an active role in regional emergency sheltering.
- We have varied roles for anyone interested in volunteering with LCAST. Some are preparatory roles, some in the shelter and some outside, some working with animals and some administrative. Anyone with an interest can surely find a role to play.

Membership – We now have 184 members. This is a new record for EDOA. 200 members remains a goal. The 2016 membership drive will kick off soon with letters, postcard reminders, etc. Ed Daniels will again lead the effort and he is open to any assistance or any new or different ideas how to approach this (e.g., call former members, sit outside the Post Office to recruit, etc.)

Buddy Scholarship – Cindy distributed a new flyer about the Buddy Scholarship. It is professionally done and looks great. Right now, we have \$1450 allocated for the scholarship, and at the December meeting we will vote on how much to award in May 2016.

- Cindy has already provided Nauset High School with the criteria for application along with revised dates.
- Cindy and Ed will work together to get an email blast out to the membership..."the gift for someone who has everything..." or "a great way to honor the life of a loved one..." etc. in an effort to spur interest at holiday time in getting additional donations to the scholarship fund. Donations earmarked for the scholarship fund are used solely for that purpose.
- Cindy received and read a thank you note from our 2015 scholarship winner.

Mutt Mitts – We are hoping that the town will install dispensers at Sandy Meadow (aka The Roach Property).

#### OLD BUSINESS

Open Space Committee – Per, Karie and Cindy Nicholson met on Tuesday 11/17 with Natural Resources & Conservation Agent Shana Brogan to discuss how we can work together. They confirmed that EDOA repaired the information board at Wiley Park, and understand that the board should not be used for business advertisements or business solicitations. Shana agreed that EDOA can maintain the board, allowing us to post community announcements. The next night, Karie, CindyN and Vicky attended the Open Space Committee meeting to ensure that their discussion with Shana was well conveyed and to address any questions that arose. At this time, Open Space is not looking to alter any items that would impact dogs. Overall, it was a worthwhile discussion with positive outcomes.

Eastham Chamber of Commerce – Last month we voted to continue our membership and ad in the Eastham Guide Book. Vicky circulated a copy of this year's advertisement and is seeking suggestions to enhance it for 2016. Ed agreed to come up with some ideas and bring them for review at the December meeting.

Poop Pickup at Wiley Park – Members who use the park said that it looks pretty clean right now. We'll discuss the need for a pickup effort at next month's meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS



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Eastham Turnip Festival is scheduled for Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>. Vicky circulated a schedule for volunteers to staff our booth and felt she had good coverage. The festival is from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Vicky will contact Claire to get merchandise to sell.

Christmas in Eastham - Vicky distributed the Chamber of Commerce flyer about the many activities planned by Eastham businesses during the month of December. Cape Cod Dog is having pet pictures with Santa on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Cindy will reach out to Katrina to see if we might be able to sit outside to talk to people about EDOA, and if so, Cindy will put together doggie gift bags for people who stop by.

Budget 2016 – Per would like the board to review our current budget and come prepared to the December meeting to discuss recommendations for the 2016 budget. Those members who are committee chairs should be prepared to address their particular needs and anticipated expenditures and/or income for 2016.

Board Meetings 2016 – all board meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. Please block these dates out on your calendar. Vicky distributed a listing of the dates: January 21, February 18, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15.

A motion to adjourn was made by Barbara, Cindy 2<sup>nd</sup>, passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Herrick, Clerk