



Eastham Dog Owners' Association
April 19, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors (BoD) Attending: Joanne Baldauf, Ruth Bentsen, Cindy Blum, Dianne Cullen, Susan Grunin, Kathy Herrick, Karie Miller, Tracey Plantier, Kerry Reid, Susie Williams. BoD Absent: Per Bentsen, Tony Cantore. Members Attending: Ed Daniels, Maureen and Dick Gossoo, Cindy Nicholson.

President Tracey Plantier opened the meeting at 6: 05 p.m.

DOG of the MONTH: Lab Retriever Chowdah brought his humans Maureen and Dick Gossoo to this evening's meeting. This energetic 4-year old (in July) was born in Missouri and was flown to the Gossoo home in Connecticut when he was just 3 or 4 months old. Maureen and Dick changed his name to Chowdah. Chowdah has been a regular attendee at our Bow Wow Bash. At home, he happily shares space with a Maine Coon kitty. He loves to go to day care and is even excited about visiting his vet. Maureen is looking forward to helping with this year's Bow Wow Bash and it's a sure thing we'll see Chowdah there by her side.

Meeting minutes from March 2018 meeting were approved with two minor wording changes. (*Motion to approve as amended by Cindy, Joanne 2nd, passed*).

CORRESPONDENCE:

- We received a suggestion from one of our members saying they'd love to see signs posted at Wiley Park that say, "We love our dogs at Wiley Park, but they can't pick up their own poop."
- We received a note from one of our members who wants to help at this year's Bow Wow Bash, and another from a member who wants to volunteer their time to help us where we need assistance. It is great to see this enthusiasm.
- One of our board members received a notice from the Orleans Chamber of Commerce saying that a potential home buyer perceived Orleans as not being dog friendly and was therefore looking elsewhere for a home. Their realtor was apparently unfamiliar with the town's policies that allow dogs on either leash and/or voice command depending upon where the dog is being walked/exercised. These policies are readily available on the town's website.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ruth summarized Income of \$140 and Expenses of \$390 since our last report. Overall, we have a total of \$19,891.05 (Checking \$7,495.93, Seamens Bank CD \$10,000.00, CC5 CD \$2,059.79, PayPal \$335.33). (*Motion to accept this report from Joanne, Dianne 2nd, passed*.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS – (*Motion to accept Committee Reports by Susie, Karie 2nd, passed*).

Education – The speakers advocating for changes in statewide coyote hunting regulations are not scheduling additional presentations now. See prior EDOA minutes for most detail about this topic.

- Please forward any ideas to Tracey for presentation topics at our annual meeting. Suggestions recently received include having a vet discuss Lyme and other tick-borne diseases, and perhaps getting a representative from Soresto (the 8-month tick and flea collar company).

Lost Dog Network (LDN) – It has been a quiet month. We received a sad update about pug Elliott who has been missing for over a month – his collar was found in a neighbor's yard. Tracey was asked about planning another training session for LDN members and will get back to us with possible topics and scheduling.

Lower Cape Animal Shelter Team (LCAST)

- The March 22nd training session was attended by 7 members. We did a basic review of process and forms. Kathy will update some of our forms with suggestions for improvement. There was a request to have a mock drill sometime this fall where we set up a shelter, register pets, deal with unforeseen situations from a deployment scenario, etc. This would be an actual drill instead of a desktop exercise. Cindy and Kathy will work to plan this. However, they clearly stated that everyone will need to assist since securing space, crates, pets, etc., as well as breakdown and clean up, take time and manpower.
- Cindy and Kathy attended the shelter meeting held in early April with the Barnstable County Regional Emergency Planning Committee (BCREPC). The purpose was to discuss experiences with the March nor-easter shelter openings. Many issues were discussed (e.g., Red Cross support, food management, age and health of clientele, etc.), but of most importance to LCAST is the fact that, yet again, Nauset High could not be opened as an emergency shelter because the generator is broken. The responsibility for repair/replacement lies with the Nauset School Board, but the BCREPC representatives could not speak to specifics about where that issue ranks in importance for the school. Until that generator is fixed or replaced, and we were told it needs total replacement, Nauset High cannot be used as an emergency shelter.



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Membership – We currently have 190 members.

Buddy Scholarship – We received applications from five highly qualified candidates. This year's \$2000 scholarship will go to Emma Berson, whose parents are EDOA members. She will receive the award at May's Bow Wow Bash.

Promotions – A suggestion was made to consider an EDOA decal as something that would be easily mailable to send along with our 2019 membership cards. CindyB and Susan will research this and report back next month.

Public Relations

- Increased fines and tethering regulations in line with statewide law will be an item on this year's Town Warrant.
- Ed wrote a letter to the editor that was recently published in the Cape Cod Times about changes proposed to the Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife regulations.
- CindyN asked if anyone had reached out to DPW to thank them for support of EDOA. No one had. Kathy volunteered to do so but asked CindyN to make the initial contact regarding how many staff they have.
- Ed continues to manage our website. Send any posting requests to him.
- Susie is planning our next newsletter for late June. She is requesting articles be submitted to her by June 10th.

OLD BUSINESS

Rabies Clinic – EDOA again assisted ACO Williams and Eastham Vet staff in providing 83 vaccinations to pets brought by 63 people. Numbers are down a little from prior years, but vaccinations are now 3-year rather than annual shots, plus it also depends upon when pets are due for their renewals.

Wiley Park Poop Pickup Party – Scheduled for Saturday, April 21 from 1-3 p.m.

Eastham Council on Aging – The COA may want us to talk about our organization at one of their summer luncheons.

Calendar of Events – The calendar will be attached to each month's agenda.

Animal Advisory Committee – There are still two openings on the committee. Members meet four times a year, but must be available when needed to investigate cases, conduct evaluations, testify at hearings, etc. Interested persons can obtain an application from the Town Clerk. See last month's minutes for information about desired applicant skill sets.

NEW BUSINESS

Bow Wow Bash – Scheduled for May 19/May 20 rained at First Encounter Beach. CindyN is tracking setup/volunteers, etc. Tracey will ask Companion Animal group to again join us for our educational component, and we'll again have a bin for donations to the local food pantry. Tracey will post the event on Facebook.

Cape residents are saddened by the killing of Police Officer Sean Gannon and the wounding of police dog Nero. Tracey suggested that we might want to donate in their memory/honor. (*Motion to make a \$500 donation to the Truro K9 Association in memory of Officer Gannon and in honor of Nero by Tracey, Kathy 2nd, passed.*)

Note: Truro Police Sgt. Raneo and his police dog Ella are EDOA members and were our guests at last October's Annual Meeting.

Town Clerk's Dog Photo Contest idea – CindyN said the Town Clerk's office is considering a photo contest where the winner will receive the 2019 dog license #1. Ideas being considered are limiting the contest to Eastham full-time resident dog owners (i.e., non-residents cannot license their dogs here), to narrow submissions to the Top 10, and then to let Eastham elementary school students select the winning picture from the Top 10. She asked if and how EDOA could help.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m. *Motion to adjourn by CindyB, Susie 2nd, passed.*

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 17, 2018 at 6 p.m. at Eastham Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Herrick, Clerk

Board Terms Expiring in 2018: Cindy Blum, Tony Cantore, Susan Grunin, Kathy Herrick, Tracey Plantier, Susie Williams

Board Terms Expiring in 2019: Joanne Baldauf, Per Bentsen, Ruth Bentsen, Dianne Cullen, Karie Miller, Kerry Reid