

OCTOBER 17, 2019 ANNUAL MEETING

MINUTES

Board of Directors (BoD) Attending: Joanne Baldauf, Per Bentsen, Ruth Bentsen, Susan Grunin, Tracey Plantier, Maureen Grosso, Tony Cantore, Dianne Cullen, Karie Miller, Kerry Reid and Beverly Hobbs.

President Tracey Plantier opened the meeting at 6: 10 p.m.

Tracey Plantier: Opening remarks and welcome.

Year end summary: We had several new events this year including a microchip clinic and coyote education.

Elections: (Per) Elected to the Board - Karie, Diane, Ruth and Kerry (Maureen made a motion to accept nominations, Tony second).

Our first speaker was Andi Williams who is the full-time patrol officer and Eastham Animal Control Officer. She spoke of coyote activity over the summer of which was minimal. She mentioned there's no leash law in the town however, she made it a point that she has never had a dog attacked while on leash. There were no incidents of rabies confirmed on Cape Cod since 2014. Question from audience: are there coyotes in Wiley Park? Yes - 2 to 3 known dens especially on cottontail acres side. If anyone has any additional questions, they are welcome to email Andi at any time. She gets 600 or so animal control officer calls a year on top of her regular work.

Our next speaker was Paul Lagg, the Eastham Town Planner. He was present to discuss the Wiley Park rehab. The recreation department has a proposal to rehab the playground area. He sees it as an opportunity to also rehab the area just outside the playground around the picnic table and bulletin board. They propose a new table, a shaded shelter area, a water bubbler and an animal water bubbler as well as the new watertight bulletin board. One of the largest aspects of the rehab is that it must have accessibility and be ADA compliant. He hopes the EDOA away will support the rehab and send a letter in support to the Town. Concept drawings should be done by the end of the month. There were questions regarding funding, one person wondered if it would be a good idea to sell bricks or benches to raise money. Another question had to do with the possibility of a dog park in the area.

Finance Report: (Ruth) Income of \$391 and Expenses of \$1,103 since our last report. Overall, we have a total of \$21,453.96 (CC5 Checking \$7,990.57, Seamen's Bank CD \$10,323.81, Seamen's Bank CD 2 \$2,502.04, and PayPal \$637.54).

Motion to accept finance report made by Joanne seconded by Ruth.

Membership: (Cindy Nicholson) We currently have 215 members which is the highest ever. However she noted there are over 1,000 dogs in the Town so there is work to be done yet. She wondered what we can do to improve our membership.

LCAST: (Per) There are six shelters on Cape Cod and we are responsible for the Nauset School shelter. The last time they had the shelter open was five years ago. Last year there was no shelter as no generator, but he has been assured that the generator is not working. They need volunteers for the shelter.

Buddy Scholarship: (Tracey) The scholarship is given to a student who plans to attend college for some sort of animal related degree. This year's possible recipient is Irene Turner. We will know in January.

Lost Dog: (Tracey) Mention was made of the new signs which are nice and bright. This year set a record for the number of calls. The good news is dogs are being found very quickly. As of October 16 there were 119 calls. Last year they were 81 calls altogether. The police are giving people the lost dog number which is great news.

Public Relations: (Ed) Most of our public relations are done electronically through Facebook, the website & email blurbs. If anyone has any ideas, please send them over. Suggestions are always welcome.

Education: (Tony) The board recognizes our responsibility to get information out to its members. We are looking to create an event with local veterinarians to do a question and answer.

Keynote Speaker: (Introduction by Tracey) Chris McLaughlin, Executive Director of the Animal Rescue Front (ARF). Chris started the ARF in 2005 after Hurricane Katrina. ARF has saved 9,000 dogs since. They have 4 shelters in Maine they work with. They work with seven teams in Mississippi and all pets transported at ARF are from Mississippi. They are always looking for volunteers as well as foster homes. Chris mentioned we've come a long way since 2005 but there still a long way to go. There is an event on May 2, 2020 at Nauset High School, a fundraiser for ARF from 11 to 3, please attend. Additionally they would like the EDOA to have a booth.

Please visit Katrina at Cape Cod Dog, one of our valuable sponsors. Also Barkers in Orleans is looking for a new location.

The winner of the clock was Carolyn Castiglione.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 6 p.m. at Eastham Police Station.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan S. Grunin, Clerk

Board Terms Expiring in 2020: Tony Cantore, Susan Grunin, Tracey Plantier and Maureen Grossoo.