

Mayflower Portuguese Water Dog Club
Board Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2017

Present: K. Ash, L. Green, K. Holden, O. Kocher, T. Kocher, P. Markiewicz, T. Morse, S. Phillips, B. Varr. Kathy McCann, Membership Chairperson, was also in attendance.

Absent:

Meeting Commencement

- Meeting was called to order at 6:12 by Club Vice President Karen Ash.

Secretary's Report

- Minutes from the prior Board Meeting of August 6, 2017 were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Bill had submitted a Profit & Loss report prior to the meeting. Prior month's expenses were discussed.
- Noted was that travel expenses were still due to Julie Asbed for this summer's water seminar.
- Current account balance = \$ 8548.12.
- Treasurer's report was approved.

Festivus Planning

- The board voted and agreed on January 7, 2018 as the date for Festivus. In previous years, this event was held the week before Super Bowl Sunday but conflicted with other clubs' annual events.
- Venues were discuss – Performance Plus (Raynham), Master Peace (Franklin), Dogstar (Acton) and Lynn Green's barn (Sudbury).
- Karen suggested that if we were to do pot luck that the time should be moved to 11:00 so that people would be hungry and the food would be consumed. Too much wasted food in the past years.
- Dr. Stephanie Pumphrey will be asked to perform eye exams as in past years. Lynn offered to ask her. The charge will be \$35 per dog. The club's portion will be \$5.
- Lynn suggested a Trick Dog demonstration as the special event.

Conformation Report

- **AKC A Match** – Sunday, October 29th at MasterPeace Dog Training Center
 - The Match will start at 3:30 with entries being accepted at 2:30.
 - The Board voted and agreed to present Liz Volz a Mayflower club bread board as a gift.
 - Vicki offered to make the place signs for the match
 - Lynn Green will obtain the ribbons.
- **2018 Specialty – Ladies Dog Show**
 - Paula stated that there should be no problem with AKC approval of the specialty as they had approved it last year.
 - Paula posed the question of whether we should hold a two-day specialty or a one-day specialty/one-day supported entry at the Ladies Dog Club show. After discussion, the board voted and agreed that one-day specialty held on Saturday would be best with a supported entry on Sunday.
 - Paula suggested that we offer a luncheon.
 - Trophies were discussed. Tina offered to make crate pads.

- **Other Items**
 - Conformation Committee was selected with Paula and Vicki Varr as co-chairs, Lynn and Tina to assist. Karen made the motion to accept this committee with Bill seconding. All approved.
 - Paula commented that she would like us to consider how to promote Junior Handling. After discussion it was agreed to collect everyone's thoughts and suggestions on how this could be done.

Grooming Seminar Planning

- Karen will prepare the flyer for Grooming Seminar to include registration form.
- Flyers will be sent to members, posted on website and on select Facebook pages.
- Lunch will be provided and coffee in the morning.
- Susan Lefebvre will be selling grooming supplies.
- Liz agreed to take all working groups that register – no limit.
- Thanks to Tobi Ann and Olivier for hosting Liz for the weekend at their house.

National Specialty Recap

- Paula commented that the Specialty was very well received. Our club was well represented and Paula gave her thanks to everyone and Tina concurred.
- Social events and food was very good. The estimated count for the yacht club event was 30 but 103 people actually attended.
- Olivier noted that \$25,000 is in the account but there are bills outstanding to be paid and a check from Rau expected to be received.

Nomination Committee

- Paula reviewed our current by-laws. She had previously asked Gail Maguire and Whitney Fernandes to sit on the committee as they have done in the past. They both agreed. The Board voted and approved of this committee.
- Once complete, the slate and report will be sent to the board for approval and then to the membership.

Water Committee Report

- There was a question regarding Martin Downey's gift membership in payment for the markers he had made and donated to the club. Though all were in agreement that the membership gift was appropriate, it was unclear the length and type of membership that was given.
- Sally suggested the board should vote, if it had not done so already, if the membership was to be a 3-year term. Prior meeting minutes will be reviewed.

Membership

- Kathy McCann expressed concern for the decline in membership over the past year - from a count of 56 in 2016 to 45 in 2017.
- Kathy will solicit off-line for ideas on how to increase membership.
- Kim supplied a list of current members to the AKC.
- Tina suggested a promotion including a reduced rate membership for new puppy owners.
- Paula wants to make sure they are getting welcome letters so that people feel the value of the club. We need to determine who is responsible for this task and define a solid plan.
- Kathy will send out membership listing to all board members.

Other Discussion Items

- **Public Relations** - The board is divided on whether any action should be taken on behalf of the club when negative or derogatory comments are publicly made towards the club. Two viewpoints were discussed:
 - To do nothing as most negative comments are disgruntlement by one or few and the board should “rise above” understanding that this is bound to happen.
 - To appoint someone to address the negative comments professionally and courteously in either recognition only or presenting the board’s point of view on the subject.
- No decision was made.
- **By-Laws** - The board recognized that the revision of the club’s bylaws started last year needs to be completed.
 - As it was left, suggestions made by Kari Lavalli and others were considered and in some part incorporated into the revised bylaws (yet to be approved) . Review and approval of the final draft needs to be completed.
 - Discussion on having an outside party who had expertise in this area may be beneficial. Bill knew of someone who could be considered but estimated that the cost could be \$100/hr.

Next meeting – November 5th at 6:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Holden
Secretary