

Gem City Dog Obedience Club

Board Meeting

February 3, 2014

Location: GCDOC Building

Date: February 3, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.

Board Members:

Krista Anthony
Deb Arnold
Mary Beam
Nancy Beeman

Curt Givens
Jennifer Looper
Ronalee McKnight
Pam Murn

Karen Pompei
Kathy Roberts
Elaine Stoermer
Barb Swigart

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Kathy called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone

II. Reports

a. Secretary (Barb Swigart)

The minutes were approved on a motion by Curt Givens, seconded by Elaine Stoermer. The Secretary reported that she had received a communication from AKC regarding GCDOC listing their classes with AKC as a training resource. Karen Pompei will follow up with the Instructors.

b. Treasurer (Elaine Stoermer)

Elaine reported the following balances:

Checking	\$37,041.44
Savings	<u>\$ 4,398.29</u>
Total	\$41,439.73

Additionally, Elaine gave a breakdown regarding sources of income from Banquet monies, Obedience/Rally/Conformation classes, Membership and Rentals. Further, she distributed copies of the 2014 Banquet Financial Report, a Comparison of Banquet Expenses for 2012, 2013 and 2014, and a Summary of January/February Financial Reports for 2013 and 2014 in which she stated that the Club “cannot keep spending for 2 buildings with current income forecast (classes, rentals and trials)”. She had a list of “Fiscal Belt Tightening” items in which she listed several ways to economize on our expenditures which the Board discussed at length. Several austerity measures were discussed.

The following items were agreed to in principal and need to have modifications to the stand rules for vote at a future meeting:

1. Increase class fees
2. Ask that members using **Blue Ribbon** vouchers for trials to cover the out-of-pocket cost of \$5-7 per run with cash/check
3. Limit Sunshine
4. Reduce land and tractor maintenance

c. Membership (Krista Anthony, chair)

Krista reported that she had been approached on the subject of “Lifetime Memberships and what the rule was for granting a lifetime membership. The question raised was whether Lifetime Membership became automatic at 25 years. It was pointed out that the rule for lifetime membership was recorded in the By-Laws. This Rule, Section 3, Types of Membership, Item E. Lifetime, was read so the Board was fully aware of its content. There have been questions raised previously as to the exact procedure and if it had been changed over the years. Discussion as to whether a change to the By-Laws had ever been voted on. The consensus of the Board was that there was not enough information in writing concerning this matter and to change would involve an amendment that designates a 25 year membership become automatic. There will be no changes to the By-Laws at this time. The Secretary will research previous minutes to clarify matters regarding lifetime membership.

III Business Needing Attention

a) Treas. Report/Cash Flow

See Treasurer Report

b) Northcutt Update and Next Steps

i) Operating expenses

Elaine stated that she did not want to write checks for large capital expenditures related to Northcutt until there was money coming in. Kathy stated that a plan for revenue for Northcutt or an agreed plan to vacate the Springfield Street was needed before we continue to spend significantly at Northcutt. At this point, without plans in place the club could continue to “bleed money”. Mary Beam stated that lighting needed to be complete before the rental at Northcutt, Mary Beam suggested that members could be given the opportunity to sponsor a light(s) in memory of a beloved pet as a way to offset the expense of the light situation. Pam Murn stated that she would work up a power point flyer with information regarding this lighting opportunity proposal and present it at the next meeting when the Board can act upon it. Several Board Members pledged funds to help kick off the campaign.

ii) Items Needed

Discussions of items needed include securing the lighting and the flooring.

iii) Property Tax Appeal

The property tax appeal has been made and there will be an expense because an attorney has been hired.

iv) Sponsorship/Fundraising

There was further discussion regarding fundraising and sponsorship to help with expenses at the new building. Some ideas included asking various merchants to purchase a banner with their advertisement, or a member buying a banner if they didn’t want to sponsor a light. Kathy suggested that Pam be the POC person for sponsorship/fundraising.

v) Schedule Meeting Communications Plans

Kathy suggested scheduling a meeting for the membership so they could see the building, lights, explain about plans for sponsorship – possibly a Sunday afternoon Discussion followed.

c) Banquet Recap/Lessons Learned

Raising the price of the banquet next year, the fact that the banquet becomes harder to do each year and the reasons for it, better ways to communicate with the membership, getting awards reported in a timely manner and comparing what other clubs do were among the items discussed. How to better present the slide show, cutting costs, e.g. rentals and speaker systems were also discussed at length. The overall consensus was that the banquet was a success.

i) High Scoring Awards

After discussion regarding the matter of awards and the problems associated with them, Pam proposed some changes in the Standing Rules. Under Obedience Special Awards: A special engraved gift is given to these annual winners *who have submitted titles and/or scores*. Under Highest Scoring Dog – AKC: This award is presented to the handler/dog team who scored the highest point value while competing *in regular titling classes at an American Kennel Club trial*. Another proposal suggested is that under the Special Awards section other venues should be added. Lastly, it was proposed that a statement be added: *The Obedience Director or his or her designate shall review all awards*. Following further discussion the Board declared its intent to change the Standing Rules and will vote on the changes at the next meeting.

ii) Need More Collaboration Between Awards and Slides

Discussion indicated that persons receiving awards should go forward to receive them and not have “runners” deliver the awards to the tables because people enjoy the honor of receiving the award for their dog. Kathy stated that either she or the Director should have presented the awards to the recipients. It was decided that Pam will work with the Awards Committee next year.

iii) Communication of Awards Process and New Members

Ways to better communication and interfacing with new members and turning in awards were discussed.

iv) Date for 2014

No specific date set.

d) Accident Procedures – Need For A Protocol/Procedure

Discussion regarding the course of action to be taken should an accident occur, using common sense measures, calling 911 and possible training for Instructors as well as having a procedure for such an event.

IV On-going Reports Continued

- d. Registrar (Karen Pompei) .
Karen distributed a spread sheet listing the current class enrollment. She stated she needed help with Mason Dixon on Feb. 15-16 – Nancy Beeman will help. Karen questioned the signed rental contract for Mason Dixon for May 16-17-18 for the Springfield Street Building. Consensus was to rent it. Discussion regarding of rental for various clubs followed.
- e. Obedience (Pam Murn)
No Report
- f. Agility
February Trial is nearly full. Lynn will get checks to Elaine early to enable cashing before trial.
- g. Conformation (Nancy Beeman)
No Report
- h. Earth Dog (Curt Givens)
Curt reported that Barn Hunt and Fun Day on March 22, 2014 is going well. He is still looking for one more judge and has worked on the alarm and electrical systems at Northcutt.
- i. Operations (Kathy Roberts)
No Report
- j. Sunshine (Karen Pompei/Joyce Osborn)
No Report
- k. Publicity/Public Relations (Karen Pompei)
No Report
- l. Store (Ronalee McKnight)
No Report

V Continuing Business None

VI. New Business None

VII. Next Meeting Monday, March 3 – 7:00 p.m.

VIII. Adjournment

With a motion by Pam Murn, seconded by Mary Beam, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathy Roberts, President

Barbara Swigart, Secretary