

Dartmouth – Dog Advisory Work Group RECEIVED
Tuesday – September 24, 2013 – Minutes

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President Rick Oliveira called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the following Board members present: Rick Rodrigues, Diane Camacho, Bev Reed, John Cheverie,, and Jo-Anne Gallant.

The minutes from the August 27, 2013 meeting were discussed and the statement "There was no quorum at the meeting" was added. The minutes were then approved.

I. Treasurer's Report – Rick Rodrigues indicated there was no change to our account.

II. Quick Fundraising Ideas – Karen Harb made several suggestions for easy fund raisers that have been successful with her Girl Scout troop. First, Yankee Candle has a program where for a selected time period, candles sold or ordered online through DDAWG members would net the organization forty percent of the cost of the candle. Seven of Karen's Girl Scout troop members sold candles last year and made \$400 for the troop. Secondly, Applebee's Restaurant offers two fund raising possibilities. The first, a Flapjack Breakfast, held on either a Saturday or Sunday from 7 to 10 A.M. was discussed. The charge to us would be \$1.85 per person, and the usual ticket charge to patrons is \$6.00 or \$7.00. The restaurant provides the food, place settings, and location, but advertising and waiting tables would be our responsibility. The second idea was more appealing to everyone. On a given night, between the hours of 5 to 9 P.M., fifteen percent of each dinner check would be donated to DDAWG, provided the customer gave a copy of our flyer to the wait staff. We would be responsible for advertising the event and encouraging everyone to eat at Applebee's on that night. Suggestions such as advertising on Facebook, setting up a table at Stop and Shop with flyers, putting it on our website, having flyers available at local veterinarian's offices and pet food stores were made. Karen will contact the manager at Applebee's, Megan, and ask for Thursday, November 21st as our first choice, and November 14th as our second choice. Megan, who just moved to the area and has a dog, offered to help by assisting with the flyers. Rick Oliveira suggested we modify the flyer we have to include the Applebee's information. Flyers we hand out will not only inform individuals about the fund raiser, but also about our dog park plans. Once the date is established, Jo-Anne will inquire about handing out flyers the weekend before at Stop and Shop. Diane offered to set up in the parking lot on the day to distribute flyers to anyone going into the restaurant. John offered to help that night as well.

III. Stanton Foundation – The town finance committee approved the funding, \$4600, for the feasibility study. This study is necessary as the first step in our application to the Stanton Foundation. Tim will ask Deborah, who works on grants, to set up a meeting with several DDAWG members. Because previously awarded grants all utilized the same architects, it was decided we should use the same firm. Although we are hopeful the Stanton Foundation will decide our dog park is a worthy cause, we will continue fund raising efforts.

IV. Family Fun Day at Sandy's – As Sandy is not here, we will address this fund raising event at our next meeting. Rick Oliveira explained that this event was postponed from the fall to the spring because of the amount of work needed to get such an event off the ground. The ideas suggested for the day at our July meeting turned the day from simply a "Cow Chip Casino" time to a full blown country fair event. We do not have the members to take on such a large endeavor. Holding the event in the spring allows us time to evaluate the suggestions made and decide which ones would best attract families to the "Cow Chip Casino" event. Rick Oliveira believes he may have secured a donated a Port-a-John when we do hold the event.

V. Appointing of Building Committee -- Rick Oliveira asked for a motion to appoint a building committee to work with Tim and Deborah on the feasibility study. He suggested Rick Rodrigues, Bev Reed, Diane Camacho, and Jo-Anne Gallant be the DDAWG representatives. John made the motion, which was seconded and approved unanimously.

VI. Janice Resignation and openings – The board members were informed that Janice has resigned. The motion was made to appoint Karen Harb to the board as Janice's replacement. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

VII. Any New News – Rick Rodrigues suggestion the logo circulated to board members needs a bit of work. The face is cute but the dog's sitting position is off.

VIII. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M. The next meeting is October 22nd at 7:00 P.M. at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne M. Gallant