

Tuesday – April 29, 2014 – Minutes 2014 JUN 6 PM 12 10

DARTMOUTH TOWN CLERK

I. Call to order

President Rick Oliveira called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. With the following members present: Diane, Rick R., Lee Ann, Bev, Sandy, Dr. Kate, Karen and Jo-Anne.

The first order of business was the election of officers. After Rick handed out ballots, Diane moved to accept the slate of officers as presented. Rick R. seconded and asked if there were any write-ins as we have two open slots. Diane indicated she may have an interested party but not at this time. The board voted the slate of officers unanimously at 7:06 pm.

II. Reports

Rick reported on the expenses which included the contract service charge of \$16 and the Attorney General filing fee of \$35. We will need to pay the state a fee of \$15 and renew our P.O. Box at \$96. We took in \$133.57 from our Applebee's fundraiser, and received a donation of \$100, bringing our income to \$633.34 at the present time.

There were no minutes from the February or March due to the lack of a quorum at both meetings.

III. Business

A. Town meeting – Rick and discussion

Rick complimented Diane on her presentation to the Board of Selectman on Monday night. Bev commented that it was great to hear our accomplishments and realize how far we have come. Diane indicated she will send everyone a copy of the Select Board packet and Mini-grant timeline.

The next hurdle is the Town Meeting on Tuesday, June 2nd beginning at 9:00 am. Bev will get a list of town meeting members so that we can make phone calls the week prior to the meeting and ask for their support for the dog park project. As there are 422 members, we will need to divide the list among the board members. Rick R. indicated that as a town meeting member, he is not fond of getting calls. However, most board members felt it was a good idea. We will have a script to read from so everyone receives essentially the same message. Rick O. volunteered to write the script. We should also have a handout the day of the meeting, and Diane asked Rick R. what typically is given out. Rick indicated we should keep it short – one page with our logo and bullet points. The day of the meeting we will need a couple of people to attend. Rick O. indicated he is taking the day off, and others also indicated they are available to attend. If asked for additional information, Rick O. and Diane will speak on behalf of D-DAWG.

B. Greater New Bedford United Way Mini Grant – Rick

Rick submitted the United Way Mini Grant for funding towards two informational kiosks for the dog park. We will have them built locally and are thinking of one at the entrance and a second in the park. The one in the park will be for D-DAWG information and have an area where our members can post notices. If we receive the grant, there is an acceptance party in June at the Boat House. Depending on the date, Rick indicated he may need someone from the board to attend as he will be tied up with a wedding. Several members agreed they would attend if needed.

C. Applebee's fundraiser

Our next fundraiser at Applebee's is Thursday, May 22nd. As it is just after the Pet Fest, we should have flyers available to hand out at Buttonwood Park. Dr. Kate indicated she initially had a table but was unable to attend. She needs to check with the Vet Techs to see if anyone is available to go, but that we could share the table with her. She will let Bev know. Rick O. will bring the awning, table, and table cloth. Lee Ann has the donation jar her daughter made. Diane will have an informational newsletter and put the Applebee's flyer on the back side. Karen suggested we have baskets to raffle and Bev agreed organize the day with everyone via e-mail.

D. Dartmouth's 350th Celebration

We will have a table on Saturday, July 26th at Rex's Field to inform residents about the dog park. Bev, Karen, Lee Ann, and Diane agreed to plan something for that day. We should consider another restaurant fund raiser just after that day. We could hand out a second newsletter, highlighting our Family Farm Day Event, with the flyer for the restaurant on the back. There are various events about town celebrating the town's anniversary, including a parade in September. We will consider a float or simply walking with banners in that parade.

E. Nutro Dog Food Grant

There is a grant we can consider applying for through Nutro Dog Food, due June 1st. Since the swipe card system is not in the budget, we need to raise money for it. Mark Medeiros is in charge of the Key Card system at Rick R.'s club and indicated he would be willing to assist us if needed. He quoted the price of \$2,100 for the system and \$2,500 with 600 cards. There is a yearly maintenance fee of \$500. The system has the time and date the card is used, which is a great way to keep track of who is using the park. Should there be any issues with dogs reported, we would be able to check to see what members were in the park at the time. We could offer a scholarship for one resident and one non-resident based on financial need. Diane and Jo-Anne indicated they would be willing to write grants. Wal-Mart has a grant and Jo-Anne will stop in and inquire about it. The Petco grant is in the fall, and we need to check on the Wal-Mart one.

F. Family Farm Day Event – Saturday, October 18th, 11 am. – 3 pm.

Sandy has the cow, Stumpy, for the Cow Chip Casino event all lined up for the casino event at 2:00 pm. We discussed the cost of the raffle tickets and decided we would have an easier time selling out if we charged \$10 a ticket instead of \$20. Since it will be a family oriented event, we want parents to be able to not only purchase a ticket, but also be able to afford to participate in the other events of the day. A motion was made and seconded to charge \$10. The motion passed. Usually, spray paint is used to divide the field into squares. We will offer face painting, a dog costume contest, a Chinese Auction table, pony rides, and food. Diane spoke with a family member who had some great ideas for the auction table. She suggested we have dog blankets, dog bandanas, and baskets as items on the table. Karen suggested collar covers also. Lee Ann indicated she has some ideas for crafts as well. Jo-Anne said she could make pins to sell. We could have gift certificates for grooming, a Harvest Theme basket in addition to dog themed ones. Dr. Kate will contact some representatives from dog companies about donations of dog treats and toys. She also discussed ideas from Forever Paws fundraisers, such as tree decorating and mentioned that Busters and Fays restaurants are dog supports. MSCPA does paw prints with child safe ink on construction paper. The dog's name is added after. Rick O. will handle getting a Port-A-John for the event. Sandy will contact Randy the Hot Dog Guy to check on his availability for the day. She may be able to get him to make a donation as she sends a lot of business his way. Dr. Kate suggested a nail trimming table, for a \$5 or \$10 donation, and will ask her vet techs to help. Diane will work on the raffle tickets and Sandy will e-mail whether we will need 100 or 150 tickets. Lee Ann offered oak tag on which to print the tickets. We should

also see about getting a radio station to come, perhaps Fun 107. Rick O. will work on a flyer for the event.

G. For the good of the organization

Rick spoke about how much has happened since he took on this project 6 years ago. Everyone has made a contributions and no one should feel that their contribution isn't enough, or that they should not continue because of conflicts preventing them from attending every meeting. Ultimately, Rick said, the goal is to get the park constructed. He indicated he has been used to being in the forefront, and has not been comfortable not being in control, with Diane being spokesperson of late. However, she has done a great job and it has been for the good of the organization. Bev commented and said that everyone has their own strengths and contributes what they can.

IV. Next meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 27th at 7:00 pm. in room 315 at the town hall.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at *:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Gallant