

Dartmouth – Dog Advisory Work Group  
Tuesday – February 24, 2015 – Minutes

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DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

I. Reports

Rick called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm with the following members present: Karen Harb, Rick Oliveira, Rick Rodrigues, Diane Camacho, Sandy Gosslin, and Jo-Anne Gallant, with two guests, Jenn Mello and Denise Levesque. Absent were LeeAnn Quint and Dr. Kate Pietsch.

A. The minutes from the October meeting were accepted. There were no minutes in November, as we did not have a quorum, and the December and January meetings were cancelled due to the holiday and weather.

B. The treasure's report was read. Sandy questioned the choice of Bank of America, since the monthly charge was higher than the bank she uses for another group. Rick explained that the Bank of America had the option of accepting credit card payments, via a mobile cell phone. This is a feature we will need as we move forward so we can accept credit cards in remote locations such as Pet Fest and eventually the dog park.

II. Old business

A. Web page

Karen reported that her computer crashed, but a data recovery was successful. She has the necessary web page folder John created, but she needs to ask for assistance from a BCC professor friend as she knows nothing about web pages. Diane indicated she has the administrative password John sent to board members if she needs it, and that the last time she tried to go on the site, the domain name had lapsed. John had paid for one year, but the good news is the name is still available. We would need to pay the annual fee. Several people offered Karen assistance with the site. In case we are unable to recover John's work, Diane will look into the company that does the website for DNRT.

III. New business

A. Liability insurance

Rick spoke with the agent who handled the liability insurance for the Provincetown Dog Park, but she suggested a local company would be able to provide a better deal. As a result, Rick contacted Joanne Breton at Southeastern Insurance. He does not have any figures yet, as the company needed to investigate insurance providers willing to underwrite a policy for dog parks. As the town owns the property, we do not need property insurance. The town's umbrella policy would cover the park, but Mr. David Cressman, Town Administrator, suggested we get a liability policy. The Provincetown agent suggested the price range should be \$800 to \$1,000.

B. Meeting with Parks and Recreation Board

Rick and Diane had wondered when the Parks and Recreation DDAWG subcommittee would get started. It had been mentioned the group would start up after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year. Independently, Rick had contacted Tim and Diane contacted with Deb Wender. Deb responded, indicating that the weather has held everything up, and that Tim was working with the DPW and Eversource (NSTAR). He is investigating the costs of bringing both water and electricity down

the road to both the dog park and the main park. They will contact us when they are ready to meet

#### C. Fundraiser ideas for 2015 and 2016

##### 1. Benefit Concert

Rick hopes to retire at the end of the year, at which time he would like to spearhead a benefit concert with the Zeiterion as the venue. He has several entertainers he is considering, but this event would not occur until 2016

##### 2. Breakfast

A breakfast event has been suggested, but Rick indicated we would need to be a larger organization to be able to host such an event. The possibility of Applebees' hosting a Flapjack breakfast was mentioned, but we would still need more volunteers than we have at present.

##### 3. Wine Tasting Event

Having a local vineyard host a wine tasting event, and selling tickets for food, wine and entertainment was suggested. Rick will ask at Running Brook Vineyard, while Jenn will inquire at Westport Vineyards.

##### 4. Family Fun Day Event

Rick suggested that this event, while successful, would be best done every other year. Sandy indicated holding it at the park near the dog park, or even at the pavilion, would be great. Rick R. was impressed with its success and doesn't want to give up on it. As we will hopefully be having a grand opening either late this summer or early fall, this event would take the place of the Family Fun Day this year.

##### 5. Comedy show

Odie's Place and other animal groups host comedy shows, and often have great success. This is another idea to consider.

##### 6. Other ideas

Karen wrote to Matt Frasier, a medium active with Forever Paws, about the possibility of his doing a show for the dog park. She got no response, so Diane, whose cousin hosted a fundraiser with Matt, will try to get in touch with him. Diane indicated the owner of Pretty Paws volunteered to donate the pools for the park, and also mentioned she knows the owner of the Mariner's Hall next to her Fairhaven store. She could arrange for us to use the hall for events. Diane also knows of a location to host Matt Frasier. Also suggested were Salt Marsh Pottery, who hosts fundraisers for groups, and the Wine with a Splash type event.

#### D. Corporate taxes

Rick R. would like to file all the necessary forms at the same time. We have the Federal and State taxes and forms for both the Secretary of State and Attorney General. To have the needed board list in time, Rick asked that we hold the annual meeting at our March meeting, rather than in April. He needs the Slate of Officers.

#### E. Replace vacancies to Executive Board

With Bev's resignation, we have vacancies on our Board of Directors. Diane made the motion to accept Jenn Mello and Denise Levesque as board members. The motion was seconded and passed. We can be a board of 12, so if anyone knows of anyone else interested in joining the board. The board went into Executive session for four minutes to discuss possible

candidates. After coming out of executive session, Karen indicated her sister, Ann Raymond, was interested and Diane suggested Nancy Mahoney.

#### F. Recruitment of additional members

Rick O. indicated his vision for DDAWG would be to have our 12 person board with subcommittees for grounds maintenance, future park development, fundraising, and other committees as needed. Board members would lead the committees with additional members. This vision would be possible only once the park is up and running.

#### G. National Get Outdoor Event

New Bedford is hosting an outdoor event on June 13<sup>th</sup> as a part of National Get Outdoors Day. The board discussed the Pet Fest on May 17<sup>th</sup> as more important for us. We will want to have a booth at Pet Fest and more than likely, many of the same people would attend the June 13<sup>th</sup> event. No one was interested being at the June event.

### IV. Other

#### A. Stationary

Diane indicated that we need to have an official letterhead. Several individuals have donated to our cause, and it would be appropriate for them to receive an official letter that could be used for tax purposes. She agreed to design a sample for approval at our next meeting.

#### B. Promotional items

We need to decide if we want to invest in some promotional items to have for sale that promote the DDAWG name and the dog park. Suggested items were shopping bags, hand sanitizers and dog treat bags. If we would want to have them ready for sale at Pet Fest, we will need to decide at our next meeting. Karen and Diane both have contacts we can use.

### V. Next meeting

Our next meeting will be the fourth Tuesday in April: April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. at the town hall. We will ask for room 315 as usual.

### VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Gallant