

Dartmouth – Dog Advisory Work Group
Wednesday – November 4, 2015 – Minutes

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DARTMOUTH TOWN CLERK

I. Call to order

Vice-President Diane Camacho called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm with the following members present at that time: Nancy Mahoney, Jenn Mello, LeeAnn Quint, Rick Rodrigues and visitors Mark LaVallee and Cheryl Silvia. Rick Oliveira, Karen Harb, and Jo-Anne Gallant arrived after the meeting had begun.

II. Reports

The secretary's report from the September meeting was accepted. Rick gave the treasurer's report and indicated we have \$5,218.30 in our account. He noted that the \$98 Post Office Box fee, paid twice a year, was due at the end of the month.

As we have not had a quorum for several recent meetings, and Mark LaVallee has been in attendance at those meetings, Diane recommended to the board that we make Mark an official board member. We have a vacancy, and a new board member can be appointed by a majority vote of the board. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously. Mark is now officially a board member. Rick O. asked Mark to submit a brief biography for our records.

III. Old business

A. Wine tasting update, Diane

Diane reported that she contacted the Coastal vineyard owner and while he is willing to do an event with us, the best time now would be in the spring. The cost would be \$15 for a tasting, and we would receive ½ of the ticket sales and 10% of the wine sales. Early June will be our target date.

B. Fundraisers

1. It's All About the Animals, Diane

We made \$70 between items sold and the raffle items. The event was small but well received and we have been invited to return next year. Rick was able to reconnect with Linnea Michel, the lawyer who set us up as a non-profit organization, as she stopped by the booth.

2. iGive and Bracelets, Jenn

Jenn set us up on iGive, an online shopping service with well over 1,000 shopping sites. The Dog Park will receive a percentage of the purchase price every time a shopper selects DDAWG and makes a purchase. Jenn also registered DDAWG with bravelets, a bracelet company with a variety of designs and colors. We will receive \$10 from every bracelet purchase.

C. Other old business

1. Photos with Santa, Nancy

Nancy spoke with Dr. Slaughter from Hidden Brook Veterinary Hospital who indicated we were welcome to be a part of her Holiday Celebration Day. While we can get a photographer to do photos with Santa, most folks shoot a cell phone picture and would not be interested in paying for a photo. Instead, Nancy will speak to Dr. Slaughter about allowing us to set up an informational table and having a basket to raffle.

IV. New business

A. 99 Restaurant fundraiser, Diane

Diane spoke to Pat Anderson, the manager from the 99 Restaurant and she would gladly help us fundraise for the dog park. She suggested a date in early December, with Tuesday being a good day as bingo is offered in the bar area. December 1st is the day selected. Pat designs the flyers, which we copy and distribute. We get 15% of the bill, less tax and gratuity of patrons with the flyer. We can post the flyer on the Facebook pages and website, as well as distribute them to friends, neighbors, and family. In

addition, Pat provides us with space for a table so we can have information about the park available, and have raffle items as well. She will donate a \$20 gift card to the 99 restaurant. She suggested a wine basket and a lottery ticket basket as in her experience with past fundraising groups, they have been popular items. LeeAnn will provide two baskets, a non dog related basket, and a dog themed one.

B. Anchor Animal Hospital Donation

Dr. Kate made another donation of \$173 from the donation can and treats sold. She continues to be a big supporter of the park. As a nonprofit group, we will need to provide her with a thank you letter at year's end, with a total of her donations for tax purposes.

C. Legal Center for Nonprofits – Linnea Michel

Linnea Michel, who ran the Law College Clinic that helped us to become incorporated as a nonprofit, was at It's All About the Animals event and stopped to speak with us. She now runs the Legal Center for Nonprofits in New Bedford, and offers legal advice and provides workshops on various topics for nonprofit groups. Tonight there was a workshop on fundraising. Her website is Legal Center for Nonprofits.org. Diane sent her our updated Bylaws and Policies and Procedures as requested. There was a workshop tonight on fundraising, but as it conflicted with our board meeting, she offered to send the PowerPoint presentation. DDAWG will be on her mailing list for future activities. She was surprised that we provide the town with minutes, as nonprofits are private independent groups, but doing so was a goodwill gesture we should continue. She will be a valuable resource for us!

D. Any other new business

1. Calendar

The photo contest idea of a calendar was discussed, with Karen offering her services as a photographer. Agawam charges \$15 for each entry, and sells ads as well. It would be a great idea for 2017, but we would need to start advertising the contest this summer on social media.

2. Border collie- beagle mix

Karen asked if anyone knew of an individual looking to adopt a good dog. Rocco, a six years old, 30 pound dog, was surrendered to the humane Society. Karen knows the dog, and is willing to foster him until a home can be found. Nancy indicated she may be able to find a family for Rocco.

3. Emergency Coordinator

Sandy emailed to say that Ed Pimental informed her that Janice Rogers resigned as the Emergency Coordinator for animals. If anyone we know of is interested, they could contact her and she will put them in contact with Ed.

V. Next meeting

The next meeting will be on December 9, 2015 at 7:00 pm. at the town hall.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.