

RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 9, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at the club building on Tomlynn Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Board Members:

President: Patti Kilcullen (2024)

Vice President: Carolyn Wilkerson (2024)

Corresponding Secretary: Merilynn Bergstresser (2024)

Training Directors: Gabby Hughes (2024/2025)

Recording Secretary: Claibourne Jackson (2024)

Treasurer: Rocky Altimore (2024)

Member at Large: Judi Edwards (2023/2024), Donna Crumpler (2023/2024), Dave Frazier (2024/2025), Theresa Myers (2024/2025)

Board Members absent: Merilynn Bergstresser, Gabby Hughes

The following **guests were present**: Arlene Dickson and Darlene Trace

- Arlene outlined upcoming Obedience & Rally Trial financials. We are at the higher end of our charges so food has been eliminated for 4-hour workers thus reducing the cost of hospitality. In December, she suggests considering not having porta-potties which would further cut expenses. Arlene recommended a 2-day trial in December, rather than going to a one-day trial – set up expenses for one day are about the same as for two days and the income from a second day outweighs any difference (particularly the appeal to entrants who can compete in two trials in one weekend). We are skipping the February trial in 2025 and perhaps future June trials (we have normally Feb, June and Dec trials). Arlene is the Trial Chair for December 2024 and Darlene Trace is Trial Chair for June 2025.
- Further, Arlene advised that our recent Rally trial had a competitor who was very pushy and demanded to sit in a certain spot, feeding her dog all the while. She flatly refused to comply to any requests to refrain from feeding the dog or to move. We need to develop and post (in premiums) a policy for this and so a form was presented (per Laura Herman who volunteered to help us in this regard). Board members are asked to read, review and pose questions. Subsequently, Arlene could create a mock premium to see what it might look like with proposed new version of rules. Some discussion followed and it was agreed that Arlene would return to the Board Meeting in August with a mock premium as proposed.

Guest Darlene Trace:

- Darlene is Chairing 2 Fetch Trials, Novice only, on Saturday in September after the FastCAT. She has said she will donate the fencing if there is not enough in RDOC's supply (needs 50' x 50').
- Darlene would like to purchase a backdrop AND stand for photos at Fetch trial; agreed Darlene could purchase these items and place them on an expense report.
- Darlene further highlighted that we must decide whether to pay members for JUDGING EVENTS or award points. The Board must decide to award points, pay, both, or neither to members when they are judging our events.

Minutes of the last meeting:

- Judi Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes of the last board meeting; the motion was seconded by Theresa Myers and passed on verbal vote.

Report of the Secretaries

Corresponding Secretaries Report: none

Recording Secretaries Report: none

Report of the Treasurer: none

Report of Committees

Buildings and Grounds:

Dave Frazier

- In the course of moving crates for the last trial, a lot of kibble, mouse feces, and dirt had to be cleaned up to set up for the trial. In checking with JanPro, they noted they had never been asked to move the crates out to clean, so Dave asked for a price to MOVE the crates to clean around/behind. Estimate: currently \$440.26/mo., new estimate is \$498. Dave made a motion to accept this new service at the quote of \$498, motion was 2ndd by Rocky Altimore and subsequently passed by verbal vote.
- Annex roof drain still not fixed...rain still leaking in the annex.
- Kitty Wells asked Dave if she gets points for doing brags. Brief discussion concluded that yes, it does get points, but how many is yet to be set.
- Since we are getting a new PA system, Dave asked permission to remove the old equipment from the building – answer is yes.
- For the future, taking over the building currently rented by Level-Up might be an option suitable for all parties, but this is, of course, not even on the horizon right now.

Training Director:

- Judi Edwards (standing in for Gabby Hughes) made a motion to dispose of the blue benches in the Annex to be able to better use the space; Dave Frazier 2nd'd the motion. After a brief discussion, this motion passed by verbal vote.
- Judi made a motion to move the square sign (in the Annex) over to the front area of the Annex and set it up to be a photo area; Theresa 2nd'd the motion and it was passed by verbal vote.
- Judi noted that Paws for Purple Hearts was not wholly comfortable with photos being taken during their CGC testing, but we could get finish photos afterwards.
- Registrations going well but no classes are starting in August...need Puppy and Basic. (Judi calling Gabby to see if there are supposed to be classes starting in August that are not showing on the calendar)
- Judi mentioned regarding Clicker Expo: There is a virtual clicker expo option with group discounts for clubs. If we did this, we would have access for one year, minimum of 5 people at \$265 each. Ask members at next meeting if anyone is interested and to contact Darlene Trace if so.
- Regarding the audio system updates/replacement, Judi contacted Crutchfield's about equipment. For the Annex, the suggested system would be around \$700. We resolved to try this first in the Annex and then take it over next door to try it.

For the main building, recommended equipment would be around \$1400 and would include mounted speakers, mixer and power and microphones. Rocky made a motion to purchase sound systems for both buildings, cost not to exceed \$3000; Dave Frazier 2nd'd the motion. Some further discussion followed and the motion was subsequently passed by verbal vote.

Tracking:

- Judi said that AKC has lost our application for the February tracking test – ongoing work to remedy.

Unfinished Business:

- Sarah Babcock (upon being asked by Theresa Myers) would like to do a 1 day seminar for us 2025; Theresa will pursue further as 2025 approaches.

New Business:

- Nominating Committee: We need one board member, 5 club members and 2 alternates (only ONE board member). The Board proposed approaching Merylynn Bergstresser as Chair of the Committee (Carolyn Wilkerson will be the one if Merylynn won't) and further randomly listed the following members to approach and gauge interest: Darlene Trace, Maggie Constanti, Miriam D'Souza, Shiela Denzler, Lee Parrott, Les Foldesi, Cathy Foldesi, Madeline Wilson, Michele Gillette, Sarah Grindstaff, Cindy Hall, Davina Lancaster, Linda Heimiller, Laura Herman, Jennifer Jordan, Summer Lee, Ann Li, Maryann Massie, Susan Massart, Debbie McGuire, Susan Nepomuceno, Christy Nilo, Ellen Oertel, Jody Montfort, Judy Overton, Aleta Shelton, Andrea Stefanik, Betty Swenson, Maureen Woolley.
- Theresa Myers asked why our standing rules say we can only have 6 CGC classes per year. Resolved to bring this to the club meeting for a vote to remove the limit.

Adjournment: Rocky made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave Frazier 2nd the motion and it passed by verbal vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Claibourne Jackson, Recording Secretary

Approved 8/13/2024 cjj