

## Haute Dawgs Board Meeting, January 27, 2019

(Note: this meeting was not advertised, but since we were already there for the General Membership Annual Meeting, we held a brief board meeting as well to discuss a few items.)

**Present:** Anna Potter, Sandy Taylor, Kris Backus, Sara McKinley, Debbie Campbell, Gail Gomes, Ann Kitchen, Diane Adams, Daniel Edwards.

**Absent:** Patti Diehl

Meeting started at 1:10 p.m.

### **Presidency:**

Anna thanked the board for serving. Anna said she would be president for the rest of the year. She wants to retire from the position, and said that Debbie C. is interested in learning the ropes! Anna has been serving 8 or 10 years.

### **Need updates to website info:**

Kris suggested we all look at the “benefits of being a member” PDF on the website, it needs to be updated badly!

**Action item:** Kris will put the doc out on the HD Google Drive for people to read and edit online.

### **Attendance at meetings:**

Anna stressed not only the importance of attending face-to-face and online meetings of the board, but also responding to emails sent to the board. Participation by board members in attendance and email responses are required.

**Action item:** Anna will review the bylaws to get more information on what requirements there are for board member participation.

### **Email tools and online meeting services:**

We discussed how the list serv emails often get marked as Spam. Anna is going to investigate using another mass email tool. We also discussed our online meetings, and how we used House Party last year. It worked somewhat, but we would like to see if there are other more reliable (and free) tools we could use.

**Action item:** Daniel will research other platforms, like House Party, maybe Google Duo, that we can use for video conferencing, and will get back to us with his findings.

### **Electronic payments:**

Sara said the bank is encouraging us to do more electronically instead of using checks. (E.g., Nose work uses PayPal whenever they can.) She encouraged us to start thinking about moving to an electronic system, if possible, particularly with paying the rental, judges, etc. Note: as a non profit, PayPal fees are not as large as commercial fees.

### **Our older dogs:**

Anna asked if we want to find someone to send bereavement cards to members who lost a dog, or somehow recognize that. Some mentioned that this can open a wound. The group agreed not to make it a club practice to send cards.

Ann suggested, in concert with the memorial for the dogs that have been lost by members, to make a donation on behalf of these dogs. The group agreed to pursue this.

Anna mentioned a group that has a Veteran Dog recognition – a ribbon that includes all titles the dog earned in their lifetime. We decided it would be a good thing to do at the annual meeting. For retired dogs only.

### **Speaking of the annual meeting...**

Ann McCullen has offered to host our annual meeting at her warehouse facility in Shingle Springs. Debbie said there may be issues there with dogs crated out in their cars and possibly barking and disturbing neighbors.

Another idea was mentioned that maybe next year we could set up a nose work course to encourage more nose work handlers to come to the meeting, as well as to offer those who have not experienced the sport a chance to see what it is all about.

### **Fun Night in July?**

We will not be doing a CPE trial in July this year. We talked about possibly using that date to do a one evening “Fun Night” on that weekend, and then include activities for agility and nose work.

Gail, Ann and Daniel offered to explore that, and if Debbie isn't at a family reunion, she can help too.

Meeting adjourned 1:46 pm.