

March 19, 2020 Haute Dawgs Board Meeting

Meeting started at 6:36 p.m. via WebEx

Attendees: Acting President Debbie Campbell, Vice President Sandy Taylor, Interim Treasurer and Past President Anna Potter, Secretary Kris Backus, Directors-at-Large Diane Adams, Daniel Edwards, Gail Gomes, Ann Kitchen.

Item 1: Discuss cancellation of the May 8-10, 2020 CPE Trial

Debbie stated that in light of our current situation battling the coronavirus - we don't want to catch it, and we don't want to spread it – she suggested cancelling the May 8-10, 2020 CPE trial. CPE has cancelled all trials until the end of March. They do not have rules about what to do for trials after that. There are some other clubs that have cancelled their May trials. Our judge has pulled out of our trial.

There was some discussion about possibly waiting to make a decision.

Ann said she has been involved with some of the counties that have been closing and in contact with people making those decisions. She felt that we will not be able to have that trial in May.

Anna agreed. As it is now, CPE reviewers are not reviewing courses until a week before the trial. We would need to find a judge and that judge would have to put together 3 days' worth of courses.

Diane said to keep in mind that we would be on the hook for travel expenses for a judge.

Debbie moved to cancel the May CPE trial. Anna seconded Debbie's motion.

Vote: All in favor.

Anna said she would notify Sue Horn.

Item 2: Discuss honoring rental fees at WAG

Debbie proposed that we go ahead and honor the facility charge that we owe to WAG for the cancelled trial.

Anna said that in the past we have given a GIFT of money to WAG for equipment.

Ann suggested that we call this "fees due" rather than a gift or donation. Debbie said that if we cancel the trial then we don't have any fees due because we do not have an official contract.

Daniel said he felt strongly that we should honor/supplement all businesses that we as a club interact with to keep agility and our venues viable.

Some members felt that we should not be giving money as a "gift".

After this discussion, Gail moved that we pay May CPE WAG rental fees, and pay in advance the fun match facility rental fees, with a request to WAG that if we do NOT hold the fun match, that WAG put the fees toward the next trial or trials (meaning it does not need to be credited back in one lump sum.)

Ann K. seconded it.

All in favor.

Item 3: Brainstorming ways we can assist WAG and others in agility/nose work business

We still have some funds that we have not tapped into yet. Do we want to make contributions now or reserve for a later date?

Anna said we have about \$36,000 in the bank. Everything we owe, basically, has been paid. There is no money coming in right now.

Kris suggested purchasing gift certificates from WAG. Ann said leave it to Susan to determine how the certificates could be used. Daniel suggested that we communicate with Susan and Dave and find out from them how we can help them.

Ann mentioned that there are many other trainers who are suffering during this time. Diane said that we do not hold events at the individual trainers 's facilities.

Kris asked if we can offer grants? Ann said we can do loans, but not sure if we can do grants.

Recommendation: encourage our members to purchase gift certificates from all small businesses in our agility and nose work community, such as WAG, and other trainers.

Diane suggested that Debbie speak candidly with Susan regarding what we can do as a club to help.

Gail suggested that we offer an appreciation gift to Susan and Dave.

The board felt that we should let Debbie talk to Susan and see if she is open to assistance from us and in what form.

Item 4: Annual Membership Meeting

Debbie suggested that we postpone the general meeting indefinitely until later in the year or leave it until January. All agreed.

Item 5: One of our members, Pam Flanagan, passed away. Pam was a big supporter of CCI, Canine Companions for Independence. Debbie suggested that in lieu of flowers we send a donation to CCI.

Kris Moved to send a donation to CCI.

Anna seconded.

All in favor.

Anna and Debbie will take care of it.

Meeting ended at 8:00 p.m.