



Board Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2024

Meeting Called to Order at: 10:19 a.m.

Location: Cindy Patz home

11800 Lake Butler Blvd.

Windermere, FL. 34786

In attendance: Robin Burket, Christine McDaniel, Robin Bowen, Cindy Patz
Julie Wangelin, Kristin Sipus, Courtney Roxby, Jordyn Vanscoy, Brian Parker, Pam Ginn, Camille Nasca

Absent: Chris Jeffrey (sick)

Officer Reports:

1. **President** – Robin Burket opened the meeting with a welcome.
2. **Secretary** – Cindy Patz updated the board on the google group email for the board and will make the suggested changes on the reply and discussed the best use for the board text stream. The zoom account was discussed and Cindy will look into moving the zoom renewal date to January instead of mid-year and make sure the renewal invoice goes directly to the treasurer email.
3. **Treasurer** – Robin Bowen discussed the CDs and would like the finance committee to make a recommendation on their renewal. She also explained the protocol for purchases, emphasizing the use of the club credit card for all large purchases and making sure that pictures of receipts are sent. Each chairperson has a copy of the expense report form and will itemize their expenses and submit the form to the Treasurer.

Committee Reports:

1. **Raffle** – Julie Wangelin reported that the raffle will take place on July 6th at the Specialty and she will have Lindsey Rodriguez create a flyer for the raffle to encourage donations and advertise it. Having larger raffle items such as weekend stays was discussed and Julie will look into selling on-line raffle tickets and post a video of the raffle drawing on our Facebook page as we have done in the past. Having a 50/50 raffle dedicated to a particular charity was also discussed.
2. **Fun Match** – Robin Burket will contact Ann Rowe (host site) to see if the proposed date is good for her. Having a 2nd Fun Match in the Fall was discussed and it was proposed to form a committee to look into interest, format, date and location.
3. **Dock Diving** – Camille Nasca reported that last year's was cancelled due to dog flu. Courtney Roxby volunteered to coordinate this year's dock diving event with Camille Nasca
4. **Obedience Trial** – Camille Nasca reported that they have lots of flat ribbons that are wrong because they have Rally/Obedience on them and that is not allowed so we will

need to purchase new ribbons (trial chair is Joyce Swegle). This year's trial will be held on August 9th (2 rally trials), 10th (2 obedience trials) and 11th (2 obedience trials) at Orlando Dog Training Club in Orlando and we are looking for a Chief Steward for the event. Utilizing 4H students as stewards was also discussed.

5. **Barn Hunt** – Robin Bowen reported for Michele Throm. The Barn Hunt (a fun match) will take place on February 24th and the entry fees were discussed in addition to the contractual obligations. The club will subsidize the first dog of each handler to encourage participation, but if the handler has a second entry, it will not be subsidized.
6. **July Specialty** – July 6th, 2024. Michele Panetta is the chair and the board discussed bringing back the tradition of having a potluck or catered meal provided for club members and entrants, possibly at the home of Pam Ginn or an in-person board meeting at Pam Ginn's after the Specialty.
7. **Hunt Test** – Kristin Sipus reported that the hunt test was moved to Brian Parker's property due to uncertainty about Wayne's property being released from quarantine due to bird flu.
8. **Finance Committee** – Robin Bowen and Christine McDaniel reported that Jenny Ford (finance committee member) has come up with a preliminary budget and Christine will communicate with the existing members to see if they would like to remain on the committee for another year. Christine will also reach out to Ryan DeWitt and Deb Finch (both with a finance background) who have expressed interest in being on the committee.

Old Business:

1. **New Title Rosettes** – Robin Bowen reported (for Susan Sherman) that there are 52 new titles this year and that Ann Rowe will put them together once they have been ordered.
2. **Renewing Memberships** – Christine McDaniel reported that we currently have 203 members and we have received 145 renewals. She continues to contact those members that have not renewed. We discussed having an on-line option to submit a membership application rather than mailing a hard copy with a check.
3. **Website Rebuild** – Cindy Patz reported that after multiple members have reached out to Lucinda Napoli with no response, we will move forward with selecting a new web designer with the hope that the person that designs the website will also maintain and update as needed. Previously, Addie Lloyd (new member last year) expressed an interest in designing a new website so Brian Parker has reached out to assess her continued interest and will report at the next board meeting. It was suggested to have a link where anyone can send an email directly to the Board rather than going to just one person among other website enhancements.
4. **Volunteers** – Recording volunteer hours were discussed and the plan going forward is to design a google form for members to fill out on the website (Cindy Patz will put together a first pass on the form) and provide a read-only spreadsheet for the members to access through the website to check that their volunteer hours have been recorded. It was also discussed to include the volunteer hours on the monthly newsletter to promote a competitive spirit around volunteerism. To include more membership involvement, it was suggested that we ask the membership if anyone would like to take responsibility for tracking volunteer hours rather than the Board Secretary and it was well received in addition to posting a list of open volunteer positions on the website with a description of the responsibility and the qualities that would most benefit each position.

The Board took a short lunch break at this point in the agenda.

New Business:

1. **New Members Applications** – Christine McDaniel read 4 new membership applications:
 - a. Shelley Russell in Gainesville, FL; sponsored by Kristin Sipus
 - b. Jayanti Seiler in Deland, FL; sponsored by Robin Bowen
 - c. Patti Magalnick in Clermont, FL; sponsored by Robin Burket and Debbie Caudil
 - d. Denise and Charles Titus in Largo, FL; sponsored by Julie Wangelin

Pam Ginn motioned to approve all 4 applications pending member attendance at a general meeting for full membership approval. Brian Parker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. One additional application was revisited and discussed. Robin Bowen made a motion to deny membership, seconded by Pam Ginn and was voted unanimously to deny membership because it did not meet the requirements set forth in our bylaws.

2. **Calendar for first 6 months** – Robin Burket presented a proposed calendar through June 2024 and it was decided to move all zoom meetings, both Board and General Meetings, to Tuesday evenings. Board meetings will be held at 6 pm and General Meetings will be held at 7 pm. Robin Burket will update the proposed calendar with the changes discussed and send to the Board for comment with more discussion at the next board meeting.
3. **Donations/Fundraisers for 2024** – The Board discussed repeating annual donations to neighbor clubs as we have done in previous years and will finalize those donations in the next board meeting. Everglades GRR sent a funds request and that will also be decided in the next board meeting after the finance committee has had a chance to make a recommendation on how much the club should set aside for 2024 donations. Pam Ginn discussed the possibility of putting a team together for Canine Companions Dog Walk fundraiser in Orlando on April 20th. The Board agreed that we should put together a team for that event. Julie Wangelin discussed having a grooming day fundraiser at John Moore’s shop in Dunedin, FL (Fluff and Scissor). He has hosted this type of event and it drew a lot of publicity.
4. **Historian** – Robin Bowen and Camille Nasca led the discussion to establish a historian position for the club and it was well received by the Board. It was suggested to “interview” the founding members, then possibly get a group of long-standing members together to help put together a timeline with critical events as a starting point. It was decided to reach out to the membership to see if anyone has a passion for leading as club historian.
5. **Facebook** – Robin Bowen discussed protocols in place for approving membership to the facebook group (different from membership in the club) and for approving posts, noting that there should not be any posts promoting goods and services nor puppies advertised. The second ghost mid florida facebook page (titled Mid Florida Golden Retriever Club) was discussed and upon further investigation it was found that the address was a former board member and the phone number was also associated with a former board treasurer. Camille Nasca is going to reach out to both members assuming this page was started a long time ago and is no longer valid and ask that they take it down.
6. **Insurance** – Robin Bowen discussed adding ODT, Brian Parker’s property, WEC (required by contract), MADTA and dropping Wayne’s property from the insurance list. The board all agreed to the updates.

7. **Seminar/Meeting Speaker ideas** – Various board members discussed having seminars on bloat and other medical educational topics, canine freestyle (Lori Callahan gave an overview to the board), and physical therapy. It was decided to do further research with the contributors to determine if their topic is best suited for an in-person event or a Zoom General Meeting speaker.
8. **Constant Contact, Emma, etc. for emailing the club** – Cindy Patz briefly discussed the benefits of utilizing an email monkey like Constant Contact or Emma to communicate with the membership since we are such a large club, but the Board concluded that it wasn't worth the cost at this point. It was decided that we would update the email blast format with a pleasing banner and that Julie Wangelin would coordinate with Lindsey Rodrigez to design something to present to the board.
9. **Mentor program among club members** – The board discussed matching up experienced members with new (or old) members interested in a particular activity or competition discipline and wanting to learn more. It was decided to reach out the membership to see who is interested in being a mentor. It was also discussed how to allow members to nominate future recipients of The Outstanding Services Award in Memory of Susan Fulenwider.
10. **Shared Google drive document folder** - The shared google drive document folder was discussed and Camille Nasca will look into who the administrator of that google drive is so we can add new collaborators.
11. **Next Board Meeting date** – Tuesday, February 6th at 6 pm
12. **Next General Meeting date** (on Zoom to maximize attendance) – Thursday, 1/16 on Zoom at 7 pm

Julie Wangelin motioned to adjourn the meeting, Kristin Sipus seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.