



TYPE OF MEETING MINUTES: Monthly
DATE OF MEETING: June 20, 2022
PLACE OF MEETING: Dennis Memorial Library
TIME MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:45 PM

Member Attendees: Sue Bernier, Rebecca Blair, Wes Blair, Ashley Bulger, Lynn Conover, MarilynRose Guarino, Brian Hastings, Mary Hastings, Maureen Healey, Jeff Idels, Therese Koellner, Brian Ligammare, Cheryl McPhillips, Carol Miller, Kathy Owens, Greg Peach, Josie Soraghan, Maureen Starr, Regina Stoker, Anne Thomas, Amy Usowski

Guest: Kitty Shaw

Welcome New Members

Maureen Healey
Kathy Owens
Josie Soraghan

Secretary's Report – Maureen Starr

- The May 16, 2022, minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Sue Bernier

- Sue reported on donations and dues received.
- Thank you to Rebecca, who not only volunteers at the Library, but also made a donation of \$100 to the library, in order that we may use the space monthly for our meetings!
- Hearts and Paws raised \$258.00 for Rocky's Warriors and \$94.00 for the Sampson Fund during the Walk and Wag event.
- Carol has created an online site where people can buy merchandise with the Hearts and Paws Logo, from which we will make a small amount of income.
- We now have a QR code which we can use for donations, and Carol has created a sign containing the code.

Events and Visitations

- Sign Up is the tool we are using for people to sign up to volunteer either as a handler/dog team or as a spotter. For the visitations, only those that need help are posted here. Once all spots have been filled, the sign up will be closed.
- The Event and Visitation Google Doc lists all of our events and scheduled visitations, along with who has volunteered for the visitations.
- Both Sign Up and the Google doc have links on the member page of our website. If you have any problem getting into them, please reach out to Maureen.
- If you would like to volunteer for a visit that is filled, please email your regional coordinator: Amy (mid-Cape to lower Cape) or Maureen (mid-Cape to Upper Cape).

Upcoming Events - specifics can be found on the calendar in the member section of the website

- June 21st – Pups and Pints Cape Cod Coffee
- June 24th – Hounds of Highfield
- July 2nd – Bark in the Park – Cotuit Kettleers
- TBD – Lily House – postponed from June 5th

Please sign up for these on the Sign Up link found on the members page of the website.

Future Fundraising Opportunity

Kristina will reach out to Smith Family Popcorn.

Social Gathering

- We will have a summer gathering at Amy's house on August 7th at 1:00 PM, weather permitting. This will be a potluck, and dogs and friends interested in Hearts and Paws are welcome! A Sign Up will be created for food contributions.

Marketing

- Facebook and Instagram are up and running. If you use these, please be sure to like our pages to help spread the word.
- If you post something on your personal page, please tag Hearts and Paws and make your post shareable.
- Ashley would like to create introductions of our dogs. She will be sending out questionnaires for members to complete. She would also like contributions of pictures and videos.
- Please share with Ashley any frequently asked questions as she is working on creating content.
- Spotters should take pictures during visits if possible and share with Ashley.
- Ashley will create a sheet with tips on how to take iPhone pictures.
- Jeff has a link to an article from the NY Times regarding comfort dogs that he will share with Ashley for posting.
- Rebecca has a research article from Finland that she will share for posting, highlighting the positive effects of dog visits on school children.

Finding New Dogs and Handlers

- We are still in need of more dogs! We are looking to create a sign and posts, which will highlight the fact that we are looking for dogs, and the traits we are looking for. This should help people understand who we are and what we do.

Recent Events Review

- More stories were shared about the incredible effect the dogs had on the students at the schools in Falmouth. Anne and Karen have cards that were made by the children, and will bring them to the summer get together for everyone to see. We will work on getting some of them on the website.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:00 PM