



TYPE OF MEETINGS MINUTES: Monthly

DATE OF MEETING: October 17, 2022

PLACE OF MEETING: Dennis Memorial Library

TIME MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:30 PM

Member Attendees: MarilynRose Guarino, Josie Soraghan, Carol Miller, Mary Hastings, Rebecca Blair, Amy Usowski, Wes Blair, Sue Bernier, Jeff Idels

Zoom attendees: Brian Ligammare, Cheryl McPhillips, Anne Thomas

Guest attendee: Roberta Cote

Secretary's Report – Jeff Idels

- The September 17, 2022 minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report – Sue Bernier

- The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and the following were highlighted:
 - \$75.00 received for dues
 - \$100.00 donation to Hearts and Paws from Cheryl Gardiner Onorato after stopping by at Harwich Cranberry Festival
 - \$185.00 remitted to the Sampson Fund, from Bark in the Park
 - \$732.00 remitted to Lily House, from Harwich Cranberry Festival

Events

- **Stand Down for Veterans** – A well organized event and an important opportunity for veterans. Several people expressed interest in us and the organizers would like us to participate again.
- **Chatham Oktoberfest – October 22nd** – The attendance fee has been lowered to \$50.00 based upon our non-profit status and because we'll be fundraising for Cape Kids Meals. We recommend that all participants wear their Hearts and Paws shirt and name tag, to ensure entry into this sold out event.
- **Looking ahead**
 - **Lily House** – They would like to have a get together with a few dogs and some patients, families and board members later this year, and to have professional photos done on premises for promotional purposes.
 - **Harwich Christmas Stroll – December 2nd** – We participated last year and will attend again this year, and will fundraise for the Harwich Family Pantry (which allowed us to waive the attendance fee).
 - **Hyannis Country Gardens** – They have approached us again to have us as guests at their store. We determined that springtime would be best, when they have lots of customers.
- **General**
 - We had a very good discussion about setting guidelines for the logistics of our set up at the events we attend. Cheryl McPhillips volunteered to lead a small group to clarify things like how much space we need, the manner in which tables and chairs are arranged, how we fit into the flow of traffic, etc,

in addition to ensuring the protection of our dogs from stress and overwork. The goal is to communicate our needs to event organizers well in advance.

- We are nearly out of flyers to distribute at events and will need another printing. We discussed the issue of new photos, with our own dogs, and agreed that they should look professional and that we should obtain appropriate releases from whoever appears in the photos. We will follow up with Ashley Bulger and Kim Rodriguez for recommendations.
- Jeff agreed to prepare a Minor (Child) Photo Release Form. A draft will be sent for Board review.

Visitation

- **Brewster Senior Center** - Mary Hastings reported on our first visit there. Dogs in attendance were Halley and Violet, and they met with seven seniors. A great time was had by all.
- Other
 - Rock Harbor's schedule was discussed and it was thought they would benefit from alternating Monday and Thursday dates every other month.
 - Palaemon House is in a state of flux, as they are moving locations.
 - The Veterans Home needs to have a consistent schedule determined.
 - Cape Regency is being waitlisted.
 - Amy Usowski will send out a call for open visitation spots.
 - Dennis Senior Center – the current monthly Wednesday schedule is thought to be a good routine.
- There was a discussion on the logistics of visiting nursing homes, as they begin to ease their COVID restrictions. We agreed that we are not ready to take that step yet, as we continue to work on our existing commitments.

Training

- We are still trying to determine if we have enough dogs participating in order to convince Heather Garre at Tail Waggin in Dennis or Annie Corrigan at Chatham Dog Club to provide a special six week course for us.

Orientation

- Thursday, October 27th - Carol Miller will provide Rebecca Blair a list of who's signed up and paid to determine if we have enough people to attend.
- We realized that Carol maintains the only list of new members who have attended orientation and suggested that if Maureen added a field to the Membership Response Form (next to Dues Paid), it would be available to all who need the information.

Public Relations

- Amy Usowski sent contact information for Leo Cakounes, who wants to do a radio interview with Jeff Idels.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:45 PM