

HPCD Mid Cape and Outer Cape Meeting

Date: February 16, 2026

Place: DML

Time: 6:35-7:45P

Present: Amy Usowski (Presiding), Chris Washington (Herbert- a welcomed, well-behaved addition), Candy Van Sciver, Susan Harrington, John Sererin, Wes Blair
Secretary: Rebecca Blair

1. Welcome and Introductions- John was welcomed back and he shared his interest in getting Gracie CGC certified. Rebecca was going to send him the local trainer list. He also asks, as a Spotter, for directions to sign in members attending any location where he spots. Rebecca will send the Kiosk directions.
2. Update on Visitation sites- Amy reviewed the locations that need sign-ups now and filled a few. She also shared that she has received positive follow-up from the new location Marguerite Small Elementary School and shared that the Principal of Ezra Baker also sent a very nice thank you note about the holiday fundraising for the school.
3. Amy asked how existing visitations are going? Candy, Wes and Susan all commented that things were going well.
4. Update from the Board Meeting. Amy shared a number of issues discussed by the Board (on Superbowl Sunday).
 - a new incident report has been designed and agreed to use for “unexpected events and safety.” This document will be shared with the membership and Amy will include new or updated policies and procedures in VSP emails and upcoming newsletters.
 - Rebecca shared the reason for and design of a Spotter session to be presented to all those wanting to be spotters in the near future. Matt McNamara will co-teach the class.
 - The board also agreed that a dog and handler who have not previously worked together and who join HPCD will take an in-house refresher to ensure that the pair work well together.
 - It was also agreed that Amy will call Tony to offer a CGC test for those who are ready.
5. Upcoming March Events- Amy shared the upcoming events. March 21st is the Home Show in Hyannis. This event is always fun and interesting for us to attend. It’s a chance to offer comfort to those attending and recruit new members. She shared that the regional Health and Wellness Fair will be held in Harwich April 25 from 11-2. This is also a large and constructive event. Amy reminded all that if dogs are not CGC they can absolutely attend any of the events!
6. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45P.

Respectfully submitted, Rebecca