

Greater Portland Old English Sheepdog Club Minutes of the January 24, 2011 Board Meeting

The meeting was held January 24, 2011 at the Pizza Hut in Tualatin, Oregon.

Present: Board Members Chris Jaeger, Elise McCreary, Jeff Menzel, Joanna Smith, Dianne Rowland (reporting by telephone), Junior Director Hanna Menzel. Club Member: Lita Long.

President Chris Jaeger called the meeting to order at 6:37p.m.

The minutes of the December, 2010 Board meeting have been posted on the website. Jeff moved, Elise seconded that the minutes be approved as posted. Approved unanimously.

Reports President

Chris explained that the Board would continue meeting on the third Monday of the month and thanked everyone for arranging to attend on this date. She is investigating an alternate site, perhaps a meeting room at Meridian Park Hospital, for upcoming meetings. Chris anticipates a good year for the Club. There are several things she'd like to see the Club do this year. Looking back for a moment, she needed to mention the great success of the Christmas party. It was wonderful of Matt and his family to host the party in their lovely home. Connie Lytle coordinated and cooked a delicious dinner. On behalf of the Club, Joanna said that she wrote a note to Connie and the family, expressing thanks and appreciation for their hospitality.

The Club participated in the "Meet the Breeds" event the Rose City Classic last Saturday. It was a good educational event--many, many people were introduced to OES represented by Mojo, Puzzles, and Fiona. Our promotional stickers were popular with all ages.

Chris said this year she would like to see more educational events. Grooming might be the number one topic for OES owners--particularly for new owners--so this is at the top of the list. Other topics might be breeding or how to read a pedigree chart. Activities with OES such as agility and herding would be of interest, also. She would like to hear more suggestions from the Board and more importantly, the members.

Providing more resources for owners in the form of a "hotline" or experts to call when an owner has a question about the care and health of their dog. She cited a recent personal experience which pointed out the need for this. Jeff said the "new member packet" has a resources page which could be expanded with websites and other information sources. In the past, the Board has considered ways for us to share information with each other but were cautious about promoting this, particularly dealing with health matters, because we are not vets or trained professionals. Always, there needs to be a disclaimer that any advice we might give is based only on personal experience.

Fundraising activities and events should be pursued. Fundraising could extend beyond the traditional flea market/garage sale ideas to those more dog-related. A "fun match," B-Match, or "Show and Go" could be held. This type of thing was done by the Club years ago. It would have to be publicized heavily to draw interest and participation of all breeds in the area because there aren't enough members in our Club interested in showing to make it successful. One idea for creating interest is discussion on the new Yahoo group for dog activities. Getting the word out online might also peak interest in those who haven't thought before about showing.

Reviewing the Club By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and the Code of Ethics is overdue. Some minor inconsistencies have been spotted and it is just good operating procedure for any Club to periodically review its documents. Chris will talk to Marsha about heading up a committee to do this.

Chris wanted to know if there had been a conclusion regarding an agenda item and discussion from the October Board meeting about rescue. At the time, several Board members were concerned about personal and Club liability. Also, there was a suggestion to add other breed rescue organizations and resources to the Club website. Chris wanted to know if anyone had looked into liability by checking the Club insurance coverage. If the Club is associated with rescue, she pointed out that rescue forms need revision to protect all concerned. Even with revisions, Jeff is still concerned about personal and Club liability. Joanna

is concerned, too. Joanna has not checked with the insurance carrier regarding liability but will do so by the next meeting so that the Board can make an informed decision.

Concluding her report, Chris said one her personal goals for the year is to efficiently run the meetings so that we can accomplish all of the things that will make the Club successful.

Vice President

Dianne (in a report to the Board by telephone) said it is now possible to file the Specialty application to the AKC online.

Dianne has written a letter to the vice president coalition of OESCA informing them of her position and inquiring out OESCA's role in helping local clubs.

Treasurer

Elise will be meeting with the former Treasurer Belinda Holcombe to transfer data, bank account information, and other items so she can take over the position. Discussion followed regarding the necessary accounting software. Elise made a motion to approve purchasing the appropriate version of Quickbooks accounting software not to exceed \$200. Joanna seconded. All approved. The version and features necessary for the Club will be determined before purchase.

Secretary

Joanna read three new membership applications:

Marilyn and Kristi Marshall from Acton, California. Their Love 'N Stuff OES have participated in the Specialty for a number of years and have twice received the sash donated by our Australian sister club, Old English Sheepdog Club, New South Wales.

Mary and Matthew Rudolph of West Linn have OES Teddy and Seery.

Sue and Jim Gerhardt of Hillsboro have OES Furby.

All applications were approved. Welcome, new members!

Membership renewals continue. Joanna prepared and presented a progress report. Jeff will prepare a reminder letter for Joanna to mail to those who have not yet renewed.

Committee Reports

Specialty 2011

Chris announced that the application to hold the Specialty has been mailed. The line-up of judges was read. Chris is getting positive feedback about having a get together or dinner after the event. The committee will look for a venue.

This year, the premium and mailing list will be done by the Club.

Raising the entry fees was discussed as was approaching trophy donors.

Specialty 2012

Lita has heard from European and Australian judges who will be in the US during our Specialty 2012 and would like to judge. Lita is excited about having an international show. It is not too early to plan as the judges need to be approved by the AKC--which takes time.

Rescue

Nothing to report.

Walkabout

Jeff proposed the February 19 Walkabout be held in the Pearl. Pearl Walkabouts have been popular because it's a nice area for walking, meeting people, and has places to have coffee afterward. We will meet at Jamison Square (bounded by NW 11th and NW Johnson) at 11:00am.

The March 19 Walkabout will be in Beaverton in conjunction with the "Pooches on the Green" event. In years' past there have been k-9 demonstrations, a costume parade, and dog contests. It's a good way for the OES to be seen and have a good time. The event is from 10:00a.m.to 2:00 p.m. at Beaverton City Park, 5th & Hall Blvd (across from the Beaverton City Library.) We'll meet at the usual 11:00am.

Details of all events will be posted on the website.

Other Walkabout suggestions were discussed. Joanna mentioned that Judy Keller could lead a walk in West Linn. Several liked that idea. Chris wanted to start thinking about where to hold the Spring Fling/General Meeting. Jeff had talked to the owner of Sniff Dog Hotel on NW Raleigh and Chris said she'd follow up on it. Other sites were mentioned--Lexi Dog, the Agility Barn at Brigand's Hideout--and the topic will be explored at the next meeting.

Pinkertongue

Jeff had previously explained to Chris how to set up the newsletter. Feature articles, what to include in each issue, and formatting was discussed.

Webmaster

Chris has been hesitant to take over the role of webmaster and would like to have a member with some web experience volunteer. Lita said she would to the website until someone is found.

Chris adjourned the meeting at 8:50pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Smith
Secretary