

Greater Portland Old English Sheepdog Club Minutes of the March 2010 Board Meeting

The meeting was held March 15, 2010 at the home of Jeff and Priscilla Menzel in Beaverton, Oregon.

Present:

Board Members: Jeff Menzel, Matt Alston, Marsha King, Sylvia Lindman, Joanna Smith, Theresa Kamper.
Club Members present: Priscilla Menzel, Belinda and Jerry Holcombe.

President Jeff Menzel called the meeting to order at 6:55p.m. The minutes of the February, 2010 Board meeting were read and approved without change.

Reports President

Jeff read a letter from Dianne McKee-Rowland resigning from the position of Treasurer. After discussion, Marsha proposed to accept Dianne's resignation as Treasurer and to extend an invitation to her to accept an appointment as GPOESC Archivist. Seconded by Theresa, passed unanimously. Joanna will draft a letter offering this to Dianne.

To fill the vacant Treasurer position, Jeff proposed that Belinda Holcombe be appointed. Seconded by Joanna, passed unanimously. Belinda accepted the responsibility. The Board welcomes Belinda!

Jeff said that we are still looking for a site for the Spring Fling in May. Sites mentioned at previous meetings have not worked out. Some area dog parks were considered but will not meet our needs if it rains. Jerry offered their house for the event because they have a fenced yard so the dogs can run and a dog-friendly house large enough to accommodate the group for the potluck and meeting. Jeff accepted and thanked the Holcombes. The Spring Fling will be held at the Holcombe's in Tigard on Saturday May 22, 2010.

Our next Walkabout is scheduled for next weekend, March 20 at the Beaverton "Pooches on the Green" event. Jeff will have information about it, a link to the event, and registration information on the Club website. He noted that registration is free.

April Walkabout ideas were presented by several people. They included River Place, Old West Linn, Lake Oswego, and Oaks Park. After discussion, it was decided that all of those places were good ones and it was now just a matter of scheduling each according to the weather. For April, the Walkabout will be at River Place on Saturday, April 17.

The fundraising garage sale at the Menzel's needs to be scheduled. After looking at the calendar, it seems June 26 is the best day. Members will be asked to donate items starting a week before the sale. Anything donated must be priced and if not sold on that day, will be donated to charity.--probably the Goodwill or Salvation Army. To minimize the amount left over for charity, a "buck-a-bag" or similar low price for a set quantity will be offered. Members may drop off items the weekend preceeding, and board members will be available to pick up items for sale. Proceeds will go to both Club General Fund and to the Rescue Fund. Publicity for this was discussed.

While looking at the calendar, there was discussion about the Rose Festival parades. Any one of these would be a good event in which to participate. The Starlight Parade seems the most likely one as the Junior Parade is for youngsters under 15 yrs. The Grand Floral is also too restrictive. It was decided to look into participation.

Vice President

No report.

Treasurer

No report.

Secretary

Renewals for 2010 membership are still coming in. Final grace period deadline is March 30. Joanna presented a brief update on individual renewals and a count of current members.

A family membership application was read for Brian, Parisa, Carmen and Joshua Larson of Beaverton. They attended the last Pearl Walkabout and are looking for an OES puppy. Welcome to GPOESC! Joanna will send a "Welcome Packet." Jeff has given Joanna several new, updated packets for future members.

Joanna said that letters from the AKC approving the Specialty shows were received. Also from the AKC was a notice about "Responsible Dog Ownership Days" urging clubs to hold a community event sometime during September. The letter outlined how the AKC will help with resource packets and publicity.

At recent meetings the corporate status of the Club was discussed in relation to tax deductions for donations to the Club. Joanna looked at the Articles of Incorporation and other documents but couldn't ascertain whether the Club was organized under 501c (7) or 501c (3) rules. She reported calling the Oregon Department of State, the Oregon Department of Justice, and then the IRS but none of those agencies had that information. However, the DOJ said that GPOESC is a "mutual benefit corporation" with members. For donations to be deductible, we would need to be a "public benefit corporation." The IRS verified the Club EIN number and reminded Joanna that as a nonprofit corporation we need to file the electronic 990-N form by 5/15 each year or lose our tax exempt status. The IRS representative also said we should read publication 557 & 422 for nonprofit corporations. Jeff said that in all likelihood we are not the type of corporation whose donations are tax deductible and that it would be time-consuming and costly to become one. While there are rescue organizations with this status, it is not practical for us to pursue it at this time.

Rescue

Jeff gave a brief report in Lita's absence: Harvey needed additional surgery. The vet charged only for antibiotics and incidental expenses because Harvey is a rescue. This surgery was only a temporary setback to his recovery.

Pinkertongue Editor

Sylvia reported receiving 4 responses to the poll in The Pinkertongue about favorite pet stores. She said most were long and since the subject appears to be important, she might turn it into a feature article for an upcoming issue. She is contemplating another poll for a future issue.

The Board complimented Sylvia on the March issue featuring an update on rescues Cassie and Harvey,.

Webmaster

Jeff reported no changes with his schedule for updating the content of the website.

Specialty 2010

Sylvia reported that AKC has approved the Shows and planning is progressing on schedule.

Marsha presented the "funky, groovy" stock design from Café Press at the last meeting but thought it might be better to have something more specific to the Club or the event. The website, razzle.com, has customizable goods that are competitively priced. Discussion followed about the merits of t-shirts, polo shirts, aprons, or something else for the logo wear and whether to order extras to sell for fundraising.

Speaking of designs, Jeff reminded everyone that we still needed to decide on trophies. He briefly offered some suggestions. Specialty 2009 trophies featured a Judy Keller design and she has submitted two designs for this year's "Back to the '70s" theme. Jeff presented the drawings. Everyone like them. Discussion followed about having one of the designs on both trophies and logo wear. Jerry thought that we could use Judy's design on logo wear because prices on custom work have come down recently. He will look into it. Jeff will ask Judy to modify one drawing so that it will fit better on trophies and logo wear so the group can finalize these decisions at the next meeting.

Open Discussion--Old/New Business

Club publicity continued to next meeting

Because of the late hour, Jeff adjourned the meeting at 8:40p.m

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Smith
Secretary