

Greater Portland Old English Sheepdog Club Minutes of the May 2009 Board Meeting

The meeting was held May 19, 2009 at the home of Jeff and Priscilla Menzel in Beaverton, Oregon.

Present:

Board Members: Jeff Menzel, Matt Alston, Marsha King, Sylvia Lindman, Dianne McKee-Rowland, Joanna Smith, Junior director Hanna Menzel,

Club Members present: Priscilla Menzel, Lita Long.

President Jeff Menzel called the meeting to order at 7:10p.m. The minutes of the April Board meeting were read. Changes were made: Board member Marsha King added as present, spelling error "adjourned" corrected. The minutes were approved with changes (moved Diane, seconded Marsha, approved unanimously.)

Reports

President

Jeff said that the Spring Fling and Bone Hunt was a success. We were lucky to have perfect spring weather. Reynolds Kennels in Tualatin generously hosted the event with ample area for food, dog and human socializing, and the Bone Hunt. About twenty-five people attended along with several visitors. There was plenty of food. Lita was thanked for all of her work to make the Bone Hunt successful and complimented for the way she ran the prize give-away. Pictures of the event are on the Club website.

This led to thinking about the August Picnic and General membership meeting. Discussion followed about where to have the picnic since the weather will be warm. Ideas for an activity at the picnic ranged from having a speaker such as a veterinarian, to having informal sheep herding instinct trials. Discussion was postponed because Board members needed to research ideas on site and activities. Traditionally the picnic has been the first weekend of August so the date was set for Saturday, August 1, 2009.

The next club event, the Sellwood Walkabout will have member Betsy Rice as "pack leader." Starting point, map of Sellwood, and other details are posted on the Club website.

Jeff would like to have a complete membership list available soon. This was discussed and agreed upon at the last Board meeting. Jeff and Joanna are working on the format details.

Jeff said members Camille Tourje and Elijah Michalowski's OES Digby passed away recently and that a sympathy card was signed by many at the Spring Fling to acknowledge their loss.

Vice President

Matt had nothing to report but wanted to suggest that the months with major events such as the Spring Fling, August Picnic, and Holiday party, the Board hold its monthly meeting an hour or so before the event. It be a more efficient use of time and would be less time spent on the road by not going to a meeting a few days later. Jeff pointed out that the Board has previously discussed this and thought meetings might be rushed when because of a time deadline. Marsha reiterated that it was important for the Board to greet members and visitors as they arrive rather than be inside having a meeting. The Board took this into consideration.

Treasurer

Dianne showed a "thank you" card from OESCA for the Club's donation to the 2009 National Specialty. Dianne handed out a summary sheet of treasury activity including account balances, income, and checks written. The following balances were approved.

General Fund \$ 770.01

Rescue Fund \$2498.00

Specialty Fund \$ 498.16

Cds \$3205.35

Lita announced that Larry and Barbara Foster donated copies of Companions, Competitors, and Clowns: the Old English Sheepdog in Obedience. There were only 300 printed, are out-of-print, and are highly desirable. She will sell the 10 copies in a lottery for \$55.00 each with the proceeds going to our Specialty Fund.

Secretary

Joanna read the new member applications:

Ron and Gretchen Hayhurst of Wilsonville, OR who currently don't have any OES but have had several in the past.

Gerald and Belinda Holcombe of Tigard, OR have the puppy Nelson-Healy.

Welcome!

Rescue

Lita reported that there are no rescue dogs at the moment. However, last week "Sashie" was placed in Washington state and seems to be doing well. This was the fourth rescue of the year. To recount: "Sammy" was placed with Ted Murray, "Riley" who to be given up because of housing issues now has a new owner, and Oregon Rescue consulted with Lita regarding "Baggins."

Pinkertongue

Sylvia said it was time to consider offering The Pinkertongue in a different format. Printing and mailing a newsletter has become increasingly expensive. Setting up the newsletter and getting it ready for the printer, folding, stamping, and transportation are extremely time-consuming. Some traditional content of the newsletter, meeting minutes for example, are now a duplication of what is on the website. The Pinkertongue is published only four times per year and the website delivers information in a more timely manner. Sylvia suggested that The Pinkertongue take the form of an electronic newsletter, perhaps a PDF attached to the Club website or an e-mail newsletter. That way, she could concentrate more on good writing and content. Paper copies could be made available upon request. Dianne moved that The Pinkertongue be published in an electronic format. Matt seconded. Passed unanimously. Sylvia will look into how to do this for the next issue.

Webmaster

Jeff said the pictures from the Spring Fling are on the website. The website is becoming the main communication tool for the Club so he updates it frequently so members and the public can rely on it for a complete and accurate idea of what the Club is doing.

Specialty

Jeff said he has changed the vendor for the Metallix Trophy previously chosen by the Board. The new vendor is local, thus eliminating shipping charges, and has better prices. Discussion followed on which Club logo, the marketing or the official AKC logo, should be on the trophy. There doesn't appear to be any official rules on this so it is up to the Club.

Artist and member Judy Keller has submitted 2 designs for the trophy tiles: it was agreed that the "whimsical" design would be best. Discussion followed about lettering to identify them as part of the 2009 GPO-ESC Specialty. While the design is distinctive, it was decided to have some identifying lettering. The Board felt that the artist, Judy, should suggest what type lettering which will go best with the design.

There was some talk about when to use the marketing logo and when to use the official logo. Marsha made the point that a logo reflects the continuity of an organization and should be used accordingly. Even though our official logo has evolved slightly over the years, it takes a membership vote to change it.

Open Discussion

Marsha suggested making up a "new member packet." Ideas about what to put in the packet were a welcome letter, referral cards, member list, website information, by-laws, and either a lapel pin, magnet, or stickers. The merits of each of the last three items were discussed. All thought the member packet idea was sound and should include the ideas mentioned. Dianne moved to spend \$195 on magnets and stickers as they would also be good public relations gifts on Walkabouts and other functions. Marsha seconded. Passed with 5 yes, 2 abstained.

The rest of the agenda was carried forward to the next meeting because of the late hour.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Smith
Secretary