

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

The meeting was held October 18, 2010 at the home of Jeff and Priscilla Menzel in Beaverton, Oregon.

Present:

Board Members: Jeff Menzel, Sylvia Lindman, Joanna Smith, Marsha King, Theresa Kamper, Junior Director Hanna Menzel.

Club Members present: Priscilla Menzel, Lita Long, Chris Jaeger.

President Jeff Menzel called the meeting to order at 6:50p.m.

The minutes of the September Board meeting were read and approved by consensus without change.

Reports

President

At the Sellwood Walkabout last Saturday the OES in Halloween costumes were dressed as a ram (Prudence), a princess (Sophia), a race dog (Harrison), a workman with hard hat and tool vest (Hank), a couple of Hawaiian tourists (Fiona and Kato), to name a few. However, the most memorable costumes were the ones worn by Gretchen and Ron Hayhurst who dressed as OES! Gretchen hand made the costumes with white and grey fleece match the markings of their favorite Sheepdogs. They even had black color on their noses. The Walkabout covered an area with antique shops but the shops were hardly noticed because of the attention the OES were getting--there were even some OES puppies participating. Jeff will link Gretchen's online photo gallery to the website so the photos she and Ron took will appear on the club website soon.

Looking at the activity schedule for the rest of the year, it was decided that because the herding event will take place on Nov. 6, along with a General Meeting, there will not be a Board meeting or a Walkabout in November. Traditionally, there are no Board meetings in November. There is a chance of rain and cold weather at the herding event so Matt will be asked to supply hot coffee and tea. Board members volunteered to check on last minute details: seating and tables for the meeting area, paper goods and supplies for the dessert potluck, and parking will be coordinated with Joanna in emails to Board members. All agreed that participants should bring towels for the OES.

While Peacock Lane isn't really a walk because there are usually so many people looking at the lights and decorations, and wanting to get close to the OES that it is hard to walk. It is an special event worth attending. It was decided that a Saturday night is preferable to a Friday night so Saturday, Dec. 18 was chosen at the tentative date--the exact date will be decided 48 hours before and an email confirmation will be sent to all members with directions on where to meet. Those who have attended this event often say meeting at 5:45pm and parking the in Walgreen's parking lot are details that should be in the email, too. Afterwards, the group will go to get something to eat.

Jeff said he needed Board approval for two expenditures. First, the GoDaddy website hosting annual payment is due in November. Moved by Joanna, Board approved unanimously. Second, the Club "I Saw a Sheepdog today!" stickers have run out. They are part of the premium for new members, are good publicity and awareness items, and appreciated by recipients when passed out at Walkabouts and events. All felt positive about the stickers and the Board voted unanimously by consensus to order a another box.

Trophy engraving for the results of the 2010 Specialty has been finalized. Chris has taken the trophies for engraving. Jeff said inconsistencies over the years on the definition of "owner" and who is eligible to retire a trophy has been resolved. The event coordinator for the AKC was consulted, and after thoroughly looking at premium lists, the Club's Policies and Procedures, and past practices those involved were satisfied that the correct conclusion has been reached. Joanna will officially notify Marilyn and Kristi Marshall about retiring the Loyalblu Challenge Winners Bitch trophy and offer to engrave it appropriately if they choose to reoffer it. Joanna read a draft of the letter she planned to send. Jeff moved, Sylvia seconded, to send the letter as read.

Jeff reported alerting members to an OES DNA blood draw Oct. 9 because it was a chance to participate in an important national program. The Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) is establishing a centralized canine health database sponsored by the AKC and Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) to identify health issues in OES and other breeds, and make that information available to breeders, owners and scientists. There have been DNA blood draws at Nationals and wherever there were purebred dogs. The deadline for submitting blood at a discounted cost was extended so we were able to participate at the

last minute. Even on short notice, there was a collection of 17 OES DNA/blood samples.

Vice President

In Matt's absence, Jeff announced that Matt once again volunteered to host the Christmas Party, General Meeting, and Board of Directors election at his home on Saturday, Dec. 11. After coordinating the details with Matt, Jeff will email Board members so each one can volunteer to bring a dish or help in another way. Since Matt provided most of the food last year, it was suggested that the Club reimburse him up to \$300 this year. Jeff will put an interactive RSVP in the next Pinkertongue and Sylvia offered to keep track of how many will attend. An effort will be made to invite other guests who might not get the newsletter.

Sylvia suggested changing the gift exchange this year to a donation to a dog related charity. Others said that they like a gift exchange because it promotes interaction between guests--particularly the way it is played at the party. On the other hand, Marsha pointed out that these days an animal pantry or food bank makes the difference between someone keeping an animal and having to give it up. She pointed out an organization in Clackamas that is reputable and she could easily deliver our donations. It was decided to do both a scaled-down gift exchange and solicit donations. Guests may bring a optional small, handmade item for the gift exchange (approx. \$5 value) and bagged or canned dog food or other useful animal related donation. Marsha will contact the charity for more details on donations. Instructions for donations and items for the gift exchange will be on the website and the party invitations.

Secretary

A new membership application was received from Molly McKay from Portland. She has a 2 year old OES, Hank. They have already been on some Walkabouts. The Board unanimously accepted Molly's application as read. Welcome, Molly and Hank!

Joanna read a note from Pamela Ellis, the Secretary of our sister club, OES-NSW saying that the winner of the rosette we donated to their Champs show was thrilled to receive it. Pictures will be available soon. Pamela also commented on everyone enjoying reading the Pinkertongue.

Treasurer

Belinda was unable to attend the meeting but reported to Jeff in a telephone conversation that there had been no transactions this month.

Rescue

Lita reported there might be a rescue situation Southern Oregon. She doesn't expect to hear until the pups are ready to be place into homes. Also, there might be 2 female OES from Boise that need temporary housing in Portland but she does not have the details. While we don't have many rescues, there are areas of the U.S. that do. A new OES club is forming in Texas, which is one of those areas. It was suggested that Joanna reach out by email to the group, and perhaps send a copy of the Pinkertongue.

Jeff suggested adding a link to the Old English Sheepdog Rescue of Washington State (OESROWS) on our website under the "Rescue" pull-down. Some of our members have had contact with the organization and are impressed with the caring, professional way rescue is handled. OESROWS is a well-funded, thriving organization with an informative website with information about finding a dog, giving up a dog, volunteer opportunities, and contributing to this 501(c)3 (tax deductible) group. Because it is geographically close with volunteers providing foster homes and transportation for OES in our area, it makes sense to collaborate with them so that all rescue/foster/adoption situations can be handled in the best way possible. Jeff said this link/collaboration is critical because letters have circulated in Washington and Oregon regarding a "rescue" attributed to our Club. While the club was not involved, the misunderstanding jeopardizes the Club's reputation and might turn away those wanting to adopt, volunteer, or contribute to rescue or those needing to give up an OES. Joanna questioned whether our rescue work, at this point, was inefficiently overlapping with OESROWS. After all, we are a small club without enough infrastructure and volunteers to support rescue program--we've been unfairly relying on one person to do it all. From a practical standpoint, it might make sense to consolidate our resources with OESROWS. Discussion followed regarding this option. The Board feels breed rescue is very important and must be done correctly. Jeff and Sylvia were concerned about Club liability since we are supporting rescue with so few resources. Marsha asked if our insurance covered rescue work. Joanna will look into it. In conclusion, if we are going to continue, Jeff said all Club rescue forms and paperwork for reporting need to be consistently used, completely filled out, and available at all times. Expense reimbursements need to be submitted in a timely fashion. Theresa then complemented Lita on her long term rescue work. Discussion followed regarding adding

OESROWS to our website based on its own merit as a good resource for the OES community. The Board agreed that it should be added.

Nomination Committee

As the head of the Nominations Committee, Joanna reported that 10 days before the General Meeting, she must announce the nominees for Officer and Director positions for the December election. Jeff announced that he has served for two years and will finish his current term as President, but will not run for another term. The positions currently held by Matt, Vice President, and Belinda, Treasurer, will both need to be filled as both have opted to be removed from the nominations list. This leaves President, Vice President, Treasurer, and 1 Board position without nominees. Nominations can be made from the floor at the General Meeting on Nov. 6. As it stands now, the withdrawals leave Joanna running for her current position as Secretary, and Sylvia for her current position as Pinkertongue Editor. Director positions are 1 or 2 year term. A 2-year term is currently held by Marsha, a 1-year term by Theresa. Both are running. Member Chris Jaeger has been nominated for the Board. Hanna is running for Junior Director.

Specialty 2011

Jeff said we are at that time of year that the Specialty committee needs to be established. The Club has received applications from the AKC that need to be filled out at least 6 months before the scheduled July 22, 2011 Specialty. Sylvia, who filled out the paperwork last year, outlined what was necessary to complete the applications. Because of the late hour, it was suggested this item be continued to the next meeting.

Pinkertongue Editor

Held over for next meeting.

Web Master

Held over for next meeting.

Open Discussion--New/Old Business

None

Jeff adjourned the meeting at 9:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Smith
Secretary