

RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 10, 2023

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club, Inc., took place on Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at the Club building on Tomlynn Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

The following Board members were present:

President: Peter Lenk (2023)

Vice President: Michele Gillette (2023) via phone

Treasurer: Rocky Altimore (2023)

Corresponding Secretary: Merilynn Bergstresser (2023)

Training Director: Carisa Whelan (2022/2023)

Member at Large: Diane Lenk (2022/2023)

Member at Large: Jeanette Makowskyj (2022/2023)

Member at Large: Judi Edwards (2023/2024)

Member at Large: Kara Kolster (2023/2024)

Board Members absent:

Recording Secretary: Position vacant

The following Guests were present:

None

Minutes of the last meeting: On the motion of Rocky Altimore, seconded by Diane Lenk, the minutes of the December 6, 2022, Board meeting were approved as amended, by voice vote.

Report of the President:

- Peter apologized for the conflict on last week's Zoom membership meeting.
- Valerie Pascal resigned as Training Director for personal reasons.

Report of the Secretaries:

Recording Secretary: Susan Altimore volunteered to be Recording Secretary.

Corresponding Secretary: None.

Report of the Treasurer: None

Report of Committees:

- Tracking Committee:
 - Mary Ann Massie suggested a sponsorship page in the catalog. \$5 per tribute. Members can honor a past dog or wish luck to the exhibitors.

Proceeds will offset the cost of the test. On the motion of Judi Edwards, seconded by Diane Lenk, the motion was approved.

- Judi Edwards requested to hold the tracking test in memory of Donna Thompson. Donna was instrumental in starting many people and clubs in tracking, including many of our RDOC members directly or indirectly, and because her club folded after her death she has never been properly recognized. The Board was in favor but did not feel this needed a vote for approval. Judi will bring it up at the next membership meeting.
- Judi Edwards offered to hold a one-day tracking seminar in late March or early April, depending on field availability. On the motion of Judi Edwards, seconded by Kara Kolster, the motion was approved.
- Obedience/Rally Trials:
 - Trials filled in less than 30 minutes.

Unfinished Business: None.

Presentation of Applications for Membership: On the motion of Rocky Altimore, seconded by Diane Lenk, the Applications for Membership of Arlene Dickinson and Darlene Trace were approved. (Merilynn Bergstresser not present)

New Business:

- Emily Chambers requested permission to send the Pawprint to prospective members. The Board agreed she could share the Pawprint via email, with no access to the members-only portion of the website until membership was approved.
- Class cost analysis & lease changes: Rocky presented information on the rent increase for the building and suggestions for increasing class cost to cover it. The Board agreed that class prices should increase and tabled the discussion on exact amounts.
- Further discussion was had offering comparison of class cost and facility/equipment/instructor offerings between RDOC, Level Up Dog Sports, and the Richmond SPCA.
- Further discussion was had on potential changes to class cost based on member involvement in club activities.
- New classes: Carisa proposed two new classes
 - Building the Bond: open to rescues only
 - Introduction to Parkour

Both would be 4 week classes. On the motion of Carisa Whelan, seconded by Diane Lenk, the motion was approved.

- Run Thrus: On the motion of Rocky Altimore, seconded by Carisa Whelan, the Board approved a run thru conducted by the Trial Committee on February 5, 2023.
- Website:
 - Suggestion to make meeting date more obvious on main page to encourage prospective members. No Zoom link will be posted.

- Judi requested a different calendar format or a search function to make it easier for instructors to find their class. Rocky advised that instructors can use the Instructor tab to find rosters, etc for their classes.
- Zoom meetings:
 - On the motion of Carisa Whelan, seconded by Judi Edwards, the Board approved the suspension of Zoom option for membership meetings until a sub-committee, Zoom moderator, and standing rules for Zoom participation are established.
 - Judi suggested also forming a sub-committee for the Website
 - Both of these sub-committees would be under the IT committee, which already exists.
- Carisa suggested spotlighting different sports that RDOC teaches and/or members participate in on the website & bulletin board. This could encourage current & prospective members to learn about and become involved in new dog sports. There could be a club member contact for people who are interested in learning more about each sport.
- Carisa developed a QR code that students scan to track attendance for her classes.
- Carol Maupin wants to buy stress balls with the RDOC logo for the obedience/rally trial exhibitor bags. This does not require Board approval.

Adjournment: On the motion of Rocky Altimore, seconded by Kara Kolster, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kara Kolster, Board Member At Large

Minutes approved 2/14/2023 sma