

**RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 11, 2021**

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at the club building on Tomlynn Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

**The following Board Members were present:**

President: Peter Lenk (2021)

Corresponding Secretary: Rhea McCaffrey (2021) (Zoom)

Training Directors: Valerie Pascal (2021/2022), Nicole Allen (2020/2021) (Zoom)

Recording Secretary: Betty Swenson (2021)

Treasurer: Rocky Altimore (2021)

Member at Large: Emily Chambers (2020/2021) (Zoom), Les Foldesi (2020/2021), Linda Heimiller (2021/2022) (Zoom), Ellen McNelly (2021/2022) (Zoom)

Board Members absent: Vice President : Mary Ann Massie

The following guest was present: Deanne Hamilton attended via Zoom to report to the Board on the YMCA's current policies regarding Covid. She said the Governor's May 15 recommendations have not changed significantly, but that bigger changes were expected for June if current vaccination and case trends continue. So for now, wearing masks, maintaining a 6 foot distance, and frequent cleaning of high-touch areas is still the rule.

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the April 2021 board meeting were approved. Rocky Altimore made a motion to approve the minutes of the last board meeting; the motion was seconded by Betty Swenson, and passed on verbal vote.

**Report of the Secretaries:** none

**Report of the Treasurer:** Rocky Altimore reported that Robert and Jaccqueline Dunnivant had made a \$200 donation to the club in memory of their dog Duke.

**Report of Committees**

**-Audit:** Les Foldesi is to submit the audit report for publication in the Pawprint

**-Buildings and Grounds:** Les Foldesi has put the new vacuum cleaner together. He also reported to Porter Realty the fact that someone has been dumping mattresses and other household debris on the property. The microwave has died, but can be replaced for under \$200. Les also mentioned that our lease comes due in two years, and he recommended we negotiate a 5 year option at that time. Peter Lenk reported that one of the employees of the coffee company which shares the parking lot is still unable to park their trailer, which created some disruption for one of our conformation classes.

**-Matches:** Nicole Allen is setting up scheduled run-thrus for next month

**-Training:** Valerie Pascal reported that Laura Herrmann is working on a class evaluation form which can be sent electronically. It is hoped that this will help the training directors figure out why students sometimes leave a class without completing it.

**Unfinished Business:** Mary Ann Massie and Susan Newton are to co-chair the December and February (and maybe June) obedience trials. Joanie Brobst does not want to be out of the picture, and will discuss the trial secretary duties with the co-chairs. Hiring a secretary might still be an option

Les Foldesi has offered to teach someone to be test secretary for the Farm Dog Certification test.

Les also presented proposals for changes in the Standing Rules and By-Laws. For the Standing Rules, he recommends changing the wording regarding members' dogs' rabies certificates on file to reflect that they are now being uploaded via the website.

Three changes to the By-Laws are suggested:

- 1) Change 'obedience trial' to 'event', since we now do many events in addition to the obedience trial; also pluralize 'event chair' and 'event secretary' to cover all events.
- 2) Eliminate the finance/ways and means committee as it has done nothing for years. This suggestion was tabled to allow time to check with Michele Gillette (our agent for the SCC) to see if this would affect our incorporation papers on file
- 3) List a format for the board meetings similar to the one for the general membership meeting

**Presentation of Applications for Membership:** The applications Carisa Whelan and Beth Harris were read to the Board.

**New Business:** Discussion among board members settled on no changes in COVID protocols for the club just yet. We will wait until the June Governor's guidelines are announced before deciding on whether to relax the restrictions on allowing students' family members to observe the classes.

Les Foldesi made a motion, seconded by Rocky Altimore and approved on voice vote, to purchase a new microwave.

Valerie Pascal asked for and received approval to purchase colored mats for the training classes. It was noted that Crystal Meadows' dog Tricky had recently passed away.

**Adjournment:** 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Swenson, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved as amended 6-8-21