

RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.
MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
May 3, 2022

The monthly meeting of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on **Tuesday, May 3, 2022**, at the club building on Tomlynn Street. President Peter Lenk called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. 18 members were present and 11 attended via ZOOM.

1 guest was present: Christy Nilo.

Minutes of the last meeting: The April 5, 2022 minutes were approved as printed in the Pawprint after a motion by Kitty Wells, seconded by Sally Feltner.

Report of the Board: None

Report of the President: Peter Lenk shared about the memorial service for Sally Cecil. Approximately 15-18 people were in attendance. It was all arranged by Cathy and Les Foldesi, but at the last minute they were unable to attend due to illness. Susan Nepomuceno stepped up to run the event and Gabrielle Hughes managed the refreshment side of the service. Everything went very well.

Report of the Secretaries:

Recording: None.

Corresponding: None

Treasurer's Report: Rocky Altimore reported for **April 2022:**

Income	\$4,406.97
Expenses	\$6,712.95
Net Loss	(\$2,305.98)

Rocky reported that this loss was not unexpected due to March being such a big month and Training revenue being down somewhat in April. We also had to pay taxes and repairs for HVAC. Still, overall, doing very well this year.

Report of Committees

Trials and Events:

Mary Ann Massie is overseeing the June Rally and Obedience Trials and has put together a spreadsheet for all jobs. There are several opportunities for members to step up and volunteer to support the upcoming trial. There will be a meeting May 18th to finalize plans and see where we are now and discuss future trials. There will be an additional meeting in June as we get closer to the June Trial. We need to make decisions quickly, especially for judges for future trials, as judges will be taken if we don't act soon. Anyone who wishes to be the Chair for the December and/or February Trials needs to speak up or we may need to reconsider moving forward.

Training:

Valerie Pascal mentioned that members have been anxiously awaiting run-thrus in preparation for spring and summer trials. Unfortunately, the previous run-thru committee dissolved. Thankfully,

Mary Ann Massie and others developed a new format to try in the upcoming months. The morning will be Obedience run-thrus and the afternoon Rally. There will be run-thrus scheduled for May, June, and July. After that, we will sit down and assess whether this new format is successful. We would like to return to the old format, if possible, but would need members to volunteer to organize. The date for May is the 22nd. The other dates have yet to be determined.

Valerie Pascal shared that there will be a Training Meeting in the Annex on June 7th at 6 pm.

Unfinished Business: None

Election of New Members: Deanne Hamilton read the application for Christy Nilo. 31 Members voted and Christy Nilo was unanimously welcomed into the club.

New Business:

Peter Lenk said that he received a request from the Bearded Collie Club of America to rent equipment, gates, and mats from RDOC for their Nationals in October. The Board will be discussing this at their upcoming meeting with more to come.

Peter Lenk also mentioned that the Board discussed raising the dollar amount allotted for the purchase of gifts/flowers for members who have lost a love one or faced an illness. The Board will discuss again and bring a proposal to the general membership meeting in June/July.

Theresa Myers brought up the possibility of raising the rates for classes at RDOC, mentioning that many similar organizations in the area charge a much higher rate for instruction. A lengthy discussion ensued. Rocky Altimore and others reminded all to understand that the mission of RDOC is not to make money, but to educate the community in the safe and proper handling of their dogs. It is important to educate the public at a price they can afford. Also, that we are in good standing financially and that, currently, there is no financial reason to raise rates.

There was some concern that if our rates are lower, the community might think that our classes are not as high quality as other facilities. However, Susan Nepomuceno mentioned that all of our classes fill repeatedly and that our reputation speaks for itself.

There was some discussion about inflation and that RDOC should not bear 100% of inflation costs. Rocky Altimore stated that our two biggest expenses, rent and utilities, are not impacted by inflation at this time. However, when we need to negotiate the new lease, we may need to revisit this discussion. The discussion was tabled to revisit at a future time.

Peter Lenk announced that we will return to having a picnic at the July 5th membership meeting. The club will provide the chicken, and everyone brings a dish.

Brag:

Brag were offered in abundance by many members.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Theresa Myers, 2nd by Kitty Wells. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Deanne Hamilton, Recording Secretary

Minutes approved as written 6/7/2022