

RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2025

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at the club building on Tomlynn Street. Patti Kilcullen called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

The following Board Members were present:

President: Patti Kilcullen (2025)

Vice President: Carolyn Wilkerson (2025)

Corresponding Secretary: Joan Trentadue (2025)

Training Director: Ann Li (2025/2026)

Recording Secretary: Claibourne Jackson (2025)

Treasurer: Rocky Altimore (2025)

Member at Large: Susan Nepomuceno (2025/2026), Donna Crumpler (2025/2026), Dave Frazier (2024/2025), Theresa Myers (2024/2025)

Training Director Gabby Hughes was absent.

The following **guests were present:** Arlene Dickson, Debbie McGuire

Minutes of the last meeting:

- Donna Crumpler made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 2025 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Susan Nepomuceno and the minutes were approved by verbal vote.

Report of the Secretaries

Corresponding Secretary:

Joan Trentadue reported condolences were sent to various members:

- Jill Woith lost her beagle, Minnie
- Donna Crumpler had minor surgery
- Rhea Mccaffrey was sick
- Bennie Byrd is recovering from a broken wrist
- Richard Sullivan continues to recover from a car accident

Recording Secretary:

- Claibourne Jackson reported that she was not able to add meeting dates to the website, but Gabby Hughes had said she would do it.

Report of the Treasurer:

- Rocky Altimore reported that in preparation for the December Rally/Obedience trials, we now have a PayPal account.

Report of Committees

Buildings and Grounds:

- Dave Frazier reported that the 2nd quarter HVAC review is coming this week.
- The air conditioning in the club is back to working order.
- The sheetrock/paint repair in the lobby has been completed
- The “photo booth” spot in the annex is ready for the RDOC banner/sign
- Parking continues to be an issue
- The janitorial schedule can now be posted on the website calendar.

Building Search:

- Susan Nepomuceno reported on a few places that Nicole Allen and Janet Bowers are looking at. Several are in the same area as our current location, and some others are in the Hanover Air Park. There may be an opportunity to access land beside Dog Services nearby, but at this time, there is land, but no building. In short, the committee is making headway.

Membership and Orientation:

- An application was presented from Khilia Giacabone and a majority voted yes to forward it to the membership for vote in May.

Trials and Events:

- Arlene Dickson and Debbie McGuire reported that planning for the June and December Obedience/Rally trials is moving along. Arlene noted that the trials will have background music to help make the atmosphere more relaxed and friendly. Additionally, the size of the warm-up corner will be increased.

Training:

- Susan Nepomuceno made a motion to approve a full refund to someone for a CGC class as their dog cannot be touched. Theresa Myers seconded the motion and it was approved by verbal vote.

Old Business:

- Patti Kilcullen made a motion that the club hold an Obedience/Rally run-through on May 25. Some discussion followed noting that sign-up and payment will need to be done through our website and that Joanie and Dave Brobst will be asked to make a brief proposal to the board for approval as with all events. Theresa Myers seconded the motion and it was passed by verbal vote.

New Business:

- Claibourne Jackson mentioned having another program, presentation or demonstration at an upcoming club meeting. Suggestions were Paws to Swim, laser equipment use, canine chiropractic, puppy selection, mold sniffing dog, termite dog, arson dog, local cadaver dog.

- Ann Li and Dave Frazier will work to make a map showing allowed parking places and times
- Rocky Altimore expressed concern that the club still has an urgent, critical need to focus on TRAINING and the Board needs to take an *active* part in addressing this. To survive, the club must have classes and to have classes, we must have instructors. Instructors and Assistant Instructors are our most important resource. Board members Suggested a quarterly meeting of the Training Committee – on the calendar and notice by email. Encourage instructors to have assistants teach a lesson, or swap places occasionally so that assistants will gain the confidence to move into teaching positions. Noted this is in NO WAY A Negative comment toward training...
- Claibourne Jackson suggested all instructors – not just new ones and assistants – attend Donna Crumpler’s “Training the Trainer”
- Dave Frazier reported that the new obedience jump arrived at Gabby Hughes’ house with box damage – hopefully the jump itself isn’t damaged.

Adjournment: Patti Kilcullen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Frazier and passed by verbal vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Claibourne Jackson, Recording Secretary

Approved as amended 5/13/2025, CJJ