

**RICHMOND DOG OBEDIENCE CLUB, INC.**  
**MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 7, 2023**

The monthly meeting of the Richmond Dog Obedience Club took place on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, at the club building on Tomlynn Street. President Peter Lenk called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. 44 members were present.

Arlene Dickson introduced our 5 guests: Myrium D’Souza, Ann Li, Debbie Parrott, Elizabeth Shanks, Stephen Shanks

**Minutes of the last meeting:** The October 2023 minutes were approved as amended in the Pawprint.

Diane Lenk made a motion to take a break from the meeting to enjoy election night dinner while it was hot. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeanette Makowskyj and passed on verbal vote. Dinner was enjoyed by all – Thank you Diane and Jeanette.

**Report of the Board:** None

**Report of the President:** President Peter noted that this was the last General Membership meeting he would preside over as our club President. He shared a quick review of his tenure of service as our President over the last several years as well as the many and varied other positions he has held over the past years. Peter – THANK YOU very much for your dedication to our club!!!

**Report of the Secretaries:**

**Recording:** None

**Corresponding:** Merilynn Bergstresser reported the club sent:

- Donations to the Morris Animal Foundation for
  - Beth Goodbody in memory of Rudy
  - Crystal Meadows in memory of Charlie
- Flowers to Ann Priddy to help her recover from a recent fall.

**Treasurer’s Report** Rocky Altimore reported for October 2023:

Income	\$20,517.32
Expenses	<u>\$18,369.90</u>
Net income	\$ 2,147.42

- Rocky noted that FCAT and training revenue contributed to a profitable month.
- Year to Date (Jan 1 – Oct 31) 2023 club net income is \$9,764.89.
- Rocky shared he would like to have standardized reporting for all club events and trials next year including event budget information. He is working on the format for the statements.

- Rocky is also working on 2024 member dues notices. Notices will be emailed to members in January and can be viewed on your account on the website. The easiest way to pay is also thru the website, similar to signing up for classes.

### **Report of Committees**

#### **Buildings and Grounds:** Dave Frazier reported:

- It has been noted that members and class participants are allowing their dogs to ‘P’ on the buildings and cars outside causing unpleasant odor. The front of our building was sanitized tonight to remove odors and everyone needs to take their dog use the designated potty area.
- Outside Lights:
  - The photocell for the outdoor floodlight above the Annex garage door is broken. This light is only on when the lights inside the Annex are on. Currently there is no estimate to repair the outside light.
  - The switches for the outdoor floodlights over the garage doors of the main training space have been covered in tape in the ‘ON’ position. These lights provid needed light in the parking lot at night.
  - The outdoor light over the potty area at the end of the building is not working. A work order has been opened with our Landlord for repair.
  - The outdoor spotlights above both building entry doors should remain on all the time. This allows light for anyone entering our buildings anytime. If the indoor attic lights in the main training space do not come on with the switch inside the storage area, verify the front door light switch is in the ‘On’ position.
- Training space and office thermostats need to be set to temperature to save the club money on heating and cooling bills as much as possible when no one will be using the spaces. Instructors and club members training in our spaces may set a comfortable temperature while they are in the building.

**Historian:** Dave Frazier reported he and Claudia are organizing and ordering title pins for the awards at the Holiday party.

#### **Hospitality:** Gabby Hughes:

- Thanked Diane Lenk and Jeanette Makowskyj the dinner and refreshments they provided for all to enjoy.
- Reminded everyone the Holiday party is on Saturday, December 16. Food set up starts at 5:30pm, with dinner starting at 6pm. Please see link to sign up in the November 2023 PawPrint.
  - Volunteers are needed to decorate the club building and set up for the party on Friday, December 15, at 10am.

**Membership and Orientation:** Emily Chambers shared she will be resigning as chair of the Membership Committee effective 12/31/2023. Arlene Dickson will be stepping into this roll to assist potential new members with the steps in becoming a member.

- Emily – Thank you for your time in this position and for training Arlene to continue welcoming new members to our club.
- Arlene we are looking forward to working with you.

#### **Trials and Events:**

- **Obedience and Rally trials:** Dave Frazier reported our next Obedience and Rally Trials are on Saturday, December 9. Obedience is in the morning and Rally in the afternoon.
  - The Obedience trial is filled as is the Obedience waitlist. The Rally trial has a few opening remaining.
  - The Run Thru for trial participants is on Sunday, December 3 and additional volunteers are needed.
  - Volunteers are needed for trial set up is on Friday, December 8, from 10am – to around noon.
  
- **Agility Trial:** Cristol Klevinsky reported that despite the storms on trial weekend we had a successful Agility Trial. Thank you to everyone that volunteered to make this another successful trial for our club.
  - Our next Agility Trials are March 22 and 23, 2024 and planning is in progress. Volunteers are needed and everyone is welcome.
  - Cristol shared that she will be stepping down from Agility Trial chair at after the 2024 event year. If you are interested in learning about this position please contact Cristol ([cklevinsky@gmail.com](mailto:cklevinsky@gmail.com)) for answers to your questions and mentoring.
  
- \*\*\*\*\***CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!** To Pat Speas and Pickles. Pat and Pickles earned their Agility Grand Champion title on Oct. 3, 2023 at the Terrier Specialty. This title takes years to earn and at 9 years old Pickles is not ready to slow down. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!!!!**\*\*\*\*\*
  
- **FCAT:** Dave Frazier reported the next FCAT will be held in March at the Hanover-Cold Harbor Ruritan Park in Mechanicsville. Planning is in progress and if there is interest, AKC FIT DOG events may also be held.

**Office Management:** Carol Maupin reminded members we have a club library in the lobby of the Annex with many interesting resources. Books do need to be signed out and returned in a timely manner.

**Publicity:** Susan Nepomuceno encouraged members to take some RDOC business cards and brochures out to places they go in our community to advertise our club and training classes.

**Training:** Maureen Woolley reported:

- Basic classes have restarted and been positively received. She reminded us that they are still a work in progress and changes will be made as needed.
- The Training Directors are also working on creating a more long term schedule for classes and instructors

**Election of Officers and Board:** Members voted for our 2024 Board of Directors. All candidates on the ballot were voted into office. Our 2024 Board of Directors is:

President – Patti Killcullen  
 Vice President - Carolyn Wilkerson  
 Treasurer - Rocky Altimore  
 Recording Secretary - Richard Sullivan  
 Corresponding Secretary - Merilynn Bergstressor  
 Training Director - Gabrielle (Gabby) Hughes  
 Member at Large - Claibourne Jackson  
 Member at Large - Theresa Myers

CONGRATULATIONS to all our Board Members!!!!

**Unfinished Business:**

- Susan Massart inquired about a kitchen renovation that was discussed a few months ago. This had been put on hold as many other issues with higher priority have arisen.

**New Business:**

- Annex pictures – a couple pictures have fallen from the wall in the Annex. Please let Theresa Myers know when pictures fall and where they are stored so they can be rehung.

Braggs were offered in abundance by many members.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Kitty Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan Nepomuceno and Les Foldesi. The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Altimore, Recording Secretary

Approved December 5, 2023