

**Portuguese Water Dog Club of Greater Chicagoland**

**BOARD MEETING February 8, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President David Parker at 7:00 PM on February 8, 2004.

**Members in attendance:** David Parker, Gary Novak, Theresa Hosking, Michele Wolford, Leon Benson, Susan Becker, Wendy Anderson and Carol Holzer, Nigel Clark , Martha Thomas

**Minutes –**  **Leon moved to accept the Jan 17, 2024 minutes. Gary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Committee Chairs Joining the Board Meeting - 2026 National Specialty Bid**

Martha Thomas and Nigel Clark presented our draft bid to host the 2026 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America’s 34th National Specialty at Purina Farms in Gray Summit, Missouri. Prior to landing on Purina Farms as their recommended site, Martha and Nigel investigated other sites to include Rock Island, West Bend, Mississippi Fairgrounds, and other locations, many which were cost prohibitive. Schaumburg and The Ridge Lake Geneva have not responded with a quote. The indoor space at Purina Farms vs. Lake Geneva is significantly better. If we selected Lake Geneva, most of our events would have to be held outdoors. Purina Farms has sufficient indoor space to accommodate the majority of our events which is helpful in the hot St. Louis summers. The National Club is using this location in 2025 so it would be simple to host there in 2026 without a lot of new work. Purina Farms includes all the equipment needed which is a big cost savings. We should be able to make a significant profit. Carlyle Lake in IL is about 90 minutes to an hour away and is free.

One of the concerns has been how to staff the Specialty with volunteers for 2026. We already have people outside of our Club who are offering to help so we should get enough volunteers. We would have a Judges Selection Committee which would include people not showing their dogs. They would find the judges for non- regular classes, futurity and maturity, Juniors, and 4-6 month Puppies. The PWDCA Membership will vote on the Confirmation dogs, bitches BOB, judges for 2026 this month via ballots going out Feb. 10, 2024. Martha still needs to secure a Superintendent but is working on it and waiting for call backs.

**Michele, Martha and Nigel** will complete the bid and submit it to SEAT by the February 21, 2024 deadline**.**

 **Michele made a motion to submit the bid for the 2026 National Specialty. Leon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

**Treasurer’s Report – Gary Novak**

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| **February 6, 2024 Treasurer's Report** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| June 1, 2023 Balance |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $7,348.60 |  |
| Account | Income | Expense |  |  |
| ANNUAL MEETING |  | $658.41 |  |  |
| CLUB EXPENSE |  | $684.07 |  |  |
| CONCURRENT SPECIALTY | $393.25 | $631.83 |  |  |
| EVENT Registration | **$470.00** | $75.00 |  | Agility Fun Day |
| INSURANCE |  | **$1,826.00** |  | Accidental Insurance |
| MEMBERSHIP | $1,270.00 |  |  |  |
| MERCHANDISE  | $30.00 |  |  |  |
| PICNIC  |  | $228.70 |  |  |
| REFUNDS | $166.50 |  |  |  |
| REGIONAL SPECIALTY | $1,012.20 | $425.87 |  |  |
| SHORELINES | $20.00 |  |  |  |
| STORAGE  |  | $1,843.00 |  |  |
| TROPHY  | $580.00 | **$1,471.72** |  | Madison Show Rosettes |
| WATER TRIAL  | $2,070.50 | $3,015.96 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  | $2,500.49 |  |

Gary said last year we had $15K and started out this year with $7K. We are spending more money than we have coming in. We have a bill for $900 for Rosettes which is to cover us for this year. The other bill is for Award Prizes for 2 shows at Madison. Good news is we don’t have to pay for judges, it comes out of our proceeds. We also have more entries so we should make a little more money.

We cannot sustain the Club’s financial situation at this rate. Club dues have not been increased in many years. **Gary** will look at our current membership dues, $35 for Family, $30 Single, $25 Associate and $10 Breeder, and send out a few scenarios to the Board to show us how increasing dues by various amounts could provide needed incremental income.

**Secretary Report- Action Plan discussion**

**Meeting Principles feedback and agreement to approve them**

* No feedback on the meeting principles. The Board agreed to try to follow them to be more efficient.
* Dave sent out a meeting invite to our Google calendars for the 2nd Thursday every month.

**ACTION PLAN / COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**Strategy - Revise PWDCGC By-Laws** - Owner: Leon Benson

Leon wants **The Board** to review the by-laws and send their feedback. Michele (in yellow on the draft) and Gary (in green on the draft) have given their input. A few areas to work through include:

* Issues on how to approve members. We can publish the names and ask membership to provide feedback. The Board would then vote to approve or deny applicants at the next month’s Board meeting.
* Video conferencing for full Club meetings.

Paying taxes was mentioned. We are an entertainment Club and we don’t have a profit of over $20K so we really don’t have a tax liability. We can file tax forms going forward showing we have no money, a 1099 NR form, and outline our revenue and expenses. Any revenue under $10K won’t matter. All agreed we should file the 1099 NR form this year. **Gary will follow up on this.**

**Strategy – Further the Enjoyment of the Breed**

1. Develop and execute at least 4 social events per year – Owners: Dave Parker and Carol Holzer
* Dave has been unable to get a response for the Paint your dog organization. We will remove this activity.
* Carol has contacted Karen George about doing the dog massage training seminar at our Picnic on May 18th.
* **Carol** will continue to look for a location for our Dog Walk and Pub Crawl event. She looked at the two locations but both have closed. She is now investigating The Theater on the Lake in Lincoln Park, breweries and coffee/tea places in Lake Bluff, or Fort Sheridan where there is a beach.
1. AKC Fit Dog Events – Owner: Theresa Hosking
* Agility Fun Day Events

The January event brought in $250 for the Club and was well received by participants. The committee is working on scheduling the next event.

1. PWDCGC Calendar of Events – Owners: Michele Wolford (Create), Wendy Anderson (Maintain)

Catherine Shultz is building a Club Calendar of Events. Dave asked that we update the Events page with new content as a next priority. **Michele** will follow up with Giene and Catherine.

**Strategy – Inform and educate people on the PWD**

1. Meet the Breeds – Owner: Wendy Anderson

Wendy was informed that AKC is not doing the “Meet the Breeds” at the end of August. It may occur in November.

1. Create a Training Facilities and Groomers List – Owner: Gary Novak

Gary has received information from half of the breeders he contacted. He has gathered 40 different organizations to add to our Training and Grooming list. Dave would like to see this resource posted in the March Shorelines.

**Strategy - Encourage sportsmanlike competition in conformation and performance and conduct sanctioned events.**

1. Water Training and Trials – Owner: Susan Becker
* Cindy Petrey has been working with a new Director at the Rex Plex and has had challenges getting the date locked. Tentative dates are August 25-26. The new management is requesting additional information so it has taken longer to get approval. The information is submitted and we are waiting for a response.
* The Overboard Club in Noblesville, Indiana has folded and they have offered us their site for another Water Trial. The site will be free but we would have to pay insurance, hire a judge, and other expenses associated with the event. No final decision was made and there was a question as to how many of our members would drive that far. **Susan** will follow up at the next meeting with more information on what costs we might incur for expenses associated with running this event.

**Strategy – Improve PWDCGC FY Balance by identifying income generating events to build our financial balance**

1. Online Membership Application and Renewals
	1. Catherine reported that she can build online renewals, but cannot do online payments for new members. The reason is that if an application goes in early in the year and we decide not to make them members, it is hard to refund money after a certain # of days. Gary suggested we right them a check for their refund. Another Option – We ask the candidate to submit and online application and we vote on new members every month. Once we accept them as members, they can pay for their membership online. **Gary** will contact Catherine to discuss how to set up the money transfer through PayPal or some other process.
	2. Raffles at the Regional Specialties – Owner: Carol Holzer and Wendy will manage this and plan to have a raffle at West Bend Kettle Moraine.

**New Business**

New Member applications since December:

1. Breeder Referrals
* Danielle Collins
* Terry Goins
* Carolyn Lengh
* Joel & Toni Swenson
* Karen & David Dorner
* Sharon Philipps

 **Gary made a motion to accept the Breeder referrals. Theresa seconded. Motion carried unanimously**.

1. New Associate member
* Kathy Schmidt
* Martha Thomas (coming soon)

We will send out these names when we invite people to a special meeting to vote these members in.

We need to vote on these soon. By-laws require a vote at a Club Meeting of 2/3 of membership present. Dave will set up a Special Meeting to vote on the two Associate Members in the next couple of weeks, potentially at the Regional Specialty in Madison if we can find at least 17 members present.

**Open forum**

* NEW BOARD MEMBER: Chris Irhig may have interest in being a new director. **Dave** will call Chris.

**Adjournment** – **Gary made the motion to adjourn meeting. Wendy seconded. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.**