

**PWDCGC Board Meeting**

**AGENDA**

March 14, 2024

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by President David Parker at 7:03 PM on March 14, 2024.

**Board Members in attendance:** David Parker, Gary Novak, Theresa Hosking, Michele Wolford, Leon Benson, Susan Becker, Wendy Anderson, Carol Holzer and Chris Irhig.

**Club Members in attendance:** Catherine Scholz

**Approval of the Minutes**

**Gary moved to accept the February 23, 2024 Special Meeting minutes called to vote in Martha Thomas as a PWDCGC Single member. Susan seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

**Report of the President** – Dave Parker

Welcome to Chris Ihrig who replaced Jim Cowhey on the Board.

Regional Specialty Update: The Regional Specialty in Madison, WI in February was a success. We drew dogs from 15 states coast to coast, Massachusetts to California. Over 40% of the dogs traveled over 400 miles. We had 5 point majors in all but one show on Sunday. Owner handlers represented 40% of entries. There were 50 entries total which was a 37% increase over last year. After expenses, the Club made around a $1,800 profit.

**Report of the Treasurer** – Gary Novak

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| **March 14, 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 |  |  |
| DONATIONS | **$10.00** |  |  | Over payment of Breeder membership | |
| EVENT Registration | $470.00 | $75.00 |  |  | | |
| INSURANCE |  | $1,826.00 |  |  | | |
| MEMBERSHIP | **$1,330.00** |  |  | 3 Breeder & 1 New single memberships | | |
| 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 |  |  | | |
| WATER TRIAL | $2,070.50 | $3,165.96 |  |  | | |
|  |  |  |  |  | | |
| March 11, 2024 Balance |  |  | **$2,420.49** |  | | |

We are $2,420 in the black before adding the $1,800 from the Specialty. This will bring our balance up to approximately $4,200 Membership dues delivered around $1,330 for FY 2023.

**Leon made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Wendy seconded. All Approved and motion passed.**

**Report of the Secretary** – Michele Wolford

Michele will send out an email 7-10 days prior to each Board Meeting and will ask each Board Member to let her know if they have a Committee report or other key business they want added to the Agenda. Michele will build the Agenda with only the topics submitted. Any topic not provided in advance will be covered ONLY if time permits in “Unfinished or New Business”. Otherwise it will be held over to the next month. Board members can invite any Chairs or members of committees they oversee to join our Meetings at any time.

**Report of Committees/ Action Plan Updates**

Michele informed the Board that Giene Keyes has stepped down as Chair of the Website Committee. Catherine Scholz and Barb Crowther have agreed to lead this work.

Website Committee/Online Renewal and Website Upgrade – Catherine Scholz

Catherine joined the meeting to request information from the Board that she needs to advance her work on building an online renewal option for our membership. Gary Novak set up a PWDCGC PayPal account to accept dues for the Club. Currently we are unable to have new applicants sign-up and pay online due to ecommerce rules which are strict. The issue is there is a lag between when an applicant submits a form to join the Club and when the Club can vote to accept them as a member. Therefore if an applicant applies and pays online, and then is not accepted, rules only allow a short window to execute a refund. This lag could cause problems. Therefore we will post the application only. Once the member is approved to join, they can then submit their check or pay online. For current members, the goal is to offer an online renewal option by June 1 when our next renewal cycle begins. Catherine will keep us informed on that timeline. The Board agreed to be the testers to see if the system works.

In addition to membership renewals, Catherine and Barb will continue working on updating our website to better match other Regional Clubs. Michele suggested the Board look at a few Regional Club Websites to get feedback on content to add or changes we might make. Michele offered a few Region Club examples.

<https://www.mayflowerpwd.org/>

<http://www.nutmegpwd.org/>

<https://www.pnwpwdc.org/>

**By-Laws Revisions – Leon Benson**

Leon sent out the February 4th draft of the by-laws. So far only Gary and Michele have provided input. Gary’s comments are in blue highlight, Michele’s in yellow , general comments are in green. Leon said the language follows the PWDCA and AKC.

Gary brought up an idea of creating some rules and regulations separate from the by-laws. After some discussion, the Board agreed to have Leon identify areas of the by-laws that pertain to Board functionality, (example: when and how often the Board meets) but does not impact membership. Those items would move to Rules and Regulations allowing more flexibility for functional elements to chance as the Board evolves and gains new members. The by-laws should be a document that can stand as is for 10+ years with minimal change. Leon will pull out the topics that he believes are geared toward Board functionality and then the Board will review and approve them for Rules and Regulations.

NEXT STEPS:

* **ALL** Board Members need to read and provide feedback to Leon on the 2/4 by-laws draft.
* Leon will create a Rules and Regulations draft pulling out topics that relate to Board functionality. Board members will review and vote to approve.
* Board will vote to approve the by-laws draft as soon as all Board members have provided feedback.
* The Board approved draft will be sent to the membership for input and a vote.
* Once the membership approves the by-laws it will move to ratification by the PWDCA and AKC.

**Membership Committee** – Gary Novak

Club Dues Increase

Background: The PWDCGC has not raised dues since before anyone can remember. It has likely been decades. Costs have increased significantly since dues were last increased. The Club’s financial balance his dropped significantly due to several factors including increased costs, fewer members, and investments in Water Trial boats, a trailer and storage. In order to remain financially stable, the Club is looking for additional revenue through more income driving events and membership dues. Gary Novak provided scenarios with various membership dues and Water Trial entry fee increases, and added a Pond Puppy Training fee. After discussion, the Board agreed to an increase in dues and the Water Trial entry fee to align with other Regional Clubs. The Board did not agree to charge for Pond Puppy Training but will offer an opportunity to make a donation to help with costs.

**Susan made a motion to Increase the Water Trial entry fees to $40, and Membership dues as follows: Breeder Referrals $15, Associate Membership $35, Single Membership $40, and Family Membership $45. Leon seconded. The motion passed unanimously**

Gary will submit a letter announcing these changes to Shorelines

Membership Applications

The following people have submitted applications to join the Club.

* Single Membership: Martha Thomas was voted in on 2/23/24 and approved
* Associate member: Kathy Schmidt will be published in Shorelines and will be voted on at the May picnic
* Breeder Referrals: Cara Benes, Tracie Colman, and Bari Kanefsky

**Michele made a motion to approve the Breeder Referrals Gary seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Water Trial and Dry Land Training** – Susan Becker

We have a verbal commitment for the Water Trial on 8/24-8/25. Jules Asbed will be the judge.

We will likely not hold a Friday practice day.

Dry-land training will take place at Fosters Training facility on 4/28 and The Wet Workshop Session will be held at the RecPlex on 6/9.

**West Bend Regional Specialty -** Dave Parker

Dave needs approval for a ribbon purchase for 20 first place non-regular class ribbons at $200.

**Wendy made a motion to approve $200 for ribbons. Theresa seconds. 7 approved, Gary abstains.**

Dave is going to do cash awards at the next show to save money vs. gifts which Nigel Clark usually purchases for the Club. Michele asked Dave that in the future, he bring these ideas to the Board before making a decision on his own. That way we can discuss options, costs, seek input from the Board and potentially membership on what prizes and awards are most meaningful to participants.

**National Specialty Bid Update** – Michele Wolford

The next phase of our National Specialty bid is due March 19. During this phase we’ve been asked to submit the names of people who have agreed to Chair our key committees. Michele thanked Susan Becker for agreeing to Chair Obedience.

ISSUE: Martha Thomas, Nigel Clark and Michele have asked several people to Chair the Water Trial Committee and still do not have a Chair identified. We are hopeful to have the majority of the key committee Chairs filled by volunteers from our Club. No one on the Board was able to offer additional names for a Water Chair.

**Fetch Dog** – Michele Wolford on behalf of Cindra Delgado

Cindra would like to do a Fetch Dog practice at our May 18 picnic. To do a Fetch Dog Trial we need a 5 person committee so it’s too late to do a full Fetch Dog Trial, but we can do a practice .

Dave will talk to Cindra about organizing this practice.

**May 18 Picnic** – Dave Parker

Pleasant Prairie has approved our picnic area for Saturday May 18. We need volunteers for the picnic. Dave needs help to transport equipment to include tables, a grill, canopy tents and coolers. Carol has a truck and offered to assist. Dave will create a Flyer for Shorelines. Michele will send it out in an email. We agreed to hold a brief meeting to vote on any applicants who have applied for membership. .

Carol talked to Karen George about holding a class on how to massage your dog. She may be interested in doing this at the picnic.

**Unfinished Business**

Theresa wants to do another Agility Fun Day but can’t get a location confirmed. It’s not likely we will have a spring event. Dave suggested we host an event in the fall. Theresa will continue to identify a location.

**Adjournment** –

**Gary made a motion to adjourn. Leon seconded. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 PM.**