



Chambersburg Area Kennel Club, Inc.

Minutes of March 19, 2020, Regular Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Chambersburg Area Kennel Club was held on **Thursday, March 19, 2020**, via conference call due to the coronavirus national emergency restrictions that resulted in the Falling Spring Family Life Center being unavailable.

Attendees: Judy Alexander, Suzanne E. Benchoff, Courtney Caraccioli, Donna Cooper, Clarence Gelwicks, LaNora I. Madden, Marguerite Plank, Tom Rolenaitis, Sandie Rolenaitis, Charlene Stone, Adair (Bunny) Toddes, Steve Toddes

Guests: None

President Charlene Stone opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. She stated the rules of the meeting in her agenda, provided by email to members: "BE KIND TO THE SECRETARY. We will run through the membership list asking who is present. When we speak, be sure to use your full name before speaking so Marguerite can identify who is speaking. Speak clearly and slowly so minutes can reflect who and what is being said."

Minutes from the last meeting were emailed to members by Secretary Marguerite Plank. One name needed a correction. Motion to accept with corrections made by Sandie Rolenaitis, with the second from LaNora Madden. Motion passed by voice vote with no opposition.

Reports

President's report from Charlene Stone: "Hello everyone! I'm hoping you all and your families are healthy. We have several things to cover this evening but the main issue is the Show. Let us please move forward."

Treasurer's report from Suzanne Benchoff: The beginning balance was \$15,390.36 and the ending balance was \$15,572.61. A judge from last May cashed her check for \$48. Payments were made for the name badges to EZ signs. She also made a deposit of \$400.25, which was money from the jacket purchases, but did not showing on report. Handling class money was deposited. It was \$315 for handling class and we are paying out \$10 cash each week to the couple, Kim and Gene, who help lay out the mats before class. We paid \$200 to Falling Spring for use of the room. We paid Cermak \$148 for annual web hosting, \$300 to GARA for rental for handling classes. Hopefully we'll receive refund or credit for the nights we couldn't hold class. Our 1-year CD has

matured and we went ahead and reinvested it. Clarence moved to accept the report with Tom Rolenaitis' second. Accepted by voice vote with no opposition.

Secretary Report by Marguerite Plank. Minutes had been distributed by email. No significant email traffic from the website. Donna Cooper motioned to accept; Sandie Rolenaitis seconded. Accepted by voice vote with no opposition.

Programs and Education Committee by Adair "Bunny" Toddes: She is not able to do hunt test program originally planned for an in-person meeting, so we will put it on pause until we get back together.

Membership by Bunny Toddes: She spoke to prospective members who attended last month's meeting. Jeanette Leshner, who attended with her daughter Kate. Mrs. Leshner emailed Bunny that she wouldn't have been able to come to the meeting anyway. Bunny had no way to contact the other guest, Patricia Bowser, who took an application with her. We'll have to wait until we get together again.

President Charlene Stone asked Suzanne Benchoff if there had been any activity in developing a Membership Recognition program with committee members Courtney Caraccioli and Sara Rudolph. Suzanne has no information for us yet.

Match Committee: Clarence Gelwicks and Judy Alexander have nothing new to report.

Website / Facebook: Clarence Gelwicks and Marguerite Plank – Marguerite set up a show discussion page in the members section of the website and sent out instructions on how to log in. We can set up a new discussion page to keep discussions together instead of a variety of email threads.

Clarence makes motion to start a private Facebook group for members. Sandie Rolenaitis seconded Accepted by voice vote with no opposition.

Clarence will post a notice about handling class cancellation. Bunny suggests if anyone in handling class has info on their achievements, Clarence could post it on Facebook. We should invite non-club members to send photos and brags to post on the Facebook page. Contact information should be on their registration sheets. Sandie Rolenaitis has the list, so she will contact attendees do it.

Community Relations Committee, Suzanne Benchoff and Bunny Toddes: Nursing home visits are suspended until we get through the pandemic crisis.

Handling Class, Bunny Toddes and Suzanne Benchoff: We can't have handling class because it's more than 10 people and besides that, GARA's building is closed. Steve Toddes will tell GARA that we won't be holding the handling class as a courtesy. Hopefully they'll give us a credit for the next session of classes.

Stacey Marine, who was asked to teach a handling class, brought it to Charlene's attention that when she appeared to lead handling class, she discovered someone else was teaching the class. She got in her car and left. Charlene proposes sending her an apology and a gift card for gasoline.

We got some feedback on some instructors' style. Should we do an anonymous feedback form? Suzanne says we should also tell instructors what expectations during the class are. Clarence suggested a free SurveyMonkey survey, which would allow respondents to remain anonymous. A link to the survey can be sent in an email. Decision was set aside until next meeting.

Show Committee: Charlene Stone, Suzanne Benchoff, Bunny Toddes: Charlene says we have to make a decision tonight. The main concern is do we go forward having the show or not? I just want the floor to share the information I have accumulated of the past week. This info will help us make an informed decision. The following section is from her Report of Show information document distributed with the Agenda.

From Jimmy Mitchell: Date 3/15 at York Celtic Cluster - Don't be so quick to cancel the show. Hopefully this will blow over so my suggestion would be to forge ahead with the show prep. You could always, if the situation escalates, cancel the show at a window prior to closing so that the people who enter could receive a refund on their entries. With all the cancellations, the first shows that take place will most likely have a large entry.

From Al Ferruggerio : Date 3/17 via phone – Also was in belief that we should not be so quick to cancel for the same reasons Jimmy gave. I inquired as to how his club was handling refunds, they are with MBF who requires a \$2 handling charge for cancelled entries, they have elected to cover this small fee so that the entrants would receive a 100% refund. Asked about our responsibility to our judges contracts from his view as a judge himself. He replied that since they never had a show to judge and it was really a mandate to not congregate, we would only be required to reimburse for pre-purchased travel ie: air. He also stated that airlines are waving fees for cancellations.

From Barry Brunner, Lancaster Show Chair – 3/16 via phone – Also was in belief that we should not be so quick to cancel for the same reasons Jimmy and Al stated. He also would be affected by our cancellation as it most likely would govern entries for their show. He would like to work with us and most likely would take our lead if we decide to continue or cancel.

My thoughts were to continue on and cancel before closing.

To give you some financial info: (3/18 email from Tammy) The Expo Center will return our deposit, no problem as this is at new to them as it is to us. (3/18 contact) Harry Miller has no clause in his contract about cancellation, we have made no deposit so we are not

responsible for payment. The Photographer and Eastern Stewards have no monetary clause in their contract due to cancellation. The only obligation we will have is to RAU for preparation of the premium list which is merely typeset and not even a pdf file yet.

Discussion continues as Charlene asks, "Suzanne do you have any information about the Food Vendor?" Suzanne responds that we have no obligation in the agreement. "No harm, no foul."

Additional information includes that Christie, AKC, and Rau Dog Shows are willing to work with us. Rau had a meeting and discussed charges so far. Creating the Premium List was the only work done, and it had not been printed or published as a PDF, so there was no charge from Rau.

Barry Brunner agreed that no fees involved except some travel expense. He's waiting for our outcome of this meeting tonight to present to his kennel club. We need a vote to proceed and take a gamble and lose money or cancel now and not lose so much money.

Charlene invited comments:

- LaNora: the next meeting is in April before the closing date.
- Sandie: I don't foresee this peaking. I vote to cancel now.
- Steve Toddes: I think we should cancel. We're not losing anything. Next year when we do go ahead we'll be in better shape. He votes no.
- Judy Alexander: Everything's already cancelled through May.

Charlene asked for a roll call vote. When offered to vote "yes" to continue planning the show or "no" to cancel the show, all members attending voted "no." There were no abstentions and no "yes" votes. Suzanne says she thinks it's the right thing to do and now other people who were waiting to learn of our decision can make their own plans. It will leave us in a good place for next year's show.

Members should not publicize the decision until after Charlene notifies people and organizations. When everyone is notified, Clarence and Marguerite will update Facebook and the website. We'll get the money returned from the Expo Center. Tentative date for the next show is May 7-8, 2021.

Other Business

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Next meeting: April 16, 2020, location and format to be determined closer to the meeting.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Sandie Rolenaitis moves to adjourn, LaNora Madden seconded.

Braggs:

- Charlene Stone: Beck: At the four UKC shows at OTCH in Mechanicsburg, earned: 4 BOBs, 3 Group 1 and 1 Group 2.
Also, at the York KC Celtic Cluster AWC Supported entry, Beck went WD, BOW 4-point major, and finished his AKC Championship.
- Suzanne Benchoff's brags from the Celtic Cluster
 - 3/11/2020. York Kennel Club: Conewago Blackstar "Nova" - Winners Dog, Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Breed Owner Handled, Best Bred By Exhibitor
 - 3/12/2020 Lancaster Kennel Club: Conewago Blackstar "Nova" - Winners Dog, Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Breed Owner Handled
 - 3/15/2020 Delaware County Kennel Club: Ch. Conewago Seabreeze Stir It Up "Tosh" - Best Veteran, Best of Opposite Sex, Best of Breed Owner Handled
- Tom and Sandie Rolenaitis: Our girl Zelda (on her first weekend out) won Best of Winners all 4 days of the Celtic Cluster and Best of Breed on Sunday. She received 8 points with 1 major. Group 2 in bred-by.
- Bunny Toddes: Seminary Ridge's Last Call, "Jimmy," won back-to-back majors at the Maryland Sporting Dog Show (2/29-3/1/20). This was his debut in Open Chocolate. He earned 4 points on Saturday going WD and BW; on Sunday he went WD for 3 points. Jimmy is expertly handled by Becky Clas Kirzner, one of our handling class instructors. This month he received his invitation to the UKC Premier Top Ten competition. He is ranked #9 after only 5 months of competition.
- Judy Alexander: LuLu got first place in her class, because of Clarence.
- Courtney Caraccioli: Jiro no Kitsunebi Kensha earned his championship at the UKC shows in Mechanicsburg, pending notification from UKC.

LaNora has a request for good thoughts prayers for Champagne. The vet will be doing an ultrasound on Friday for confirmation of pregnancy. She is due to have the puppies by C-section in April.