



Chambersburg Area Kennel Club, Inc.

Minutes of March 18, 2021, Regular Meeting

The monthly meeting of the Chambersburg Area Kennel Club was held **Thursday, March 18, 2021**, via Zoom video and phone conferencing.

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

There were no guests.

President Charlene Stone opened the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Minutes from the last meeting had previously been distributed. Motion for acceptance was made by Bunny Toddes, Suzanne Benchoff seconded.

Reports

President's report by Charlene Stone: Hello everyone. Things are looking up COVID-wise. I have received my second vaccine yesterday & I know of several who have had both also. Looks like more shows are happening which is a good thing for us dog people but a bit scary also.

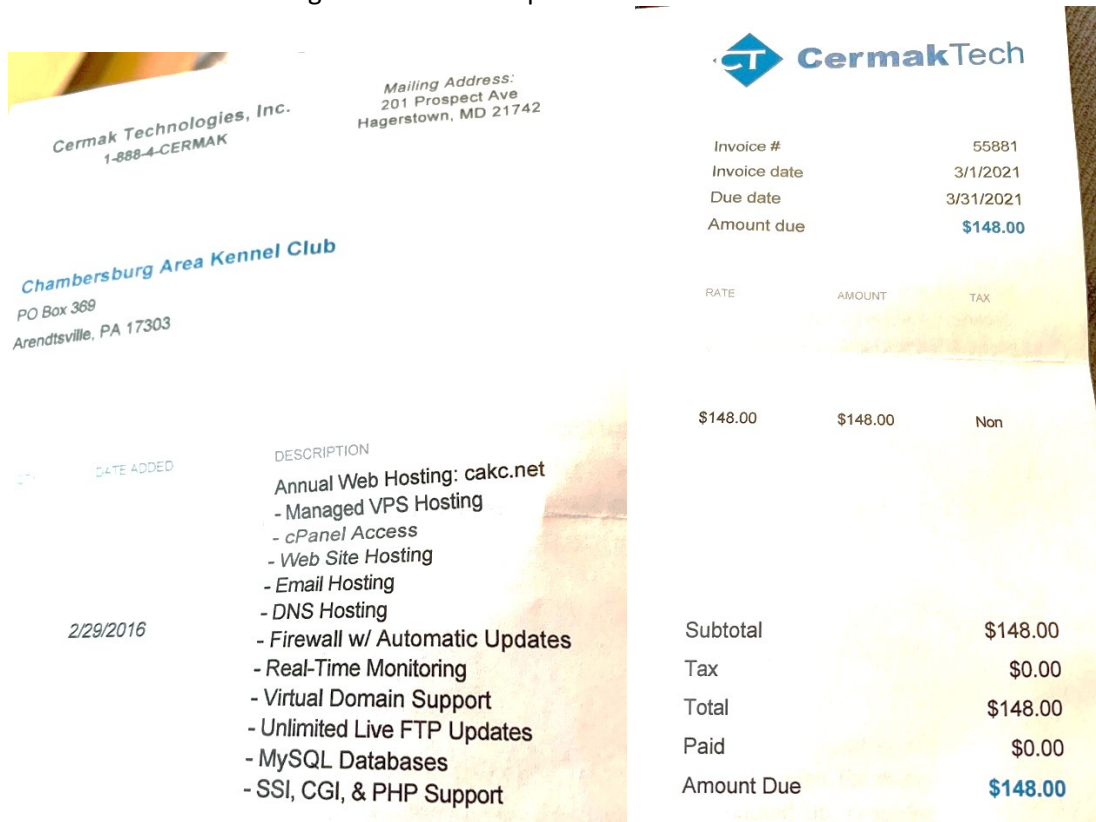
Treasurer's report by Suzanne Benchoff: The ACNB account (left) and Edward Jones (right) were presented.

Business Checking		Account #	XXXXXXX3637
Beginning Balance on	01/31/21		\$13,637.05
+ Deposits & Other Credits			\$0.00
- Withdrawals & Other			\$0.00
- Service Charges			\$2.00
+ Interest Paid			\$0.00
Ending Balance on	02/28/21		\$13,635.05
Days in Statement Period			

Description	Account Activity		Balance
	Deposits/Credits	Checks/Debits	
BEGINNING BALANCE			\$13,637.05
SERVICE CHARGE		\$2.00	\$13,635.05

Corporate - Select Portfolio Objective - Account: Preservatic	
Account Value	
	\$57,024.50
1 Month Ago	\$57,007.80
1 Year Ago	\$56,251.49
3 Years Ago	\$54,486.62
5 Years Ago	\$65,043.28

The club's website hosting invoice was also paid:



Clarence Gelwicks motioned to accept the treasurer's report; Ann Doll seconded.

Secretary's report by Marguerite Plank: She responded to some email from the website and one or two Facebook messages. Courtney Caraccioli moved to accept the report; Bunny Toddes seconded.

Programs and Education Committee, Bunny Toddes & Susanne Benchoff: There nothing new to discuss, given the covid situation. Suzanne will hold off on her planned presentation until later, deferring to show discussions tonight.

Constitution & Bylaws Committee, Donna Cooper: She has received communication from AKC, and is waiting to hear back to an answer from her question.

Nominating Committee: Nothing till 2021 election time.

Membership Committee, Bunny Toddes: Nothing to report.

Website / Facebook Committee, Clarence Gelwicks & Marguerite Plank: Again, we fielded some messages but made no new Facebook posts.

Match Committee, Clarence Gelwicks & Judy Alexander: Nothing planned at the moment.

Community Relations Committee, Suzanne Benchoff & Bunny Toddes: Suzanne said they have nothing formally to report. People ask about handling classes or matches. Any of our face-to-face events are off the books for a while yet.

Handling Class, Bunny Toddes, Suzanne Benchoff & Sandie Rolenaitis: Suzanne says she thinks we should start considering holding classes again; we had also talked about doing Sunday classes.

Show Committee, Charlene Stone/Suzanne Benchoff: Charlene opened discussion: "I want to thank you all for your input at our last meeting. Suzanne and I have been busy preparing for this meeting furnishing you with a report. Suzanne, will you present our findings and feelings regarding the report?"

Suzanne said that her contact at the Expo Center was ill so she met with the husband. Her summary that she emailed is attached as an addendum. The restaurant was very good, and they were very agreeable to any menu we wanted to have. We would still be responsible for providing breakfast foods like yogurt and muffins.

The one thing that the parking represented was that some people were parking down the street. That's not acceptable. Parking has yet to be seen, it's still a little sketchy, especially with outdoor grooming.

Suzanne said the event center will refund us if we decide not to do it this year. Suzanne is asking for reactions and responses from the members present.

Clarence: I am on board, I understand that we are understaffed, but I am fully vaccinated.

Donna: Dates? May 14 and 15.

Tom: I'm feeling pretty confident, and I may have a shot by May.

Bunny: I'm thinking that the way the vaccination is being rolled out at this point we may have more members vaccinated by the show date.

Steve: we have no experience doing a show there, so we don't know how things are going to go, even if things are perfect.

Sandie does not want to commit until she is able to be vaccinated and she's not comfortable helping otherwise.

Suzanne: There's a lobby entrance, place 3 people to process people in with covid statement and wristband. Need 2 at exit doors.

More discussion on insurance needs, number of members who have been vaccinated and those who have not, and whether we have enough members to cover all the duties of the show.

Members available: 10 people, Steve Cooper can work Saturday (11). Expo Possibly could have one or two people available at \$18/hour.

Roll call vote of those in favor of moving forward, which includes plans to be present at the shows: "Will you be present? Do you vote to move forward?"

Tally is 4 yes, 8 no.

Suzanne: with those numbers, we can't go forward with the show.

Charlene: For us to offer two matches, a spring and fall match, handling classes, CDC testing.

Sandie & Courtney, the Shippensburg show grounds, set up for livestock showing, a real possible contender and something we should look at, a compromise between being inside and outside, and might be worth looking into.

Clarence: if Shippensburg works out, plan a show later in the year.

Marguerite: we need to also promote the matches, handling classes, and so on and recruit heavily for members to help staff the shows the next time.

Suzanne is disappointed that we can't have the show in May, but we have good ideas for going forward and perhaps plan shows later in the year. Sandie thanked Suzanne for her work; Clarence suggested we could do an outside match that weekend.

Other Business

Old Business: Show decisions which will have been covered.

New Business: Show decisions! Next meeting: April 15, 2021

Brag:

Charlene: I have a brag: Beck was racing last weekend in Pittsboro, NC, where he earned 19.5 points, which qualified him for his PR title (Performance Racer). Very proud, he exceeds my expectations.

Courtney: Tofu is now an unofficial UKC champion with two best female wins. Jiro got one best of breed this weekend as well.

Tom says he made Sandie go to California to pick up our new puppy we are calling Cali (for now). She is 8 weeks old.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. Marguerite Plank moved to adjourn; seconded by Donna Cooper.

ADDENDUM: CAKC 2021 Show Considerations / Updates (Suzanne Benchoff)

Howdy all!

On Thursday, February 25, Charlene and I visited various sites in Carlisle in order to provide our membership with updated information regarding our show IF WE DECIDE TO MOVE FORWARD.

First stop was the venue – **Carlisle Expo Center**. We met with the owner, Tim, who once again provided us with a tour to refresh our memory of layout and space. Tim indicated that the Expo center has been operating with events since last May. You may recall their Fairground car shows making the news last Spring. The privately owned venue hired attorneys to present their case to the state and were able to move forward with both indoor and outdoor events.

The location has hand sanitizing sites and does a deep clean between events. Tim reported that people have been both masked/ unmasked at previous events. It will be up to CAKC to post the signage and AKC regulations at the entry point(s) and “enforce” Covid requirements. Bathrooms are also cleaned daily. 😊

Tim reported that despite his site hosting events since May the site has had no reports of Covid outbreaks or concerns since they have been open however that is his self-reporting.

Parking was reviewed and discussed with Tim – Harry Miller as you may recall is in charge of our parking and distancing of cars, etc. ALL SET UPS and GROOMING ARE OUTSIDE. We discussed again the best location for RVS and then the cars. One concern is that Tim indicated that past events have had cars parking along local streets. We didn’t debate the issue with him but as we know – dog people would not do that- too dangerous for set-ups and dogs. There remains ample grass areas for exercising dogs however some of it requires crossing at the roundabout (entrance at Center).

Tim showed us the entrance to the building – some may recall the lobby area. This is where we would post several members to “process” entrants with the COVID waivers, wrist bands, & temperature checks. Likely the staffing would be intense in the early hours of the show and decrease as the day continues. I did a very basic search of temporal thermometers – around \$35.00.

Exit doors would be from the large room where the rings are located. There are several exits available including the large overhead door which could remain open throughout the show if weather conditions permit. We can post people at two door exits to monitor numbers to the best of our ability. Tim indicated that this “counting” of persons exiting at his past events has been “loose”. It would be our intention to post a person at the two primary exits. It appears that its nearly impossible to actually count who is in the building and who has exited....but in accordance with AKC and PA regs – we would do our best to see that unvetted persons (people who did not enter and provide a waiver, etc.) are not entering the exits – hope that makes some sense.

There is a separate area for the Rau super, our members, etc. Social distancing would be observed within those rooms by signage & spacing of seating.

And there is another separate room for the judges / stewards, staff hospitality room where social distancing would be observed via the seating, tables, etc. and posted signs.

A food vendor has been identified (see below) and has been served food at the Center for recent events without any incidents/concerns. There is NO seating area – food is pick up and go. Exhibitors would be encouraged eat at their set-ups outside.

Inside occupancy limits are 3193 so at current state regs we would be permitted 15% - **or 479 people.**

Our second stop was at **Marchello's Restaurant** located 5 minutes from the Expo Center. We met my contact, Chris, and enjoyed a delicious lunch which he comped! Of course, we provided a generous tip. 😊 Both Charlene & I agreed the food was excellent. Chris has provided us with sample menu but really anything "Italian" can be provided: Wraps, pizza, lasagna, salads, etc. They can also provide basic breakfast foods. These items would be for sale to the exhibitors and also they would cater our lunches. The club would be responsible for the breakfast foods for the judges, stewards, staff as we have been in the past (fruit, muffins, yogurt, juices, etc.).

Because of the physical location of the restaurant – extra food is easily available if necessary. And yes – their Philly cheesesteak was excellent as was their feta & broccoli pizza!

Our last stop of the day was at the **Comfort Inn** located approximately 10 minutes from the Expo Center on Route 11. The site is clean and inviting. It's located well off the road for those with dogs with ample space to X dogs. We were there to secure rooms for our judges. We were able to reserve 10 rooms each night. The price is \$82 per night for either a double queen or king bed. There is another car event in the area that weekend so we would encourage people (exhibitors) to reserve rooms ASAP. We only blocked rooms for our judges, stewards, etc.

In other show matters – contact has been made with the golf cart rental and confirmed and also our aforementioned contact with Harry Miller for parking. Charlene also has the premium list for updates.

If we move forward with the show, the premium will only be posted online – they will not be mailed copies.

Contracts are in place for the Expo and Eastern Stewards.

I also checked with our insurance company and they report that the club is covered for any damages, etc. if someone would contract COVID and seek legal action against us.

What is NOT covered is for legal action against individual members. I asked our carrier what this would cost : \$250,000 limit per claim- \$569; \$500,000 limit per claim - \$669; 1 million dollars per claim: \$815. I can forward more information – this may be excessive for our tiny club. Looking for input on this topic.

When I inquired about possible situations, our rep said that most lawyers are backing down from legal action when trying to prove where someone contracted COVID. I realize this is all subjective information as well, but wanted to ask “what if”.

As I read about other shows taking place across the country – it would up to the show chair & asst show chair primarily to enforce the mask wearing requirements. It seems that there are always a few that want to bend the rules. I have several posts on FBook from clubs that say “don’t want to mask – don’t enter our show”. IF we held our show – I would suggest we would do the same. Of course, there are regs that would be included in our premium list.

We still will need as many members as possible to work at the shows, based on your comfort level. It appears – both to the Expo Center and AKC – that if we are serious with due diligence (doing everything in our power to be proactive with existing regulations) in hosting a show – we should be okay.

I must admit after our last club meeting – Charlene and I were feeling 90% against hosting a show in 2021. After meeting with the vendors along with recent developments in declining numbers, more vaccinations and March 1 updates for indoor/outdoor events – I am doing a 180 degree in optimism. This information is being presented to allow for your review and questions for our next club meeting. I’m sure we haven’t thought of everything.