

**BAY DE NOC KENNEL CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

August 9, 2018

**Present:** Board: President, Judy Akkala; Vice President, Ernie Genaw; Treasurer, Vicki Sowa; Secretary, Wendolyn Tetlow; Director, Linda Lavolette; Director, Katrina Lessard; Director, Chris Nelson

Members: Dani Beauchamp, Pat Bernat, Diane Culter, Coleen Lake, Torey Gagnon, Lori Genaw, Tracee Horn, Virginia Lewis, Dick Lyle, Jean Lyle, Colleen Owens, Bev Smith

Non-members: Dave Johnson, Pauline Nedeau, Nicole Rudenberg, Kelly Schmeltzer,

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Judy Akkala.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The July 2018 minutes were approved as written.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Updates from Committees:

1. Obedience, Rally, Conformation, Puppy, and TD Committee:

- Lori Genaw reported that per Dani/Pat Beauchamp there are 5-8 puppies in the walk-in puppy class on Wednesday nights at 6:30 p.m. This is the socialization class.
- The STAR Puppy class (July 25 start date) held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday nights, scheduled right after the walk-in class, has five teams and is going well. This is the second STAR puppy class BDNKC has offered. So far, a couple graduates from the STAR class have registered for obedience class.
- Basic Beginner Obedience class starts on August 14 and is full. The next Basic Beginner Obedience class begins on November 6.
- An Intermediate Obedience class begins on September 11, 6 p.m., and so far has three signed up.
- An Advanced Obedience class is tba.
- An Obedience/Rally Fun Match will be held on November 3. Check the website for details.
- CGC and Trick dog evaluations will also be held this fall; check the website.
- Lori expressed thanks to Tammy Carlson for help with Obedience classes.
- Lori requested a volunteer to help with a mock Conformation trial.
- Lori also requested a volunteer to teach the Rally classes.

- Therapy Dog is still on-going once week, as the TD volunteers are available. They visit three sites in Escanaba, rotating among the three.

2. Nosework, Barn Hunt, Lure Coursing, Tracking Committee:

- Virginia Lewis asked for volunteers to make their vehicles available for the Nosework Trial on September 22. Members who volunteer their vehicles will park their vehicle on the north side of the building with other vehicles, probably sometime around midday. A scent may or may not be attached to the vehicle for dogs to find. In a magnetized container no bigger than an inch or two, a scent will be put on the front bumper or other external surface of the vehicle so that dogs can find it. This container makes no marks on the car, and dogs do not jump up on or paw the cars, nor will dogs enter the interior of the vehicle. Call Virginia Lewis if you can part with your vehicle for a couple of hours on September 22: **906-399-2933**
- Jean Lyle said that she will get in touch with Bev Smith about Lure Coursing this fall.
- The Nosework Seminar is scheduled for Saturday, August 25.

3. Agility Committee:

- Chris Nelson reported that the club is offering CPE agility games this Saturday, August 11, so that members can get a sense of what's involved with CPE. Entries are \$5 a dog.
- The September agility trial will be held September 15, 16.
- The NADAC trial is scheduled for September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please see the website for additional information.
- Vicki Sowa said that the club will need volunteers to organize the workers for the agility trial and some to organize the raffle. Vicki will send out an email to the members as a reminder.

4. Membership Committee:

- Lori Genaw reported that a “members only” section is being created on the website that includes the membership list and contact information. Applications of new members will also be available.
- Lori also said that the Membership Committee discussed the flow of applications. Board members will receive a .pdf of prospective members so that appropriate mentors can be identified and other information can be made available to prospective members.
- Lori reported that the club will be collecting non-refundable deposits for classes from people who want to hold a spot in a class. A cut-off date for the deposit will be posted on the website. Tracee Horn will collect the deposits.

5. Building Committee:

- Ernie Genaw thanked Jerry Nelson for maintaining and watering the agility yard so that it is in good shape for the agility trials and practices.
- Ernie said that the club needs volunteers to take care of facilities issues, such as electrical work, painting, and “climbing into the attic.” Tracee Horn volunteered her husband for some specific duties. Ernie emphasized that club members can earn work hours by volunteering to help with facilities issues. Connect with Ernie if you can help: [ernie.g@gmail.com](mailto:ernie.g@gmail.com)
- Ernie said that the dehumidifier needs to be replaced because mold will develop in the practice building if the humidity isn’t controlled. Ernie looked at a 70-pint dehumidifier for \$160 at Menards. This is an 11%-off-period at Menards—a good time to buy the dehumidifier.
- Ernie also said that the septic tank will soon need to be pumped out. Jean Lyle said that the septic was pumped out right before the animal shelter people moved out. She also explained where the tank is located. Sue Gartland of the animal shelter can confirm when the tank was last pumped.
- Ernie said the gas in the annex still needs to be turned on. If that’s not possible, the annex will be closed for the winter.
- Discussion followed about the vacuum cleaner. It does not need repair. Members are reminded that the lever should be left alone, in the down position.

**Point of Order:** Diane Culter requested that the President give her the opportunity to speak. Judy Akkala consented. Diane read from a list of concerns that included the following:

- (1) lack of general membership input into changes to the fees and membership application;
- (2) nonmembers unable to accompany a member in the building;
- (3) discouragement of certain members from speaking openly at meetings (against Roberts Rules);
- (4) denying certain members the opportunity to participate on certain committees; and
- (5) the role of committees, as described in recent meeting minutes.

Jean Lyle then asked to speak, saying that she was not aware that Diane was going to speak. Jean provided the Board with a list of concerns that included the following:

- (1) raising membership dues for new members without the input of the general membership (see the By-Laws);
- (2) confusion about the work-hour requirement for new Gold members (general membership should determine this);
- (3) raising new Gold member fees for facility use from \$3 to \$6 (again, general members should decide this);
- (4) denying new Gold members the right to vote (see the By-Laws);
- (5) changing the rule about nonmembers accompanying a member in the facility; and
- (6) inaccurate membership list; and
- (7) mistakes (grammar and spelling errors) on the website.

Lori Genaw responded to some of the concerns listed by Diane and Jean and said that the Membership Committee's clarifications are a work in progress and that the committee will do a better job.

Some discussion followed about nonmembers accompanying members in the facility. Colleen Owens said that based on the new rule, her husband could not accompany her into the facility because he is not a member. It was noted that this change in the rule about members bringing nonmembers into the facility is a liability issue. It was also noted that a liability waiver would have to be signed by a nonmember.

Ernie Genaw commended the Membership Committee for their efforts to clarify the rules, noting that when he and Lori joined the club "nothing was codified," and that new members got different answers to the same questions.

Some comments were made about who the "general membership" is, i.e., those who attend the meetings regularly.

Judy Akkala said that the By-Laws are currently being rewritten. The club welcomes comments from members. She said that we should all be working together for the betterment of the club. The club exists for the dogs.

**OLD BUSINESS** continued:

- **Volunteer to snow plow:** No one has volunteered to plow snow, but Ernie said that Barb Tardiff suggested Adam Meeker, who lives in Escanaba, will hand shovel, salt, and plow for \$60 per plow. The Board will contact Adam about the kind of salt he uses and other issues unique to the club.
- **Wall of Fame Committee:** Diane Culter volunteered to head up the Wall of Fame Committee. Per Ernie Genaw, the pictures need to be removed from the walls for repairs and painting. Diane Culter asked for additional volunteers to serve on the committee. She thanked Dick and Jean Lyle for their years of service, collecting, assembling, and hanging framed pictures of titled BDNKC dogs on the walls of the practice facility.
- **Logo Committee:** One member asked why the logo needed to be changed. Some discussion followed about the purpose of the committee, what the club logo is, why the logo should be changed, and considerations about the cost of changing the logo, since it appears on the building, the sign in the garden near the road, the trailer, and is used on correspondence. This led to a discussion about volunteers in general and that typically only 20% of people sign up for volunteer work.
- **Advertising/Publicity Committee:** Judy said the club needs a volunteer to head this committee. Again, there was discussion about how to get club members involved on the committees. Diane Culter suggested that the Logo/Marketing Committee should really be one committee, and she volunteered to take on this responsibility.

- **Tax Assessment:** Judy Akkala said that apparently the Wells Township Tax Assessor overlooked the club's responsibility for paying taxes on the new parcel of land following the club's signing of the new lease in 2016 which committed the club to pay taxes on the additional property. The tax bill that Vicki Sowa recently received from Wells Township, therefore, is correct. The Tax Collector created a new parcel of land with a different tax identification number than the number of the land on which the practice facility sits. Judy is going to look into whether or not tax-exempt organizations, such as BDNKC, should pay property taxes.

### NEW BUSINESS:

1. **New Neighbors:** Ernie Genaw said that the club will soon have a new neighbor using the ball field adjacent to the club—Bay de Noc Community College. The college will be moving the fence lines and making other changes to the ball field area, in the amount of \$200,000-300,000. The college will hold six tournaments a season, which will bring in hundreds of spectators. Ernie said that he suggested to the college that the club might “tag along” on some joint efforts with the college, such as signage, etc. He said that the crowds will be the club's biggest challenge.

### New members:

- Jean Lyle made a motion and Colleen Owens seconded the motion to vote on the membership application of Nancy Carlson. Nancy Carlson previously attended a meeting. Jean noted that Nancy has an awesome nosework dog, as evidenced at the recent nosework practice on Saturday.
- Jean Lyle made a motion and Dick Lyle seconded the motion to vote on the membership application of Kelly Smeltzer. Kelly was in attendance. Jean noted that Kelly also has an awesome nosework dog.
- New applications were accepted: (1) Dave Johnson has labs and is interested in agility, nosework, hunting, obedience, and rally. (2) Nicole Rudenberg has a boxer/American bulldog mix and a cattle dog. She is interested in agility, nosework, hunting, dock diving, and weight pull. Both Dave and Nicole attended the meeting; their applications will be voted on in September.

### **BRAGS AND BITCHES**

*If you have a brag and would like to add it to the monthly minutes, please email me at [wtetlow@ameritech.net](mailto:wtetlow@ameritech.net)*

1. **Vicki Sowa** bragged that at the July NADAC trial, Comet earned three titles: Superior Novice Jumpers, Open Tunnelers, and Open Barrelers. He also hit 1,000 lifetime points.

At the August NADAC Fun Raiser, Comet earned two more titles: Open Jumpers and Open Regular. He also had his highest "Q" rate of any trial to date. Congratulations, Comet! Well done!!

2. **Lori Genaw** bragged that **Ernie** and **Buzz**, Japanese Chin, took OH Group II on Thursday and Variety Group II and OH Group I and OH Reserve Best in Show on Friday at the Duluth Kennel Club. Lori is very proud of Ernie; this was his first time placing in the Group ring plus an Owner Handler Best In Show. This is quite an accomplishment! Congratulations to Ernie and Buzz—and of course, Lori, who showed the way.
3. **Lori** and **Birdie**, Japanese Chin, took OH Group II and Variety Group IV on Saturday, finishing Birdie's Grand Championship Title. On Sunday she took OH Group IV. Woo-woo! Congratulations!
4. **Emmie** went WB and OS Thursday and Friday in Duluth. On Saturday she went WB and BOW; Sunday WB. Congratulations to the Genaws.
5. **Bev Smith** bragged that her Irish Wolfhound, Willie, completed the third qualifying score and now has a CD Title (Companion Dog) in Obedience. Congratulations!

Dick Lyle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Submitted by Wendolyn Tetlow, Secretary

**Next General Meeting: Thursday, September 13, 2018**