



## **Spring General Meeting March 13, 2022 The Ville Cooperative**

### **Members Present:**

Bev McTavish, Jeri Piercy, Anna-Leigh Snyder, Pam Rippin, Melissa Murphy, Marye-Jo Neales, Marilyn Lacey, Jean Fisher, Megan Ashworth, Elizabeth Wilson, Leah Belyea, Kelly Hogg, Yan Qiu, Bofeng Li, Ashley Belding, Zoe Hunter, Meghan Shaw, and Julia Khoury

### **Welcome and Last Meeting:**

- Anna-Leigh welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes from the last meeting were not read over as they were sent in an email for people to review ahead of time.
- It was moved by Bev seconded by Meghan S. that we accept the minutes. Carried.

### **Financial Report:**

- Marye-Jo reviewed the financial report.
- As of March 2021 we had a bank balance of \$27,681.89. We had an income of \$23,343.58 coming from classes, membership, clothing, training, trials and field/barn rental. We spent \$21,896.37 on equipment/repairs, trainers, the cost to host trials, field/barn, insurance fees and some other small items. We had prepaid expenses for the upcoming year of \$123.12. This left us with a bank balance of \$29,005.98 as of March 13/2022.
- It was moved by Jeri and seconded by Marilyn that we accept the report of the treasurer. Carried.

### **Website:**

- Website updates are needed.
- Leah asked that the trial secretary send her a copy of the premium and remind her to update the trial countdown as well.
  - Add to the list of Trial Secretary duties on the trial prep checklist.
- It was suggested that a bio template be used when members are sending info to Leah for the members page. Template to be used will include, per dog:
  - Dog's date of birth
  - Date dog started agility
  - Dog's favourite obstacle
  - Dog fun fact
  - Dog's agility status (training/active/retired)
- Leah recommends that for the rainbow bridge page, Kapers can request to move their dog to the Rainbow Bridge page when they are ready.
- It was suggested that a club member with a good camera take a few photos of the members' dogs during a Thursday night training for the gallery page of the website.



- It was decided to make a K9 Kapers members only private Facebook page to allow more discussion between club members, upcoming activities, questions, and have files available for viewing. Links to agility related websites will be provided to help new members navigate the agility world - UKI, AAC pages for example. This was deemed to be especially useful for new members looking to access information.

### **Elections:**

Marye-Jo has decided to step down as Treasurer after 6 years, and only one person was nominated for each position available so there was no voting required. We thank Marye-Jo for her years of volunteering for our club. New Kapers Executive for April 1, 2022 until March 31, 2024:

- President - Anna-Leigh Snyder
- Vice-President - Elizabeth Wilson
- Secretary - Bev McTavish
- Treasurer - Melissa Murphy
- Equipment Rep - Meghan Shaw
- Head Trainer - Jeri Piercy
- Website Liaison - Leah Belyea

### **Education:**

- Jeri said Anna-Leigh will assist with teaching 2 Intro classes on Tuesday evening and Melissa will assist with teaching Advanced class on Wednesday evening.
- Weave classes started in the barn and they are currently on week 4.
- It was discussed that we have some type of new member info kit, acronym list and list of seasoned club members that are "willing to help new members get started and field questions. The new members only private facebook page should allow for all these objectives to be met.

### **Field/Barn:**

- Anna-Leigh emailed Shawnee about the field rental, but has not heard back yet.
- It was discussed that we increase the amount we pay Eric to mow our field by 30% (current amount is \$1700 per season) and pay him to hire someone to help move equipment at \$15 per hour.
  - $\$1700 + 30\% = \$2210$
  - \$15/hour, based on 3 hours work, and 25 mows a season for hired help = \$1125
  - New mowing price  $\$2210 + \$1125 = \$3335$  per season
  - It was moved by Meghan S and seconded by Marye-Jo that we allow for this price increase for mowing. Carried.
- If you are looking to get the course map earlier in the week than when it is normally sent out you can email Jeri to request, as most of the time she has a copy of the map prior to the end of the week.
- When at the field/barn please share equal time.



- Thursday Night Training (TNT)
  - Price was suggested to be increased to \$3/run. It was moved by Meghan S and seconded by Melissa to have the price increased to \$3/run. Carried.
  - It was suggested we use a timer set at 2 minutes and advertise we are doing so as to encourage members to come out and train with their dog, even if they are not going to be running the provided course.
  - It was decided to try out a punch card system for TNT runs. Members will be able to purchase runs ahead of time and have a card that Jeri will punch for each run taken. This will allow members to e-transfer larger sums of money and not have to worry about having change on hand.

### **Equipment:**

- The new Galican tire has arrived. We will start using it in the field in May.
- It was decided to order 2 more sets of the tunnel ends that screw into the ground, and 6 sets of tunnel bags, and possibly order more tunnels if needed.
  - It was moved by Melissa and seconded by Meghan S. that we go ahead and order more tunnels if needed. Carried.
- We will sell the old wooden teeter, aluminium a-frame, metal blue a-frame, and old crossover which could be used as planks, with a set price.
  - It was decided that anyone who would like to purchase these items would be able to put their name in a draw, once the name was drawn you would have to make your payment within 24hrs or another name would be drawn.
- Slat on the a-frame in the barn needs to be fixed.

### **Fees:**

- It was brought to attention that in comparison to other places in the area, our classes are much less expensive. To reflect the content and the skill level of our trainers, it was suggested to raise the prices for all the classes. Class prices will increase to \$25 per class as follows:
  - Intro to Agility \$120 to \$150 (6 weeks)
  - Foundations \$120 to \$150 (6 weeks)
  - Beginner \$150 to \$200 (8 weeks)
  - Intermediate \$150 to \$200 (8 weeks)
  - Advanced \$180 to \$250 (10 weeks)
  - Intro to Competition \$150 to \$200 (6 weeks, but 2-3 hours per night)
  - Intro to Weaving \$120 to \$150 (6 weeks)
  - It was moved by Melissa, seconded by Marilyn that we go ahead with the class price increases. Carried.
- Instructor pay has remained the same since lessons started many years ago (15 plus years ago). It was suggested to pay the instructors more to reflect their knowledge and skill set. Increase reflects similar increase on class price increase at approximately 30% and is as follows:
  - Head instructor \$25/hour to \$35/hour



- Assistant \$15/hour to \$20/hour
- It was moved by Meghan S. and seconded by Ashley that we pay the instructor and assistants the suggested increase. Carried.
- It was suggested that we increase membership fees. It has not changed in 4 years and an increase would better reflect the cost of running the field and barn for member use. Current membership brings in about \$2500-\$3000 per year. However, field rental, barn rental, maintenance, and expenses are around \$6000-7000 per year. Member access to Kapers facilities and equipment upgrades rely heavily on Kaper class income and trial income. With so many available dog sports in the province, both Kaper class and trial attendance has dropped in recent years. Suggest an increase of 30% as follows:
  - Individuals' membership \$60 to \$80
  - Family membership \$85 to \$110
  - It was moved by Meghan S. seconded by Elizabeth that we go ahead with the membership price increase. Carried.
- Due to the timing of the meeting, and the need to make fee changes to the membership form, membership renewal deadline will be extended to April 30, 2022.

### **Trials:**

We have decided to host 2 trials this year, both being AAC (no UKI this year).

- Anna-Leigh is the trial secretary for the June 3 – 5 trial and has Brenda Juskow for the judge.
  - Events: Friday evening - Steeplechase & Snooker; Saturday - Gamble, Standard, Steeplechase & Jumpers; Sunday - Gamble, Standard, Jumpers.
- Melissa is the trial secretary for the September 9 – 11 trial and has Hayley Warner for the judge.
  - Events: Friday evening - Steeplechase, Steeplechase; Saturday - Standard, Snooker, Steeplechase, Jumpers; Sunday - Gamble, Standard, Jumpers.
- Meghan S. said she would collect/ coordinate volunteer gifts again.
- Anna-Leigh said that Mali indicated Naz from Caribbean Flavours would be willing to prepare food for the trial again this year.
- It was recommended that we add a list of sponsors to our information email when we send out to competitors in the trial, ensure to announce sponsors during the morning briefings and consider making a poster showcasing sponsors. It's important to give recognition to those who help make these events happen.
  - Trial secretary needs to connect with Meghan S before the email is sent for the list of sponsors.
  - Add as an item on the trial prep checklist.
- Prizes:
  - Melissa said she had blankets for our Maureen Clements judges choice award.
  - Anna-Leigh said we have enough key chains for Top Starter Dogs
  - Melissa said she still has hats for Top Advanced Dogs.



- Meghan S. said she still has tugs for the June Top Masters Dogs.
- Discussions floated around about new Top Masters Dog prizes for when we are out of tugs. Members were in agreement that a glass or tumbler of some sort would be nice, with the Kapers logo and Top Master dog written on it.
- It was suggested that we have club members volunteer to be new trial mentors. They would agree to make themselves available to help new members sign up for trials, get their dog/handler numbers, what time to be at the trial, what to bring, how to read course maps, how to prepare for walking a course, volunteer jobs and other trial related activities. The volunteer would be a point of contact for new members so they can ask general questions about the trial.

**Meeting adjourned.**