

## St. Paul Dog Training Club

May 23rd, 2021

**Present** - Beth Sorensen, Bev Olson, Kristi Portugue, Greg Kirmeier, Kris Osojnicky, Terry Berg, Tom Lenzmeier, John Scandurra, Mike Bode.

**Attendees** – Camay & Karl Blakely, Dick Wood

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

**President Report** – Beth – Update on puppy class. See comments under Obedience.

Mask policy – All club activities need to agree. There are many people that want the mask policy to go away. John noted that he was surprised at how many people want the mask to go away. We do not have a mask mandate from the City of So. St. Paul or Dakota County.

Greg noted that we can only suggest what the CDC recommends, we have no regulatory power, and we do not want to be the mask police.

Kristi is in favor of what the CDC says.

Kris noted we could ask for mask during classes and trials. Nose work trials will use mask only if the venue request them.

Beth noted we have people at the club that will not get vaccinated; the CDC is not saying that the unvaccinated people are putting vaccinated people at risk.

Beth – We will send a message to the membership that we need to follow the CDC guidelines, and that vaccinated people can come to class and trials without their masks.

Greg asked about bringing extra guest and extra dogs to the school. Each student can bring on extra guest and a dog, but that dog will need to be crated.

We discussed having each employee/board member leaving one crate at the club.

Karl suggested renting crating space, each person would lock their crate and need to keep the area cleaned, as cleaning was an issue before with all the crates there.

John suggestion that the rental space be labeled, and we would have a max of 30-40 crates, charge \$10.00 per month for instructors and board, start the process at the first of the year.

Kristi noted we would then need to have someone in charge of the fee collection.

Kristi also suggested we leave the tie-ups where they are, and the crates cannot block them.

Beth suggested that the club own the crates to be rented, but then there is another expense and the problem with someone in charge of cleaning.

Tom noted that the space needs to be rent free for board and instructors.

Karl noted that we need to find our niche and focus on getting good judges as other facilities are full of waiting list at trials, but those facilities are also easier to access.

Greg also suggested that we still leave the tape on the floor and recommend that people keep their distance from each other.

We have tabled this discussion and will revisit it at the next meeting.

**Vice President** – Terry - Building issues. John has been working with NAC regarding the humidity levels, in which NAC has been monitoring; they gave us a few choices. One would be to add an inline dehumidifier, which may cause some issues with the heating. Another choice would be to add an AC unit to the furnace, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> choice would be replacing the furnaces, which are 20 years old. First choice would be approx. \$6,000, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$7,500 and 3<sup>rd</sup> \$15,000. If we add the AC to help take out the moisture, we will need to run the heat at the same time as it would be too cold in the building.

The repair made last summer was to increase the air quality during Covid and is not directly related to the new options being considered. That change would remain in effect.

We have multiple issues with humidity. One significant one is coming from Knowlan's refrigeration. We are still exploring exactly what the source is and are working with Knowlan's on this and will be getting the Landlord involved as well.

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We will communicate the furnace issue with the membership.

Our current quarterly service plan with NAC is \$550.00

**Treasurer's Report** – Tom – See attached financial statement.

**Secretary Report** – Bev –

**Agility** – Camay – Dawn will no longer be chairing trials after this year. Bev has taken over the Jan. trial. Kris is helping look for a judge. Kris also suggested a provisional judge for Novice, Open and T2B, and have another regular judge for the Master/Excellent classes.

Bev will check with Jill Roberts as she was scheduled to come last February and then the trial had to be cancelled due to Covid.

**Obedience** – Bev – Both of the puppy instructors have left their teaching positions. Bev has had the intern, Finn work with Denise before she left and will be taking over the class after Denise is finished.

Bev will ask a few other people if they would be interested in teaching, including Claudia and another advanced student.

April obedience trial netted \$1,800+, thanks in part to the generous donation of judging services by all 3 judges for the event.

**Nose Work** – Kristi- We hosted two NACSW trials in May. One netted \$2,437+ and the other \$6,558+  
Have additional trials scheduled for June and September (NACSW), and October (AKC).

Kristi has hired another NW instructor so that she can expand the program.

Kristi noted that there is a nose work student who is very sick and entering hospice, and she'd like to send flowers to her, board has agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Next Meeting is June 27th at 6:00