



Bearded Collie Club of Maine
Board Meeting
May 20, 2007

Attendees: Connie Balogh, Pat Maloney, Val Maloney, Karen Norteman

President Val Maloney called the meeting to order at 9:55 AM.

The minutes of the March Board meeting were accepted.

Treasurer's Report

Connie reported that we had approximately \$400.00 in our bank account. With the proceeds from the silent auction, Judy Doherty's membership, and the \$26 rebate from the York County Kennel Club for our supported entry, we now have a total balance of \$885.13.

Our insurance policy is paid for 2007, but Connie reminded the Board that we will have to renew for 2008 in October. Connie also mentioned that she paid Kevin \$90 for his help in preparing the club's taxes for 2006. Pat remarked that Kevin's fees are more than reasonable for what he does for the club. A motion was made to reserve \$90 each year for Kevin's services.

Membership Report

Pat reported that the club now has 26 members (individual and family memberships) on the active roster. He welcomed Judy Doherty to the club. Judy joined at the Acton show.

We will need to send out reminders for dues in June, since we collected many of last year's dues at the July BBQ. Renewal time is September 1 per our by-laws. Those members who joined in 2007 will not have to renew until 2008. Also per our by-laws, Karen sends out the notices.

Secretary's Report

Karen displayed a copy of the *Biddeford Journal-Tribune* with the photo of Lucy and Christopher on the front page, along with an article. It was agreed that the club needs to keep an archive copy of the paper. Karen will maintain the club archives.

A discussion followed about the Supported Entry at the York County show. All agreed that this year's supported entry was fun and fairly successful. Pat recommended that we do so again next year, and

everyone agreed. Pat felt that the show was good for the community, for Beardies, and for our club.

Val suggested that we should try to have more group activities, such as a communal lunch, next year. People were so busy and scattered that there were times (such as at the closing of the silent auction) that no one was around to hear the announcement of the winners. She felt that we should make more of an effort to do group things together in spite of how busy people are at the show. This would foster an even greater feeling of camaraderie. The dinner at the Weathervane was a successful group activity. Pat also mentioned that the silent auction was a big hit – not just because of the \$400 it generated for the club, but because people had fun. Val mentioned that she received more donations than she could possibly use, so we already have items for next year's auction.

Val also recommended that we do more publicity for next year's show and to start that effort earlier. She'd heard from a number of Beardie people in Maryland that they were entirely unaware that we were even having a supported entry, but they would have come if they'd known. The *Bagpipes* editor omitted our ads by mistake, but we should plan to advertise early and often next year. Karen said that as soon as she knew for sure where and when the show would be held, she would report back and we could start planning.

Connie suggested that we give out the Web and/or email link to the Maine Tourist Bureau, so prospective visitors to our show would know what other options were available – including travel bargains.

Val asked whether people seemed to like the trophies. Karen has one left over from each day because there were no Bred-By dog entries this year. We can save and reuse them.

Karen mentioned some of the options available to us for next year's supported entry. We may choose to have our own judges (but we would probably have to pay them), sweeps, and/or a fun match. Val suggested that we keep names of judges in mind, even though we probably would not be hiring our own judge for next year. Barbara Marshall would be available to judge a fun match.

Activities

Beardie Bounce and BBQ, July 21: July 21 will be the date of the second annual Beardie Bounce and BBQ, to be held at Pat and Val's house in Scarborough. Rain date is July 28. Val suggested inviting Tracy Shaw to the BBQ and getting her to either teach a manners class there, or gather information about who would like to attend one at her place in Alfred (or elsewhere). Karen mentioned that she had had requests for basic manners classes from some of the members.

Fun Match/Handling Class: Tracy is also amenable to hosting a handling class and fun match at her facility sometime. We would need to rent a porta-potty, but wouldn't need much else. We could have the lessons in the morning – maybe with some other manners instruction – and then hold the match in the afternoon. Barbara would enjoy being the match judge.

Some of the suggested dates for the match were September 8, 15, or 22.

There was some discussion of how to get members to come to events and to participate in the club. Should we offer incentives, such as coupons for Pet Quarters, or rebates on their memberships? Connie suggested that people who come to club events could receive a \$5 discount on their memberships. Karen felt that keeping track of who came to what would be impractical, and would penalize the members who live too far away. Likewise, offering rebates at the events penalizes people who could not make it to those events, or who have no interest in such events. The discussion was tabled.

Fundraising Report

Val suggested that we start looking into more fundraisers. One idea was to send virtual Valentines; someone could use PayPal to buy a Valentine, and we would be responsible for delivering it.

Maryann could make up Christmas cards or notepads, and we could sell those.

New Business

BCCA National Specialty: Karen read a letter from Susan Lybrand, who is one of the fundraising chairs for the National. The fundraising committee is proposing a Challenge Cup for regional clubs who donate gift baskets of regional items, to be sold at the auction at the Specialty. The club whose basket sells for the most money gets a trophy and a cash prize (25% of the final selling price).

Everyone agreed that this would be something BCCME would like to do. Val expressed some concern that the auction has grown too large, and that the basket that sold last that night would probably fetch a very small price. She volunteered to email Susan to express these concerns before we commit to doing the basket. If the baskets could all be auctioned off early and all together, they might raise some considerable funds for BCCA.

Some suggestions for items we could include in the BCCME basket were:

- Use a small lobster trap instead of a regular basket
- Embroidered towel and coffee mug of dog treats left over from the show
- Lobster claw pot holder
- Stonewall Kitchen items
- Lobster/moose/pine/etc. print fabric to line the basket
- Tartan ribbon (green)
- Lobster cookies from the bakery on Swans Island
- Hand-painted buoy. Connie has one; Val will paint it.
- Coffee
- Maple products
- Blueberry products
- Certificates for lobsters shipped from a lobster pound or The Weathervane

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Norteman
BCCME Secretary