



Bearded Collie Club of Maine
Board Meeting
November 14, 2006

Attendees: Connie Balogh, Maryann Groves, Pat Maloney, Val Maloney, Karen Norteman
Guest: Kevin Stauff

President Val Maloney called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Pat made a motion to accept the minutes of the September Board meeting. Val seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Connie reported that we now have \$572 in our treasury. We have reimbursed Kevin for the IRS filing fee he paid. We can now also start to reimburse members who fronted money for the club, or who incur club-related expenses. Most of this income comes from the raffle. We received \$185 through PayPal, plus another \$250 in checks. Connie and Val affirmed that having the convenience of PayPal made a great deal of difference in our raffle sales. We essentially broke even on our Rally Fun Day, so no significant income (or loss) occurred for that event.

The club's bank account will also receive another \$100 from Bank of America after January 1. Connie also mentioned that she had to dispute a service fee that B of A assessed the club, and that the charge will be reversed.

We have three more installment payments of \$105 each left on our insurance, and then we will be caught up with those expenses for the year.

Any member can use the deposit slips for the club's bank account in order to make a deposit at any Bank of America branch. Connie will supply deposit slips to all Board members, in case we collect funds for the club. This saves the time and trouble of mailing all the checks to Connie first.

Kevin, the club's attorney, explained the progress of our IRS filing for tax-exempt status. He received a letter from the IRS stating that our paperwork was in order and would be sent on for further processing. He felt that it would take another month or two before we heard any results, and that he didn't anticipate any problems. He mentioned that he might need to ask some additional questions of the Board members in the meantime. Once our application has been approved, we should expect to pay

\$40-80 per year to renew our tax-exempt status. He also said that we could formally vote on our By-Laws, now that they have been submitted to the IRS and they appear on the Web site.

Connie asked Kevin about the club's end-of-year tax status, and what to do if the IRS does not return its approval before January 1. Kevin mentioned that there should be no problem in filing as a non-profit. He agreed to sit down with Connie at the end of the year to discuss the topic and get the tax paperwork in order for filing.

Fundraising Report

Val will set up the November raffle after the Springfield shows are done. Karen felt that we would have greater success with another pre-holiday raffle than we would if we waited until after the new year, and people generally agreed.

Val and Pat passed around laminated placemats that an OES club had made and sold as fundraisers, and asked whether we could do something similar with Beardie photos or artwork. The same photos/art could be used on mouse pads or other items as well. We could sell them on the Web site as fundraisers.

Maryann suggested a service raffle for future fundraising. She offered herding time with her sheep. Karen offered to build a Web site. Val offered to do a session. It was generally agreed that this might be worth doing next year.

Membership Report

Pat reported that the club has 16 current paid memberships. He passed out copies of the membership directory to the other Board members.

Secretary's Report

Karen reported that York County Kennel Club will not be holding a cluster next year after all. Apparently AKC wanted YCKC and Penobscot Valley KC to find a show site in between their two locations, but YCKC has already committed to the Acton Fairgrounds. This means that the show will take place only on Saturday and Sunday (May 5-6) next year. Our supported entry will happen on May 5, and we will put up additional trophies and rosettes on May 6.

The Board then discussed the trophies and rosettes for the supported entry. Val displayed a sample of the green towels she bought at Kohl's to be used as trophies. Karen passed around a copy of the contract BCCME needs to file with YCKC for the supported entry. It states that we will offer trophies and rosettes for BOB, BOS, BOW, WB, WD, Best Puppy, and the highest scoring Beardies in obedience and rally. Val suggested that the club also put up rosettes for those categories on Sunday, and we could offer an embroidered tote bag filled with goodies for the Sunday BOB.

Karen mentioned that Diane Vigeant (who does the machine embroidery) estimates that she needs about a month to embroider all of the logos. There was discussion about whether to add text underneath for the prize and/or date, but it was decided that we could offer any unused towels at the show the following year.

Val suggested that we offer sponsorships for the trophies to club members at \$15 apiece. This would cover the cost of the embroidery and shipping the towels to Diane. This was met with general approval,

though it might be too late in the process to get the sponsors' names into the show catalog.

Karen will ask the show chair at YCKC if BCCME can have a space to put some EZ-Ups together for grooming, preferably near the Herding Group ring. The Herding Group ring will be under a tent near the obedience/rally area next year, rather than in the “pig scramble” building. Karen said she didn't think the “pig scramble” was being used, though the floor is dirt and it's some distance from the ring. We could probably use it for a get-together, but it might not be the best grooming area.

Activities

Maryann received a thank-you card from Judy Kay for the gift certificate to White Flower Farm.

Val suggested that we do a “Meet the Beardies” day at Pet Quarters in Scarborough sometime next year.

Karen mentioned that Judy Doherty was talking with Lynette Millville in CT about doing a herding day at her place with the Minuteman club, and that Judy had asked whether BCCME members might be interested in joining. Judy attended a Bouvier club event there, and participants paid \$35-40 apiece. Participants in the Collie Club event at Suzanne White's paid \$70 apiece.

There was some question as to what sort of herding event people might want – HICs or lessons, or both. Maryann mentioned that Joanne Williamson worked with a herding trainer in Greenfield, MA, but it was generally agreed that going to Suzanne's or Lynette's would be much easier. Maryann will also ask Beth Adams in NH whether she would be willing to put on a herding event with us.

New Business

Hospitality Chair: Val has been unable to contact Hilary Sangster about taking on this task, but will keep trying.

Members and Participation: Connie suggested that we might offer raffle/door prizes at each meeting to try and encourage people to attend. Connie and Val also suggested advertising the club's existence in the dog publication in the Midcoast, *Dog In Sight*, the *Critter Connection*, and any other publications we can find. We still have plenty of time to get the word out before the January party.

March meeting: Val suggested we use the March date as an animal wellness day. She could do Reiki and communication sessions, and we might be able to get Karen Kimball to join in as well. This was agreed upon as a good idea, but no further discussion took place.

Fun Match: It was agreed that April might make a better time for a fun match than March. The weather is somewhat more predictable, and the outdoor show season doesn't start until May. Some of the venues suggested include the Westbrook Armory, the American Legion hall, Fort Williams Park, and maybe some others. Barbara Marshall would love to be the breed judge, and Judy Kay would do rally and maybe obedience. Sue Walsh, president of POC, offered to help last time she was contacted, so she might also make a good obedience judge. We could offer a Parade of Champions, and open it and the rally and regular obedience to all breeds. We should ask for stewarding help, and there are a few places we could get some.

Val asked Karen to find out about using part of the Acton Fairgrounds.

Old Business

January meeting/party: Maryann will look into renting Paw-zn-Around for the January party. They're cheaper than It's a Dog's World. They're a little farther away for our MA-based members, but a little closer for people farther north. Possible dates are January 20 or 27, with the snow date to be a week later.

We will offer a potluck lunch, Beardie games such as “Musical Sit,” and award certificates for any brags. Karen will contact Kathy Walsh, our Awards Chair, and ask her to get the certificates done. Pat will make sure there are plenty of membership applications available.

Paw-zn-Around has a kitchen, but no one was sure whether it's available to our use. Maryann will ask when she talks to them. If necessary, we could bring extra tables and power strips for our own “buffet” in the main area.

Miscellaneous

Pat mentioned that the Collie Club of Maine is holding their next Specialty at the Sable Oaks Marriott in South Portland. He and Val will be there as vendors, and will investigate the place. It could be a site for our future Specialty.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Norteman
BCCME Secretary