

**Marion-Alachua Dog Training Association  
General Meeting Minutes  
November 20, 2018**

Call to Order by President Mary Riley at 7:05 PM. Twenty-eight voting members and four guests were present.

Guests included Elizabeth and Julie Vanney, Erin Leff, and Beth Rieselman.

**Approve Minutes** – Minutes of the October 16, 2018, General Meeting were presented for approval. **MOTION** by Karen Van Gunst to approve the minutes was seconded and passed.

**President's Report** – President Mary Riley reported that we had closed with the bank for our construction loan on November 11. Closing costs were reduced by about \$3,000 to reflect our direct payment of the final survey costs. Engineer Ed Abshier negotiated with the county to change the business category for our project from “office building” to “training facility” which allows for a well and septic system on the property instead of City of Ocala connections.

Mary reminded the membership that we had removed landscaping and fencing from the construction contract with Beeline Construction and would instead count on MADTA members for the required materials and labor. At the time, we understood that we would need 8-10 trees, and shrubs for buffering. The County is now requiring that we plant 22 each 3-inch diameter trees, 11 each 15-gallon trees, 12 each 3-gallon grasses, and 69 each 1-gal shrubs. The trees are to be planted on the east and west boundaries and around the parking area. Release of the certificate of occupancy is dependent on completion of the landscaping. Mary and Ed Abshier will meet with the County on Monday to seek a waiver. Meanwhile, Mary has received estimates to purchase the plantings at approximately \$7,000. She has also talked to the Master Gardeners who have agreed to help, and with the West Port High School Future Farmers of America who will help with the planting. She plans to launch a fund raiser for landscaping and already has donations. Board Members agreed to personally contribute to the fund.

Mary read a letter from member Donna Hamm which expressed her disappointment that MADTA had not included plans for a completed agility field and perimeter fencing in the construction loan request and the site development plan now awaiting county approval. Mary said that the Committee had kept its bank and site development plans small in order to secure funding but that it had not abandoned its plans for an agility field and fencing.

We are still waiting for an IRS decision on our request for 501(c)(3) tax status.

**Corresponding Secretary's Report** – Sue Veres

Our membership list has been updated on the AKC Website. She has received an AKC rule change that revises the definition of “immediate family member”.

**Treasurer's Report** – Susan Acosta (absent) No report.

**Training Director's Report** – Carrie Solomon

Carrie is rescheduling an Instructors' Meeting originally scheduled for November 23. Anyone interested in instructing is invited.

Since the regular 7-week session ends November 26, and the next session scheduled to begin December 10, with only two weeks before the Christmas/New Year Holiday breaks, we have decided to hold drop in classes in December and resume regular 7-week sessions in January. She is working with instructors to line up the next session beginning in January. CGC and Tricks Testing will be held December 3.

**Committee Reports**

- Membership Committee (Mary Ann Fitch) – There were no second meeting applicants present.
- AKC Obedience (Carol Harrison) – Mary reported that after the January Trial, Beverly Capstick has agreed to take over as AKC Obedience Trial Chair.
- AKC Rally (Carol Harrison) – Nothing to report.
- AKC Agility (Joan Stewart) – Plans are underway for the February 8-10, 2019 trial which opens on Monday, November 12. Judges are Gill Chapman and Sheyla Guterrez.
- AKC CAT Events (Melanie Magamoll) –Budgets for a FCAT Trial at the Obedience Club of Daytona January 17-19, 2019, a FCAT Trial at the Strawberry Cluster in Lakeland February 15-18, 2019, and a FCAT Fun Day on March 30, 2019, have been approved by the Board. Schedule of upcoming FCAT events is on the website.
- UKC Trial (Bob and Lee Saputo) – Karen Van Gunst reported that the UKC Trial in November made a profit of \$1,450.64. Improved revenues resulted from an increase in entry fees and decreased operating fees.

Because we are not certain the new location will have a completed agility for an April UKC Trial, we have canceled the trial and asked UKC to hold the dates next year. Hosea Carpenter has located computer programs to handle UKC trial reporting requirements for agility and obedience/rally.

- Training Committee – Deferred

#### **AD HOC Committees**

- Publicity Committee (Katrina Phillips) – Mary reported that Katrina had prepared a flyer for the landscaping fundraiser. Katrina’s proposal to post a second FaceBook page for the public was deferred.
- DCOF (Aline Brisendine) Nothing to report.
- Conformation Committee (Amanda Stapleton) No report.
- Programs Committee (Beverly Carr) No report.
- Sunshine Committee (Sue Veres) Sue reported a number of birthdays and surgery recoveries,
- Grounds (Janet Barber) Nothing to report.
- Building Committee (Susan Acosta) See President’s Report.
- Training Policy Committee (Mary Riley) The final Training Philosophy and Policies document was submitted to the Board and for approval. A few additional changes were made and the revised policy will be sent to the membership.
- 501(c)3 Committee (Susan Acosta) See President’s Report.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Building Cleaning, Pre-moving organizing, moving sale – Carrie Solomon and Joan and Jim Stewart took a trailer load of trash and old broken equipment to the Marion County Landfill.
- Youth Fair – (Regina Compton) – Training for 4H and FFA members entering the annual Marion County Youth is continuing.

#### **New Business**

- Social Media for Fund Raising – Deferred
- Annual Christmas Pot Luck Dinner will be held at the next General Meeting. Cheryl Donaldson volunteered to coordinate plans for the party.
- Mary read a letter from Susan Trotto in which she expressed concern that for people who can’t attend meetings, there was no way to announce “brags”. She noted that member Sherley Malcolm and her dog “Molly” was the “High Scoring Team” at this year’s DCOF and that Sally Hensen and “Feather” was the first dog ever to earn a “Rally Master” title and 1,00 FCAT points. Members who cannot attend meetings are invited to post “brags” on MADTA’s Facebook page.

**MOTION** to adjourn by Penny Carrie was seconded and approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Joan Stewart  
Recording Secretary