



United Sunshine States Portuguese Water Dog Club, Inc

610 S Acorn Way
Seneca, SC 29672

Board Meeting – Meeting Minutes
Date: 08/31/2021 Time: 7:00pm

In Attendance

Teleconference Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 pm by Vickie Baker. Karen Childers, Debbie Jackson, Lizette Wagoner, and Nancy Nelson were in attendance. Leigh Stafford and Marilu Novy were absent.

President Report – Vickie Baker

Vickie hoped everyone had received the agenda. Vickie said she will wait on reporting on the Schedule (Timeline) as most of that is new business or a combination of new business and a look ahead of what is happening in the next few months.

Vice President Report – Marilu Novy

No Report

Secretary Report – Debbie Jackson

Results of e-mail votes:

- 5/26/2021 – Approved April 27 Board Meeting minutes –5 votes for and 1 did not vote
 - 6/2/2021 unanimous for donation of \$150 to PWD Foundation in memory of Anne Gardner – 6 votes for
 - 7/13/2021 Approval of purchase of Storage Trailer – 4 votes for and 2 did not vote
-

Treasurer Report – Lizette Wagoner

Lizette Waggoner stated that there is \$4,700 in Wells Fargo bank account and \$24,500 in Pay Pal Bank Account.

Revenues are \$34,000 through last Sunday. Expenses are \$28,000 including purchase of the trailer.
Please send her any questions.

Karen stated that many of the expenses of the trial are not yet in the Expense amount above. She said that the hotel has not come through for Sara Kahn and other items. Vickie indicated it may be the end of August or into September before all trial expenses come through the P&L.

Vickie said there was a request from a member for the P&L which she sent to them. Vickie reminded us that when we updated the new website, we agreed to not have members only access and as it states on the website - we will send out treasurer information or member information when it was requested.

Regarding the trailer, Vickie thanked the Childers and Ellerys for coordinating the purchase and relocation of the trailer and also thanked Kent and Nancy Nelson for storing the trailer. It has made a big difference to consolidate all of the clubs Water Trial Equipment after the Kanuga Water Trial.

Membership – Nancy Nelson

Nancy Nelson reported that there are currently 158 members. Of these, 10 are Qualified New Puppy owners (QNP), 20 are new members and 128 are renewals.

Vickie stated it is important for us to convert the QNP owners to paying members during the membership periods and thanked Nancy and others for continuing to keep in touch with everyone.

Vickie stated that keeping members and growing new members is a key to the health of our club.

Nancy noted that many people have been joining into the summer, which is wonderful.

Water Activities Committee – Karen Childers

Karen reported that the Club held 17 camps this year, which is really good.

We made almost \$5,000 from camps which was more than enough to pay for the storage trailer.

Karen said all camps were well attended.

She plans to put together a tentative camp schedule for next year including possibly two camps at Villa Rica.

Karen thanked everyone including Nancy and Meg for hosting camps.

Karen said that we made approximately \$3000 from water trials, including the raffle income. She said that some of that will be used for trailing expenses and for the PWD Foundation donation at the end of year.

Also, during Kanuga we resupplied all of our awards and specifically we re-stocked red fenders so that we would have a supply. There is approximately \$500-\$600 in inventory of awards.

Karen stated that she believes everyone has now read the complaint, she said it was unfortunate that someone felt the need to go to PWDCA Water Activities Committee. She said that we were very clear about the lack of a practice site. Karen said she was mostly disappointed that it was framed as a safety issue, as at no time did anyone come to her or to Lori and say there was a safety issue with their dog.

Vickie stated that the water trial survey will provide feedback to help us learn and know what the Club needs to improve on in the future. Everything is a learning experience and Karen heartily agreed.

Karen has not started working on the water trials for next year. We did make a verbal commitment to Pyne Road Park. Pyne Road Park has offered to work on the site and make the land to water transition smoother.

Karen mentioned that the National Specialty is in August next year which would be the week after our normal dates of a trial. The WAC is looking at moving the dates possibly into September.

There is a lot of interest in having a Junior Apprentice (maybe Working also) trial in addition to the regular trials. She noted there are a few concerns that the National Water Activities committee would not approve Meg's site

Lizette stated that she has contacts at the Ocala Equestrian Center, and she is waiting for a call back.

That process is started.

Karen stated that our trial is very heavy in Masters and will probably get worse. She said that many clubs limit the Master runs, sometimes as few as four. Given the above, it would be a very good idea to have Junior, Apprentice and Working trial that is accessible to the Florida members. Karen said that the idea of Junior, Apprentice trial was Lizette's. She and the WAC are pursuing Ocala, and Megs Pond with advice from Judy Leather, St. Mary's, also possibly Callaway. Callaway may be open to coming back. Marilu is pursuing this lead with Pat Keil.

Lizette said that Bud has expressed concern about the weed growth at the end of the pond in St. Mary's and that we need to look into it. Karen said that she has spoken to the DNR representative regarding the vegetation and he said that we could cut that down. She thinks they will work with us.

Karen will proceed in the next few weeks with the WAC and determine next steps.

Regarding the storage trailer, it was a great idea and helpful to securely store our supplies and merchandise overnight.

Karen said, the old club boat will stay at Meg's house. The boat trailer tag expired 6/30/21, and we will not renew. Lizette said that boat insurance will be rolled into equipment and not separate. Karen requested that the asset file include the expiration date of the tags.

Vickie stated that she is happy the National Specialty is in August in 2022 as that allows us to potentially move our second trial to September or October which gives us more flexibility and lower temperatures. Vickie is supportive of moving future water trials out of the months of August due to heat, as are others on the board.

Vickie spoke to Marlene Nicewander about her new trial location. Marlene is looking at having a four-club event in 2022 or 2023. The clubs to be included are: Movers & Shakers (M&S), Del/Mar/Va, Keystone and possibly our club. The clubs are looking for other clubs to help support the overall water events. Vickie will reach out to Marlene to discuss the four-club event.

Vickie said that Judy Leather is ready to start working on the 2023 Jamboree. Vickie said that we should look at doing this as either our club alone or with another.

Vickie noticed this year that when Landon and Leigh moved and stopped doing their water events that many of the attendees at their events have not continued with water this year. Many new members are unsure if they want to travel so far for the lower levels. Lizette and Karen both noted that some have continued. Lizette said that if we can find something in Florida the newer member would be enthusiastic. Vickie is very supportive and noted the alligator concern. Ocala may be a very good option.

Communications – Nancy Nelson

Nancy Nelson noted that CC has slowed down, but knows it will speed up in the fall.

Website – Vickie Baker

Vickie has transferred the website domains to site ground. So now the domains and website hosting is located in one place. The Club owns two domain names and they are usspwdc.org and usspwd.org. She is looking for someone else to run Word press. No negative feedback was received this year and she is happy with the way it ran. Make sure to tell her if there are any issues so she can work on it over the winter. Nancy Nelson noted that the Friday water trial practice training form and schedule worked great. Many agreed.

Merchandise – Debbie Jackson

Debbie reported that merchandise did well up through May, June – August we sold only 2 items. Summers may be slow.

Mid-September the merchandise website will be refreshed with “Portie Life” as an additional page and we are adding the quarter zip to both merchandise arrays.

A sweatshirt ad is ready as soon as we can get it running with the HomeTeam prints. We are keeping the sunrise dog, by cutting off the year.

A Constant contact will be sent when we are ready to launch the new Portie life and the quarter zip. Sept 15-18.

Karen recommended we take the year (2021) off of the image so we can continue to use it. We will look into getting hats added.

We need to remind members in the future communications that there are children’s sizes for the grandkids. Other ideas are sweatpants.

Achievement Award – Vickie Baker

Vickie reported that Pam Oberst agreed to do the performance awards for 2021 again. The Board Members agreed that crate tags will remain as the performance award for another year.

Old Business

Status of the boat. Included in the summary attached.

New Business

Vickie said there is a proposal for a supported entry that Lizette and Meg have worked only. Lizette said that attendance has been bad at previous supported entries. She and Meg would like to turn the “fun day” into a training session to give the membership the opportunity to be exposed to other events and afterwards have your entry video recorded for virtual event credit. Events that can be virtual are Home Manners, Scent, Obedience, Rally and Agility.

Lizette is looking for other places to hold these virtual events besides just Megs to assist in getting others around the state involved.

It was noted that the previous sites were Orlando and Perry. These were very large events. These were open conformation events, but invitational with agility and others. Normally, the supported events have been conformation. Karen noted that it is hard to determine who is the winner with events other than conformation. Lizette noted there is a score so it could be determined.

Lizette said that they would like to add variety by doing a trial with obedience, rally and scent. Karen said a few years ago we exposed members to new activities and this was very good for members. Vickie said that we should not be afraid of renting a place and having someone like Nancy Watson do a seminar to expose the members to obedience. Vickie said that Lizette should pursue obedience seminar and recommended Leigh to assist. Lizette said she will speak to Meg about combining the fun day and include Introduction to Obedience and Scent work. Karen mentioned that Pam Leshner is a great resource.

Additionally, Lizette stated that she thinks the April "land training" should be moved to January or February to give people more time to practice. Many board members agreed.

Vickie said she will speak to Leigh and asked Lizette to speak to Nancy Watson about giving a seminar.

Other new business:

Determine board candidates by September 30.

Vickie said that Pam Oberst, and Lori Torriero have agreed to be board members and possibly a new member Nadia Tronick.

October 31 a Fun Day – Georgia Portuguese Water Dog Fun Day at Tom and Judy Leather home. Marilu is in charge of that. Nancy Nelson will send a CC to the membership.

Review all Policies and update – A request came in from John Brock to have the board vote on whether we can have a "Amazing Ace Master Water Trial Trophy" as a perpetual trophy to honor John and Sarah Brock and Ace. Vickie has written up the wording with requirements and will send it out along with a copy of the memento and estimated cost.

Karen stated that the Boat policy needs to be updated. Vickie will look it over and get it out to everyone.

Karen recommended we re-look at the disbursement policies. She and Lizette will spearhead this review.

New membership renewal notification will go out Nov 1.

At next meeting we need to determine the amount of the donation. We will wait until Q4 to ensure we know where we are with funds for 2021.

The Annual meeting is a teleconference on Dec 7, 2021. Vickie will notify members.

Annual Holiday fun day is December 4.

Survey results are mostly complete. There are so far roughly 12 – 14 on Pyne Road Park and 25-26 responses on Kanuga. Vickie will send to the board and we can decide how we want to send out.

Vickie summarized that there are a few things to work on and that we should learn from these. Karen will send to the WAC and the host committee at the same time.

Next meeting is Nov 16.

Vickie thanked all board members. Karen thanked everyone for helping at Kanuga.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.