

CHUGIAK DOG MUSHERS ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting – April 12, 2006

7 pm at the Clubhouse

Hotline: 689-7899 Website: www.chugiakdogmushers.com

The meeting came to order at 7:05pm.

Board Members

In attendance:

Diane Payne
Bryan Bearss
Jeanne Carlson
Jackie Fabrizzio
Carole Comeau
Don Keller
Ron Kilian
Andy Larson
Nathan Sterling

Excused:

Dixie Waddell
Ed Wood

Also attending:

Kurt Jokela
Val Jokela
Mike Supernaut

Meeting Minutes from March 29 were read and approved with a few minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report was not available.

Old Business

Latseen Benson Fundraiser

Diane Benson and Tony Vita were invited and attended the meeting to share Latseen Benson's progress following his injuries last November while serving in Iraq and to accept a donation from the club. The club raised \$1990 this past January in a dog food sale. The money will be deposited shortly in Latseen's account at Key Bank and will be used to assist family members in continuing to visit him while he is recovering at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington DC.

Diane Benson also shared with the club that Latseen has been skiing in Colorado only five months after his injury, and plans to participate in the National Veteran's Wheelchair Games with July 3-8. The games are being held in Anchorage this year and Diane encouraged the club to get involved and volunteer.

Races

Ron reported that the Easter Fun Run was a success and that Kristi Rasey bought a lifetime membership to the club.

Canine Athlete and Family Dog Symposium

The symposium was successful although attendance was lower than hoped. The event brought in \$1700 but incurred \$2000 of expenses, calculated to date.

New Business

Northway Family

Nathan informed the club that a family of four from Northway was hit by a drunk driver returning from a dog race. The family has three junior mushers who have come to Anchorage area to compete. In the accident, several dogs were lost (and later found) and the vehicle and dog trailer were damaged. The drunk driver had no insurance and the Holmes family has a high deductible to meet in order to make repairs. Ron put forth a motion to donate \$500 to the Holmes family. Carole seconded the motion and all were in favor. Ron will provide an address and contact information and also will check with the Juniors about making an additional donation.

Updated Contact Information

Jeanne passed around a sign-up sheet for all board members to update contact information and indicate which contact information can be put on the web site. Jeanne will pass this information around to all board members and send updates to Theresa for the web site.

Roles and Committees

Diane passed around a revised copy of the roles and committees handout first developed and distributed in December 2005. Ron requested that the tasks of arranging snowplowing and maintaining the outhouse be moved to the duties of the Clubhouse Committee. Ron also volunteered to serve on the Clubhouse Committee.

Bryan expressed concern about his availability for the Political Action Committee and requested that this be moved from the list of Vice President duties. The political action role is very time consuming, and Val Jokela has been doing it for the past 10+ years, so someone else needs to step up and help with this committee.

The Race Poster Committee duties were discussed in some detail and how things could be changed for future posters. Diane asked if we are tied to using Eagle River Printing and suggested some other options be researched, possibly getting some of the printing costs donated. Making sure the race schedule is on the poster was also discussed, as well as making the poster larger and adding more sponsors. Carole suggested that more people would need to work on the committee if more businesses were to be contacted and included. Work needs to begin soon to have the poster printed by September.

Several people volunteered to be on the Trail Committee and we discussed the type of signs that might be used. The Trail Committee will look into sign printers or volunteer groups to make signs for trails. The Trail Committee was asked to come up with a list of projects for work sessions and to identify how many people might be needed and what type of skills are needed to do trail work over the summer so the club can recruit volunteers from club members and the community.

Since the current Volunteer Coordinator is resigning from that duty, the club discussed folding the Volunteer job back into the Race Committee. Diane mentioned that Lexi might be an ideal person for that role and she or Val will talk to her about it. There also was mention of including someone from the Junior club in the Race Committee.

See the attached list of roles for revisions and the attached list of committee members for details of who has signed up for a committee. Club members are encouraged to provide comments regarding the roles and committees, and to sign up for a committee. The more people on each committee, the less work each of us has to do.

Diane asked that each committee have a chairperson and develop a timeline for their tasks where possible. For example, the poster committee should set some timelines to make sure each step is covered and the work is shared to get the poster ready for printing by Labor Day. The goal would be to have a preliminary list of tasks for most of these committees so we can recruit more volunteers at the potluck.

Ron volunteered to chair the Trail Committee, and Carole agreed to chair the Race Poster committee. Andy is the interim chair of the Race committee until it can meet and choose a chair and recruit more members.

The board expects to discuss the composition of other committees at the next meeting and wanted to get these three committees going right away.

Meeting Schedule

Diane mentioned inviting a Community Council leader to a meeting to discuss local land use issues proposed in Title 21 and the Eagle River-Chugiak Comp Plan that affect the club. A meeting of all Eagle River area community councils will be held April 17. Input is welcomed regarding the timing of inviting a Community Council representative.

The board agreed to move club meetings to Tuesdays. The next meeting will be a General Meeting/Potluck with story telling from those who completed races this season. The meeting/potluck will be Friday, May 12th at 6:30pm at the clubhouse. After that, meetings will be on Tuesdays. Board meetings will take place once a month (first Tuesday) through the summer and general meetings will resume in September. [We will revisit the July meeting date before finalizing, as it is a holiday.]

Request for Support

Kurt Jokela introduced to the board his business plan to give cart rides at the Beach Lake Trails this summer. As required, he requested a letter of support from the club to Eagle River Parks & Recreation. He will have his own insurance. Bryan put forth the motion to provide a letter of support for Kurt, Don seconded the motion, and all were in favor of supporting Kurt's endeavor. Jeanne will draft a letter for review by the President and provide the letter to Kurt.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

Next Meeting

The next **general meeting** will be **Friday, May 12th at 6:30pm** at the clubhouse. The next **board meeting** will be **Tuesday, June 6th at 7pm** at the clubhouse.