

GREYHOUND FRIENDS OF NORTH CAROLINA, INC.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date/Location: July 22, 2012 at Kathleen Clay Edwards Library, 1420 Price Place, Greensboro, NC

Board Members Present: Amy Reynard, Sandy Lucas, Rick Montgomery, Janice Opalinski, Desta Hudgens, Totty Roberts, Bruce Lee and Linda Landry

Board Members Absent: Barbara Brooks, Bonnie Searles and Debbie Hatley

Other Attendees: Blanche Fedor, Wayne Lambert, John Whitsett and Millie Whitsett, Tommye Echols, Shirley Skelton and Malay Shah

WELCOME -

President, Amy Reynard called the meeting to order.

Board Elections: All current members were voted to stay on the board and board members elected officers to remain in their current positions.

Bonnie Searles had submitted a letter of resignation.

Amy Reynard invited the visitors to join the meeting. The group introduced themselves and Amy opened the meeting with a special welcome to all visitors.

GFNC WINS -

A list of wins we've had since the last meeting as follows:

- New hot water heater donated and installed.
- New retaining wall in the back turnout area.
- New metal roof on the back side storage area of the kennel
- Earth Day accomplished a list of projects: flooring, painting, pressure washing the entire wood fencing, storage deck & shed, gazebo, front porch overhang and brick patio flooring, repair of interior kennel crate flooring, section of gutter in the kennel area replaced, thorough cleaning of cabinets in the old office, and removed of old heat vent.
- Wayne complimented John Whitsett on all the extra work he has done around the kennel.

- Totty Roberts shared a story about a recent exemplary Pet Therapy visit in Charlotte during which her Grey interacted with Batten Disease Children.
- Janice announced the family that adopted Max Andrew has him in training to become Certified by the State of North Carolina as a Service Dog. This would be our second Service Dog adopted from GFNC.

FINANCIAL UPDATE –

Sandy Lucas, Treasurer, presented financial reports. She stated that at the present time we are financial sound. We have had several months of above average adoptions, surprise donations and a successful Mountain Hounds event.

The IRS audit of the 2009 tax return has been completed. The By-Laws have been amended effective June 15, 2012. Our adoption contract, website, and literature now states adoption fees are not tax deductible. Raffle tickets state the cost is not tax deductible. The 2011 tax return has also been filed.

Rick Montgomery requested copies of declaration pages of GFNC's insurance policies to get a second quote on all insurance policies. Sandy changed our Workers Compensation Insurance carrier 2011 and was able to save money. Sandy will share these documents with Rick.

KENNEL UPDATE –

Wayne thanked everyone for all the updates and new construction at the kennel.

Kennel adoptions have increased and new dogs are arriving on a regular schedule in an effort to keep the numbers of available adoptable dogs up.

The group discussed the current Muzzle Policy. A Motion was made and passed to enforce the current Muzzle Policy as it is written. The policy was adopted in 2009. The policy states that all dogs are to be leashed, muzzled, crated or separated while visiting or volunteering at the kennel 7 days a week. The only modification would be during the week when only the staff employees are at the kennel at which time it would be at their discretion to muzzle their own greyhounds. If a visitor is present, all greyhounds would be muzzled, leashed or separated to the front old office lobby, crated or behind an x-pen for safety precautions. It is expected that the staff, volunteers and board member to enforce the policy. Amy stressed the point that the owner can choose to keep the Greyhound leashed and the Grey will not need a muzzle. This policy was put in place for the safety of the Greyhounds, our staff, volunteers, and visitors.

KENNEL PROJECTS –

Amy asked the kennel staff to suggest additional kennel projects they would like to see done during the remainder of the year. Wayne & John have contacted a masonry contractor for a quote to re-set the bricks on the patio. Shirley advised that the bricks are not easy to remove and replace. Hopefully the new foundation could be constructed to make the task easier. Wayne & John will approach the contractor for any suggestions. They will obtain a quote.

Repair/ adjustment of the inside double gate from dragging and replacement of latch and rotten board on the gate at the visit picnic area is needed.

VOLUNTEER UPDATE –

Sally Barbour provided the group with an update (although she was not able to attend the meeting). Sally reported that due to various circumstances week night turnout coverage has become an issue for a while. She is working to get the schedule covered.

Volunteer Cookout – 32 attended the cookout at Oak Ridge Park. It was a good morale booster and was well attended. The group recommended that it could be done Spring and Fall to try and avoid the heat.

Amy reported 1,644 volunteer hours have been tallied thus far this year. Amy noted a few volunteers forget to sign in so the hours donated to GFNC are higher than this.

KENNEL PAPERWORK -

It was discussed that to protect the privacy of our adopters, we need to be diligent in securing into cabinets the contracts, donations and receipts. Current pending contracts should be but away in cabinets and not up on the clipboard for all to see. We need to purge the yellow copies of the contracts and keep them filed in a cabinet.

Sandy, Amy, Rick and Desta discussed the advantages of changing out the old Charge Card machine to a new The Square. GFNC already has an account. It has been proven at Mountain Hounds that using the device increased sales. Sandy will look into getting an iPad (slight used or donated) for the kennel or send out an IContact announcement to see if anyone would be willing to donate. An iPhone or Droid can be used but it would easier to use iPad.

FUNDRAISING EVENTS/SPECIALS EVENTS –

October Membership Month set for the month of October. We are looking into changing the design of the membership decal to the new logo.

OCTOBER OPEN HOUSE

The group agreed e need to update and rejuvenate our Open House events. May was not as profitable as in past years. We had good weather but attendance and sales were off. Ideas such as ways to re-vamp, attract vendors, games, costume contest, Santa Photos, Welcome Bags, marketing the event and how to advertise and promote Raffle Ticket Sales were all discussed.

The Bulk Mail Permit, printing and mailing of the tickets continues is to be too costly so we don't send raffle tickets before the event. We are trying to research new ways to reach the public about the event and we agreed to advertise much further in advance this year via Facebook, IContact and Greytalk. The group agreed we will go with the October Open House and we'll revisit the idea of continuing the event.

SATELLITE UPDATES –

No reports were available from Sherry Painter or Barbara Brooks

Rick Montgomery reports that Charlotte is staying on schedule with all Pet Therapy, Meet and Greets and Hospital visits. Currently, they have 2- Foster Dogs.

Events are scheduled as follows: Woofstock - September 8, September 27 vending at Beach Bound Hounds, White Water Center October 13th and November GFNC's online auction.

Rick reported that Mountain Hounds was a huge success with 298 humans and 330 dogs in attendance.

It was discussed that we need to look into a Foster Program in the Raleigh area. Amy will contact Triangle Greyhound Society and Phyllis Nunn for possible foster families.

DOG FOOD FUND –

Wayne, John and Janice discussed adding a Dog Food Fund to our list of ways to donate a much needed commodity. We need to change the dog food drive from receiving bags of dog food from supporters that includes different brand names and quality. GFNC needs to take an active role in purchasing quality dog food. This will assist in keeping the kennel hounds on a consistent diet

that does not upset their digestive systems. A donation to the Dog Food Fund enables the kennel to purchase an approved brand locally. The group agreed this process will be put in place immediately.

CONCLUSION –

Amy's final statement was to ask to the group to keep communication open between the Board and the volunteers/visitors/staff. She asked that if issues (good or bad) come up or if staff and board members hear others discussing issues regarding GFNC operations, policies, etc come directly to any Board Member to address the issue. It's an open door invitation and eliminates rumors, misconceptions and hurt feelings. The group has had a successful year thus far. Amy thanked the group for all the hard work they put into our success.

The meeting commenced at 2:00 pm and it was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Submitted by Linda Landry, Secretary of the GFNC Board