

## **Minutes of the General Membership Meeting**

**Date:** April 18, 2024

**Location:** Guido's Pizza in Anchorage, with Zoom connection

### **In Attendance:**

Randy Breaux  
Jessie Chmielowski  
Gretchen Clark  
Trigg Davis  
Stacey Dean  
Bill Ellis  
Steve Ellsworth  
Dawn Gerety  
Mike Kasterin  
Jeff Lipscomb  
Isobelle Mahoney  
James Ohlinger  
Dana Stewart  
Carol Stielstra  
Brian & Leeann Stuart  
Derek Tomlinson  
Lulie Williams  
Steve Woods

The meeting was called to order by James Ohlinger at 7:10pm.

### **Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:**

The minutes from the previous meeting were provided. Voting to approve was unanimous.

### **President's Report (James Ohlinger):**

- Introduced new board members.
- Discussed safety topics regarding dog post-hunt inspections and hunter hypothermia awareness.
- Requested assistance in finding someone to take over association email duties.
- Discussed partnerships with Cabalas and Pass Pro Embroidery for ABDA logo merchandise.
- Informed about an upcoming WWESSC online judging seminar for Flushers on May 18th.
- Proposed the idea of implementing a "Gunners Award" to honor exceptional dogs.
- Highlighted the importance of respecting property boundaries at the training fields.

### **Bird Program Report (Bill Ellis):**

- Reserved 650 birds from a vendor and discussed logistics. Believes this amount will satisfy event needs and member training needs.
- Requested assistance from team members for pen maintenance event during May. Date TBD.

### **VP Report & Events Committee (Randy Breaux):**

- Seeking volunteers for clinic coordination on Friday, August 16th.
- Emphasized gun safety clinic on May 11th.
- Collaborating on a CPR class with other Alaska clubs. Date TBD.

### **Treasurer's Report (Jessie Chmielowski):**

- Reported an almost \$38K balance.
- Reported updated insurance policies and land use payments.

### **Secretary's Report:**

No report provided.

**Website Committee Report (Dana Steward):**

- Discussed the need to rebuild the club's website and quoted prices for the task.
- Suggests hiring current webmaster for website reconstruction at \$4000.
- The Board of Directors will vote to approve.

**Membership Committee Report (Randy Breaux):**

- Membership is currently over 80, which is a positive for revenue.

**Unfinished Business:**

No items discussed.

**New Business:**

- Proposed changing the club's membership renewal date to a calendar year starting in January. A vote will be conducted in July after providing members with a 15-day notice.
- Discussed current trailer maintenance and potential purchase. A new larger trailer would hold all event items and be able to transport birds. Motion to pursue a new ABDA event trailer with a \$10K budget. The motion was seconded and approved.

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Kevin Snyder from Polar Eyes Veterinary [www.polareyesvet.com](http://www.polareyesvet.com)**

- Dr. Snyder provides eye examinations and surgical services for animals across Alaska.
- Emphasizes the significance of dog third eyelids and identification of signs indicating irritation.
- Treatment of dog eye infections involves the use of eyewash, antiseptic (beta dine), and antibiotic (neopoly-bac triple ointment).
- Preparation of a 1% beta dine with eyewash solution is suggested for bacterial eradication in dogs' eyes.
- Keeping an eyewash bottle with nozzle is advised for easy application in the field and transport rig.
- Dogs exhibit superior motion detection abilities compared to humans, with almost double the range.
- Dogs possess a wide field of vision (250 degrees) in contrast to humans (180 degrees).
- Dogs can adapt to darkness within 20 minutes, significantly faster than humans (45 minutes).
- Screening dogs over a year old is recommended to optimize breeding efforts.

**Motion to Adjourn:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.