

**Dog Project Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes**  
**March 16, 2010**

**Attending:** Todd Williver, Anne Geser, Lisa Cooper, Kelley Salber, Kellie Eldridge, Larry Smith, Joe Cross, Kandia Cross, Sharie Peasley, Karie Turner, Jan Gould (later)

**I New Performance Dog Club**

- A. Kelley Salber introduced Larry Smith who is a new leader for the performance club she started – Fantastic Tails
- B. Sandi Schneider, a local trainer, is also working with Fantastic Tails and Anne would like to come visit a meeting
- C. Kelley would like to put on an expo at Fair to show what the club is doing
- D. Kellie invited them to come and put on a small expo at the Deschutes Desert Dogs Fun Match

**II Fun Match Incident**

- A. Some members from Happy Hounds were concerned with what they considered an aggressive dog at the Dogs R Us fun match
- B. Lisa Cooper explained her version of what she thought happened at the fun match in regards to a large Alaskan Malamute in her club
- C. The Cross' explained their version of what they thought happened at the fun match
- D. The dog was muzzled at one point and did not seem under the control of the small 4-H member who owned it
- E. Lisa was not addressed by anyone during the fun match in regards to concerns about this dog or anything else
- F. The dog has since been removed from the program and removed from the family in question
- G. Todd then gave his explanation of what occurred via telephone calls and e-mails after the fun match
- H. Anne then gave her explanation of what she knew about the incident via telephone calls and e-mails
- I. Kellie was at the event and explained that she did see the dog in muzzle and he was a bit intimidating
- J. Jan Gould was not at the fun match but after she arrived at the meeting, she explained her version of how the post-fun match telephone/e-mail discussion with her club and 4-H administration
- K. Jan contends that the dog program in Deschutes County has no safe way of dealing with what she considers as aggressive dogs and until a written protocol is adopted by the County 4-H program that she will not hold meetings with her dog club
- L. Kellie explained her club's understanding of county rules as using the Showmanship and Contest Guide and the County Fair Premium Book
- M. There was disagreement with what is considered aggressive dog behavior and to what degree normal dog behavior is subjective
- N. Kellie explained her club's working meeting routines (meet n' greets) on how they teach the kids to recognize dog behaviors and how they work on socialization and dog behavior issues
- O. Kellie felt that not all dogs that growl should be considered aggressive and that we should not be turning away kids and dogs that need a little more work, but within common sense safety parameters, as this is not a black and white issue
- P. Lisa felt she would institute more dog behavior training in her club as well

- Q. Jan feels that every other club has let aggressive dogs come to Fair and that it is the leaders' responsibility to not let that happen
- R. Jan did not believe she has ever signed leader training materials that gives her any liability protection
- S. Anne explained that a fun match is meant to be a training environment but that perhaps organizers could do a little more introductory type of obedience classes
- T. Anne thought that perhaps we could pursue some leader training on dog behavior
- U. Several clubs already teach dog classes at Idea Fair and perhaps a class on dog behavior would be a good class to offer from a club that would like to take that on
- V. Kellie explained that her club's fun match is meant to be open to the public and that considerations are made for 4-H members but the goal for her club's fun match was real life prep for Dog Fair, as well as show-n-go for kennel club folk and that other clubs could certainly put on their own 4-H only clinics or 4-H only fun matches
- W. Anne said she would start writing up some Dog Fair protocol but Todd explained that OSU would have to go over it as well and they could not give Jan a time-line on exactly that would be finished
- X. The consensus from all gathered was that safety for kids and dogs was of the utmost concern, but the disagreements arose from subjectivity of dog behavior, training and education practices, personal responsibility, and the inherent risk of working with any animals, particularly in a public environment

### **III Upcoming Year**

- A. On the agenda was a new and current total of payments made on the dog show mats – MBKC has donated \$1500, Dogs R Us club has donated \$550 to date, Deschutes Desert Dogs has donated \$1007.00 to date, DCLA and a Rally-O clinic has also donated money, leaving a balance left of \$495.60
- B. Judges are picked for Fair
- C. Some parents expressed their concern that Dog Fair is too long and Kellie & Lisa explained the limited time that the dog program has to show and that the time in question is very small when compared to other animal show classes
- D. Kellie & Lisa gave some tips as to how to prepare your kids and clubs to handle the long showing day: buying/bringing food for club members, grouping together as a club, studying, bringing games to play, having club activities planned for the kids, giving the kids and parents a very clear idea as to the timeline of Dog Fair, getting parents and kids to volunteer for some jobs
- E. A question was also brought up regarding easier classes at Fair for beginners and possibly using graduated 4-H alumni as judges
- F. The criteria for fair competition and judging standards was explained
- G. Kellie will send in questions for Quiz Bowl
- H. Kellie is working on Dog Judging Contests – questions are welcome from other leaders
- I. Anne will be gone for the dog judging contest
- J. Deb is handling dog breeds
- K. Kellie & Danielle will help run the judging contest, hopefully with help from other leaders!
- L. Deschutes Desert Dogs Fun Match is on 5/8

### **IV Next Dog Project Committee Meetings**

- A. Tuesday, May 4th at 6:00 in the North Sisters