

Prairieland Visiting Animals Association

March 8, 2022

The PVAA meeting was called to order by Karen Simecka, president, @ 6:35 pm. Members present in person: Karen Simecka, Judy Knoll, Denise Moore, Carlie Gurske, Sharon Fricke, Carolyn Buono and Lindsay Kufahl; attending via zoom were Kathy Schlotterbeck, Nan Palmer and Pam Grant. Guest was Rhonda Knoernschild.

Minutes: Judy Knoll

- Minutes from 11-2-21 were reviewed & approved.

Treasury Report: Diana Zimmerman was in the emergency room with her father, so Karen reported

- Balance as of 3/7/22: \$2,007.74, That is made up of the General Fund: \$1520.66, the Reading Program Fund: \$257.42 and the Donation Fund: \$229.66. Report was approved.

Chairperson's Report: Karen Simecka

- Thanks to all who participated in the READ program. The next one is in June.
- Thanks to everyone that helped with our last evaluation on March 12. Two new members signed up (McIntyre & Teaford), 1 renewal (Tim M) and a current member (Manning) passed her first evaluation.
- Debby Martin will be holding a Reading workshop on April 24th for anyone interested.

Old Business:

- Kathy Schlotterbeck would like to be added to the list of available Mentors
- Newsletter – Tim was unable to attend the meeting so the status of the next newsletter is unknown
- Carolyn Buono relayed a story about visiting at Behavioral Health and there was another dog (not well trained) present. We need to remember to ask if there will be other animals present.
- The current visit schedule was passed around for everyone to update. If your visits change, please notify Judy Knoll (jemknoll@gmail.com).
- Remember to like us on social media (Facebook & Instagram) as it increases our position when people search for PVAA on Google.

New Business:

- Traveling Presentation Totes – Karen made two sets of presentation totes to take when making a presentation about PVAA and therapy animals. Each set has 3 posters (two are tri-folds) with members, becoming a therapy team and general PVAA photos, easels for the posters, a padfolio with brochures, cards, letters to sign for donations and stationery. These are wonderful props to have.
- PVAA officers have submitted a proposal to the members for a dues increase. Dues would increase to \$30/yr (\$2.50/mo) for Full Membership and \$20/yr for an Associate Membership. Full refers to an active member with voting rights and special rates on workshops, etc. Associate refers to a non-active member, but interested in PVAA. Dues would be pro-rated on a monthly basis, so those joining mid-year only pay for the rest of the year. This would allow us to grow the organization, help send members to conferences, provide workshops, etc. It would be effective June 1 if approved. It will be

discussed further and voted on at our May meeting.

- On the website, we have added donation and support PVAA information on page 1.
- We have made arrangements for a Ttouch Workshop on Sat, Sep. 17, 2022, from 1-4 pm at POP church - Cost is \$1000.00. Donations are welcome! We could use \$200 from our Donation fund, suggested cost per member is \$30. Pat Hennessey, a certified advanced Ttouch practitioner from Peculiar, MO would teach the 3 hr class to 20 members only. Ttouch uses hands-on method of touch and movement that helps your animal discover how to relax, release tension, pain & anxiety, increase body awareness and build a closer bond. Motion was made and passed to set this up.
- Volunteers are needed for a Bio Committee and for a Social events committee. Lindsay Kufahl volunteered to help with the Bio Committee and Carolyn Buono will help with the Social Committee. We also need Pet Partner Evaluators. We currently have 3 great evaluators but need to look to the future as we believe there will be a huge increase in teams wanting to get into pet therapy.
- Tim McHenry is taking care of all requests for therapy animals and the mentoring assignments. Carolyn Buono is the contact person for the Court Dogs program and Juvie is coordinated by the team of Sharon Fricke, Kathy Schlotterbeck & Judy Knoll.
- Nan Palmer has generously donated a box of dog training books, so we decided to start a “Lending Library” with Sharon in charge of making a list (to be put on the website member page) and handling the storage and tracking of the books. Details will be worked out and shared in the future. Discussion of a Sharing Get Together at Annie’s Restaurant and a Book Club were being suggested for the future.
- Coming Events: Paws in the Park, Apr 23 HHHS 10a-4p, National Therapy Animal Day, Apr 29 Vail 11-1 and Bark for Life, May 7 Camo Cross 10-2p. We will need volunteers at each event.

Meeting adjourned @ 7:30 pm

Secretary,

Judy Knoll, edited by Karen Simecka