

Prairieland Visiting Animals Association

March 2, 2020

The PVAA meeting was called to order by Karen Simecka, president, @ 6:36pm, held in Rm 206 (Menninger Room of the Shawnee Public Library). Members present: Karen Simecka, Lee Boyd, Carolyn Buono, Sharon Fricke, Denise Moore, Mary Ann Wittman, Jaxon Zule, Tiffany Zule, Edward Prekopy, Kristen Prekopy, Lori Kline, Dianna Zimmerman & Carlie Gurske.

Karen announced that since our last meeting we have the following new members: Nicole Hinck (Bentley-Doodle), Marci Alstatt (Zena-G. Shepard), Mary Ann Wittman (Lhasa-Bichon), Lisa Horn (Ash-Greyhound), Lori Kline (Boston) & Diana Zimmerman (Bella-Assie).

Karen thanked the volunteers who worked the February evaluations with 6 of 8 teams that passed. Evaluators were: Julie Hoffman, Carolyn Buono & Sharon Fricke. Volunteers: Carlie Gurske, Lori Kline, Denise & Murray Moore, Sara Windsor, Mary Ann Wittman, Neil Buono, Karen Simecka, Ann Breese & Kathy Schlotterbeck.

Karen reported Read With Me finished in Feb. with 2 teams & 1 monitor helping. The next sessions will be in June & Sept. with hopes of having the program in the monthly meeting published in the Capital Journal newspaper.

Treasury Report: Carolyn Buono

- Ending balance \$1,780.41, Reading Program Fund \$302.42, Petty cash: \$23.91, Report filed with Carolyn.

Minutes: Carlie Gurske

- Minutes from 11-4-19 were read & approved.

Committee Reports

- **Public Education Coordinator: Sharon**

Presentation given to Stormont Vail ICU doctors & nurses on Pet Therapy will need more thought & consideration from SV administration

Court Dogs: There is still a need for dog teams at the Court House, Family Court that takes place on Monday mornings & afternoons. Call Sharon if interested. Kirsten Prekopy expressed interest in doing this.

Sharon reported that our group had a booth at Bark For Life on 3-2-2020. All went well at the event.

Give Kathy Schlotterbeck any changes or updates on our member site visitations.

Unfinished Business

- Julie is still in need of photos of members during their visits. E-mail to julie199@aol.com.

New Business

- Karen gave new members information regarding our PVAA T-shirts. A sign up sheet for shirts was made available to purchase the shirts.
- Karen has looked into the purchase of 2 table clothes that can be used on our PVAA booth tables. The subject of table clothes came up last year at one of our meetings. It was felt that as a club, it would be nice to present our club with more of a professional look other than a bare table with pamphlets on it. After some research on Karen's part, she found through Monograms Etc. that a gray

table cloth with a silver runner could be purchased for a very reasonable price. After discussion, it was moved & carried to purchase the table clothes & runners from Monograms Etc.

- - Karen mentioned that as a club we might want to consider having tote bags with PVAA printed on them, maybe give them to new members. This is something to think about in the future.
 - Karen reminded the group that it is time to donate \$300.00 to Prince of Peace church for their kindness in letting us use their church for the 3 dog evaluations & the June picnic that our club has at their facility each year. It was voted to pay the \$300.00 to the church.
 - Carolyn mentioned that everyone had paid their yearly dues. She suggested that to delete from the membership roster Childs, Chestnut & May as they have dropped their memberships.
 - Karen spoke about changing status of founding members Rick & Perrin Riggs to life-time members. Both are now unable to be active in the organization due to health problems. It was decided to get them an Olive Garden gift card. All agreed to change Riggs to life-time members and give them a gift card.
 - Karen is putting together a comparison chart of the different therapy dog organizations. This chart will show the differences between the various groups.
 - Karen mentioned various ideas regarding speakers for our future meetings. Some ideas were education on body language of dogs & handlers, infections affecting dogs & a Vet demonstrating CPR.
 - The May 4th business meeting will have a speaker about service dogs & then following with a brief business meeting.
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- Meeting adjourned @ 730pm

Carlie Gurske
Secretary