

MPDBA BOARD MINUTES

MPDBA Minutes of Board Meeting January 21, 2021

Called to Order 7:05 pm by President John Armour via a Zoom conference call

Attendance:

Board Members Present: John Armour, Barb Armour, Barb Bartholomew, Nona Dietrich, Rose Hallman, Kris Hassig, Adam Morris, Bobby Moore-Reibel, Wendy Olson, Carol Ouhl, Peggy Simerson, Lois Walton

Board Members Absent: None

Members: Bill Lozito, Diane Prange

Guests: None

December Minutes Approved: Carol moved, Wendy 2nd to approve minutes as printed in the newsletter. Unanimously approved.

President's Report: Nothing

Secretary's Report: Nothing

Treasurer's Report: Lois sent the full report to the Board prior to the meeting. Beginning balance was \$13,129.07. Primary expense was \$205.07 for materials for membership to vote on bylaws changes. Quarterly cost of approximately \$48 for phone line was also paid. Question on who is monitoring our phone messages. Barb B checks it and responds; primary requests are for breeds/breeders. Many requests for various "doodle" breeds. Ending balance of \$12,921.00 Barb A. moved, Nona 2nd to accept the Treasurer's report.

Membership: Nothing

Sunshine Committee: Nothing

Junior Program: Still postponed. Committee will meet via Zoom end of January.

Education Committee: Working on the first video describing MPDBA and what we're about. Then will work on various 20- to 30-minute roundtable subjects. Those will start with how to determine what kind of dog is best for you. Then breeding; breed education. Wendy wants the Education committee to meet with the State Fair committee to create a video on our involvement at the Fair.

State Fair Committee: Rose hasn't been able to get to fairgrounds to wrap benches. Fair is having several non-Fair events to raise money. Committee is staying in contact with Fair Board as they determine what Fair & MPDBA might be able to do this year knowing the Fair won't have the attendance that's typical.

Pet Food Drive: Peggy reiterated the totals from our drive. Our goal was \$5000. The total through the fundraiser on GiveMN.org was \$6000 plus another \$1000 from donations directly to Sandy of Pet Food Direct. NutriSource has just donated half a semi-trailer of food to Pet Food Direct which will disseminate the food to People and Pets Together and Feeding Furry Friends.

Old Business:

Annual Membership Meeting: Meeting will be held virtually via Zoom February 13, Saturday at 4pm. Our speaker is long time member, Dr Chris Gabel, DVM, PhD in Public Health. A flyer will be emailed to everyone including Chris' extensive biography. Due to the virtual Annual Membership meeting, we will only have our speaker, committee reports, results of the vote on bylaws changes. (Sorry, no spectacular lunch buffet this year.)

For those of you who may be unaware, periodically a member or two volunteers to be a Board member. All our current Board members are continuing for 2021. Our bylaws require the Board to hold their meeting immediately following the Annual Meeting. During that meeting, Board members determine among themselves who will fill the officer positions for the upcoming year. Those officers will be announced in the February Board minutes published in the March newsletter.

Bylaws Ballots: Wendy received a total of 57 ballots; about half our membership. An excellent response especially since the ballots arrived in members' mail during the holidays. Six ballots were eliminated due to illegible signatures.

Email Issues: John continued to research why his group emails to our membership were bouncing. The changes all the Internet Providers put in place to eliminate phishing emails will continue to stop his large group lists. He has broken up the total membership email list into separate lists for each provider – Gmail, Yahoo, AOL, Frontier net, etc. Any of the rest of us who want to use the membership list will probably have to create our own "groups" in our email contacts list.

Website: We have previously discussed our IRS status as being Not-For-Profit vs Nonprofit. Diane had made corrections to a couple locations on the website. Carol reviewed our entire website finding 3 more locations needing correction. While reviewing the site's pages she noticed several other corrections needed for spacing and formatting,

The list of breeders needs correcting to show Akita followed by Akita- Japanese both under “A” instead of “J”. No one looking for an Akita is going to look under “J”. Carol will send the 2 pages of corrections to Diane and John.

Financial Status: Kris again mentioned we should be looking for ways to raise money since we can't rely on the State Fair. It is also our 70th anniversary. Several ideas were discussed. It was decided we first need to be sure we know what fund raising can be done when we are Not for Profit vs a Nonprofit. A committee of Kris, John, Peggy and Rose will try make a list of ideas. Anyone else with ideas should email them to Kris and copy John. Be sure to put MPDBA in the subject line.

New Business:

Stud Books: John and Sandy Reitsma (Siberians) received separate calls from a person who has a complete collection of AKC Stud Books for all breeds dating from the late 1920s until 2004. If anyone wants to do lineage – pedigree searches, they can do it for free rather than paying AKC. However, the woman needs those books removed in the next month or so as she is moving. Sandy had already contacted U of M Vet School; they don't want them. Sandy thought various breed clubs might want them. No one on the MPDBA board wants to pick them up nor store them. John and Sandy are exploring various options and will keep Minnesota Purebred posted.

Online Electronic Voting: Carol reported she and Lois had attended another club's annual meeting via Zoom. That club had set up separate screens within Zoom for each item needing a membership vote. Those separate screens had buttons for each member to select to vote for, against, abstain, etc. Each member had to correct / complete their full name on their screen so that the people voting could be checked against the active membership list. Zoom tallied the votes very quickly. Carol previously researched this subject and found more than a dozen programs / applications that would provide the service, some for free, some very expensive. This is just another idea of a method to be used in the future.

Adjourn – Barb B moved, Adam 2nd to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.



MPDBA Annual Reports for the year 2020

President's Report: John Armour

2020 was year full of challenges. We switched to Zoom meetings and had to postpone our Junior's Workshop. There was no Minnesota State Fair, so we needed to adjust our budget. Our thanks to Mike Ksepka who is willing to be flexible in payment for the wonderful work he did on the much needed renovation of our benches in the new Pet Pavilion. 2020 saw a revival of our Education Committee. Thank you to Wendy and her committee members.

Thank you to Peggy Simerson for organizing our two pet food drives. Those drives not only enabled people in need to feed their pets, but they also raised the image of Minnesota Purebred in the community. For me personally, this was the most rewarding thing we did as it helped people keep their pets in these difficult times.

See below short summaries of the MPDBA calendar year 2020. Thank you to Chris Gabel for agreeing to do a presentation at our 2020 Annual Meeting, February 13th, 2021.

Secretary's Report: Carol Ouhl

In 2020 our Board held the first three months of meetings at the Libby Conference Center. Board meetings in April through December were held via Zoom group calls.

The agenda of our first Board meeting in 2020 held following our club Annual Meeting in January was just to decide who of the Board members would fill each officer position.

The first couple Board meetings held via Zoom presented a couple additional challenges taking minutes as we all became familiar with the processes of Zoom and I became accustomed to taking minutes listening to Zoom. Our Board meetings for the remaining of the year have been entirely via Zoom. As an added check for accuracy of minutes, I instituted sending an early draft of minutes to the Board prior to release. The Board was very helpful with additions/corrections to the minutes prior to release.

Respectfully submitted January 10, 2020. Carol Ouhl, Secretary

Treasurer's Report: Lois Walton

We began the year at \$17, 823.90 and ended at \$12,921.00.

We received \$2,660.00 in dues income. Expenses this year were \$7,562.00, which included \$4000.00 used to improve our benches at the State Fair. Since we did not receive our usual State Fair payment we negotiated and agreed to extend our payment to the builder into 2021.

Other major expenses include \$852.86 on our annual meeting, \$420 for insurance, and \$1000 on our junior program scholarship.

Lois Walton, Treasurer

Sunshine, Juniors, Education Reports: Wendy Olson

Sunshine: Cards have been sent to all members that we are aware of that have had some sort of hospitalization or death in the family. Just a reminder again, please notify the sunshine person, Wendy Olson, if you become aware of anyone that needs a card. Her email is:

pattontriumph@comcast.net

Juniors: The committee had to cancel the Junior's Seminar scheduled for March of 2020 due to COVID. The seminar was rescheduled for April 24th, 2021. Unfortunately, due to COVID and the unknown roll-out timing of the vaccine, we are rescheduling the seminar later in the year. We are waiting for a time when we think things will be safer for our attendees and staff. Sorry for all of the changes, but the unpredictability of this pandemic shapes our schedule. Stay tuned by watching our FB and website pages for recent updates.

Committee: Bobby Moore-Reibel, Barb Bartholemew, Adam Morris, John Armour, Joanne Grimsrud, Tammy Lewis, Karl Reimer.

Committee Chair: Wendy Olson

Education: The goals of the committee are to: 1) Educate the public about MPDBA and its mission. 2) To educate the public about procuring and owning a purebred dog. 3) To reach out to the membership to provide helpful information about owning and breeding a purebred dog, and to involve them in the educational process. 4) To cover topics about breeding, breed information and anything else that relates to owning a purebred dog.

This will be done at the State Fair, schools, dog shows, speaker seminars, and zoom meetings/webinars which will be available to membership and the public on our website, Facebook page and You Tube.

Benefits of working on our goals: Ability to fulfill our mission as an organization, reach out to the public and hopefully increase interest and membership in the club, and increase the membership involvement in the club.

The committee is currently working on our first event ----a zoom round table discussion with member breeders. Stay tuned to FB for the dates.

Committee members: Barbara Bartholemew, Nona Dietrich, Kris Hassig, Tracey Schley

Respectfully submitted: Wendy Olson, Committee Chair

Membership Report: Barb Armour

Ending 2020 we gained 13 new members. Totals...

68 Individual/family renewals,

14 club renewals,

4 commercial renewals,

0 member moved to Honorary status

6 members dropped

0 Inquiry applications – holding

Legislative Report: Barbara Bartholomew

2020 started with a renewed effort by outside organizations as well as local groups, to make changes in Minnesota Legislation regarding dog and cat breeders. MPDBA along with others were in touch with representatives at the Capitol and monitored the status of any changes.

However, shortly after we received information regarding any legislation moving forward COVID happened. MPDBA was in touch with our legislative contacts and were assured that any legislation regarding animals (specifically dogs/cats) was put on hold and was NOT going to get out of any committees...which held true.

As of January of 2021 we have seen no movement regarding any bills being brought forward that would affect Purebred Dog Breeders. We continue to monitor the Legislation in 2021.

Barbara Bartholomew, MPDBA Legislative Chair

State Fair Report: Rose Hallman

We worked with Mike to finish the benches and start the new Information Desk. We are keeping in close touch with the State Fair on how this year will work, if at all, and will be keeping each of you up to date as needed.

With the 2020 State Fair cancelled that gave us more time to compile a list of things we want to accomplish in 2021 to welcome back the many people that visit us each day of the fair. We are looking forward to sharing those with you once things are finalized and we can get the ball rolling for this year!

MPDBA State Fair Committee members Rose Hallman, Bobby Moore, Briana Klecker, Peggy Simerson, Adam Morris, John Armour

Pet Food Drive: Peggy Simerson

MPDBA Gives Back 2020

Results:

July Pet Food Round Up:

- 2 pallets of dog food and supplies (with some cat food)
- 1 pallet to People and Pets Together

- 1 pallet to Feeding Furry Friends

November MPDBA Gives Back: \$5,000 goal for Feeding Furry Friends through [GiveMN.org](https://www.givemn.org):

- \$6,000 which surpassed goal!

- Additional \$ donations and food donations sent directly from

[Dogfooddirect.com](https://www.dogfooddirect.com).

- Combined donations: Approximately \$7,000!

Thank you to the committee members for their work and to all organizations and individuals who donated!

Committee members, Bobby Moore, Rose Hallman, Wendy Olson,

Peggy Simerson, Committee Chair

[Facebook: Nona Dietrich \(and Kris Hassig\)](#)

Our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/Minnesotapurebreddogs1>, now has **720** followers. If you haven't "liked" this page yet, please do so as it helps for others to also see our page.

The page is set up to have most entered by by the administrators. But, that doesn't mean you cannot post something. All posts deemed important to purebred dogs will be posted. Just, contact Nona at nonadietrich67@gmail.com and ask her to post your submission. We want to keep this page current and relevant, and we definitely need your help to make that happen daily. So please let Nona know if you find anything that would be of value to post.

[Website Report: Diane Prange](#)

The Minnesota Purebred Dog Breeders Association website (<https://www.minnesotapurebreddogs.org/>) had more than 1600 visits over the past year.

- Most visitors, 81%, accessed the Breeder Directory, by far the most popular page followed by the Home page.
- More than 90% of users reached the website via a desktop/laptop device.

In 2020, a new page, Board Meeting Minutes, was added to make the downloading of all approved minutes easy to access.

This year, the website will be migrating from the current platform to a new one that will include more robust features and a contemporary design.