ETRC Board Meeting, Wednesday, 12/6/21 Pegasus Technologies Building, Lenoir City, TN

Present from the Board: J. Michael Evans, Karen Edwards, Luke McCoy, Michele Fletcher, Jim Pearce, Mike Smith, Jeff McNutt, Alan Bruhin (ill; attended via conference call)

Absent, excused: Cory Smith, Denise Chambers, Peter Torok (tried to call in; we couldn't make our conference phone work).

Others Members Present: Cheryl McNutt

A quorum is 50% of the Board. Therefore, a quorum of the Board was present. The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. with Vice President Michael Evans presiding.

Officer's and AKC Delegate's Reports

President's Report: None

Secretary's Report. Karen Edwards.

- **Minutes**: Last meeting was 9/12/21; minutes approved by a majority of Board members and sent to the club website shortly after the meeting. Luke moved that we dispense with reading the minutes out loud, and vote formal approval. Michele seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- Correspondence: AKC membership due and paid. Our "no" vote on the proposed MNRC Bylaws change was voted down and the change about getting judges from the regions was passed.
- **Membership:** Current 2021 membership is 57.

Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$37,467.82. Karen emailed a detailed treasurer's report for the year to date earlier this week; there were no questions. We are in excellent financial shape.

Old Business

- 1. Hunt Tests in 2022. At our September General Business meeting, we settled on trying to have two full size tests over Memorial Day and October, plus one additional double midweek Jr/Sr, and 2 additional midweek Master Onlies. We need to fix dates ASAP. After some discussion, we agreed on the following tentative dates and locations:
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Michele will contact TWRA and AKC to check on these dates and make applications, within the next week. Mike Smith will check immediately with Brian Caldwell about the dates at his farm. Mike Evans will talk to Ken Campbell after the first of the year; his farm is not sold and there is some thought that they might move there and sell their other place after all. If this farm isn't available, we will need to check other options.

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- 3. Equipment: Still have some items to sell, main one being the trailer which we need to get moving on. We decided to concentrate for now on selling the Lucky 7 trailer; Mike Evans agreed to be the point guy on getting this listed on Craig's list and other places; Jeff McNutt will put it up on Facebook Marketplace. Karen will provide pictures of the trailer to both Mike and Jeff. Karen has the title and we will need to get this over to Cory's place before a sale can be finalized.
- **4. Nominating committee report:** Received timely. New slate announced in the December Newsletter along with call for nominations from the general membership. Committee responsibilities done. Any comments from anyone? None thanks for getting this done!
- 5. Banquet: February 18 (Friday), 6:30 p.m., Bearden Banquet Hall (Buddy's BBQ). Need to fix menu; room is reserved, contract signed, and \$250 deposit has been paid that will be applied to menu. Karen moved that we table this for now and discuss the menu at the next meeting sometime in early January. Jim seconded and the vote was unanimous.
- 6. **Judges Seminar, March 12-13**: contract signed with hotel and agreement with Cory Smith for having the practical session at his place. Draft brochure developed but needs to be finalized with items we need to discuss tonight. AKC will send the brochure out to judges and Alan will provide the finalized copy to them. Karen will post it in the club Newlsetter;

Michele will work with Entry Express to get it advertised on their judges forum and any other appropriate place they have.

- a. Cost, food, motel rooms, registration fee, member perks: we have to pay \$500 to AKC, plus additional \$25 for every participant above 20. We also have to pay \$225 to the Comfort Inn Athens for use of the room, and also possibly \$94 a night for Russ Reavis at the Inn for Friday and Saturday nights. Add in some donuts and snacks, and we are at \$1000 cost to us as a club. We will get \$500 or \$600 back from MNRC afterwards (our approved grant). If we have 20 participants and don't provide lunches, the breakeven cost per participant would be ~\$50. If we provide lunches, it's probably closer to \$65 per person. If we figure we don't need to break even, then we could consider: (1) no registration fee for ETRC members who attend; (2) free lunches (3) free motel fee for members who want to spend the night (this can mount up in a real hurry, with taxes would be over \$200 per participant!), and other things. After discussion, we agreed on the following:
 - *i.* We don't need to worry about breaking even.
 - *ii.* Russ Reavis's motel fees may or may not be provided by AKC as part of the cost of putting on the seminar. Alan will find out.
 - *iii.* We will charge \$50 fee for registration, including members. For those people who were club members as of December 1, 2021, who sign up, pay the registration fee and actually show up at the seminar, we will hand them back their checks so their attendance will be free. We will not advertise this in the flyer or on Entry Express, but will announce this in the club Newsletter.
 - *iv.* We will provide mid morning/ mid-afternoon snacks (donuts etc.) and lunches both days maybe pizza at the motel on Sunday and a sack lunch of some sort at Cory's on Sunday. Karen and Jim volunteer to deal with the food.
 - v. Karen will finalize the brochure and get it out to the Board for sending to AKC, Entry Express, and anywhere else people want to send it.
- **b.** Other Logistics: AKC lays out a number of logistical requirements as discussed below.
 - *i.* Club representative must meet with Reavis at both the Inn and at Cory's on Friday afternoon beginning around noon. Alan agreed that he would do that.
 - classroom location must have extension cord with power strip, projector screen or white wall for the presentation, and a 2'x3' blank flip chart with a stand up easel for it. Markers aren't mentioned. Need to verify that the Inn will supply all this as part of the room rent. Alan will verify with the inn that they have these items and will buy a pad of paper if necessary with club funds.
 - iii. Manpower and equipment needed to set up three Master level testing scenarios (Presumably Junior and Senior will be parts of the Master tests, but Russ Reavis will be the guy doing the setups. We assume that this has to be done on Friday afternoon when Reavis and club reps meet at Cory's farm. Mike Evans will help with this, we can lean on others if we need to. Equipment is not a problem, manpower may be.
 - *iv.* Ducks: we are required to have live birds for shooting live flyers at least one time at each of three levels (Junior, Senior & Master), which means a minimum of 9 live birds needed, plus additional dead birds for marks and blinds as required. So total number needed is probably around 25. This may be an

- issue. Mike Evans agreed that he will spend this next week calling people to see if he can pin down some ducks for this. Jeff McNutt said he will locate two shooters for the live ducks and get them lined up.
- v. Dogs: We have to supply 3 Junior dogs and handlers, 3 Senior dogs and handlers, and 3 Master dogs and handlers. These can't be handled by participants since they will be judging the performances. There is some disagreement on this; whether or not we can have some club members who audit the seminar for interest but who handle dogs instead of judge dogs on the practical part. Alan will talk with AKC about this. Michele says she would like to audit and run Chai as a Junior dog; Cheryl likewise. Jim could bring a Master dog. Obviously we have plenty of members and dogs, but this is an area we will still need to work on.
- 7. **Ribbons:** Will need a large order, probably \$2k plus, to be done in February when they have their 10% sale on. Almost out of Master ribbons, low on Junior. Karen proposed a ribbon buy based on the numbers of ribbons we used last year, extrapolated downward to the smaller number of tests for this year. She recommended buying 200 Master ribbons, 100 senior ribbons and 200 Junior ribbons. This would leave us with about 33 MH, 74 SH, and 142 JH ribbons at the end of the 2022. She has not computed the cost but it's going to be expensive. Michele moved we authorize Karen to buy the ribbons suggested, Jeff seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

8. Winter training schedule:

- **a.** Karen has asked Jake Greenwell to get a date / more info from Brady Collins on a proposed field trial demo / seminar. Jake talked with Brady and suggested Sunday, February 27 at Brady's Dogtown facility.
- b. A second suggested seminar was a session on different transition drills and let dogs try them with advice from the presenter. Mike Evans and Alan agreed they would put together this topic and the date selected was January 23 at 1:00 at Cory's place. They will check with Cory to see if this date is OK with him. This one will be done on an RSVP basis, with at least 5 RSVPs needed before we have it because this is a weekend during duck season and both Alan and Mike would rather be out shooting ducks if not many people are interested.
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New Business: None on the agenda.

Any other new business? None.

Adjourn: There being no other new business, Jeff moved that we adjourn. Luke seconded the motion which then passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Karen Edwards

Karen Edwards, Secretary

Changes:

1. Corrected dates on October test – Peter Torok, 12/7/21

Approvals:

- 1. Mike Evans, 12/7/21
- 2. Peter Torok, 12/7/21
- 3. Michele Fletcher 12/8/21
- 4. Jim Pearce 12/8/21
- 5. Jeff McNutt 12/8/21
- 6. Luke McCoy 12/8/21
- 7. Karen Edwards 12/9/21

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