

The Great Dane Club of Northern California
General Meeting
Monday, December 4, 2023
6:30 PM
Remote Network Meeting

In Attendance: Michelle Gillette, Sam Gillette, Dail Koehler, Laura Munro, Kate Jackson, Mabel Labiak, Bill Labiak, Pat Dousman, Kathy Bowler, Lorrie Spencer, Audrey Teichmann

Guests: Robert Scott Johnson from Sacramento Scandinavian Festival

- A. Call to order:** President Michelle Gillette called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.
- B. Approve agenda; call for additional agenda items:** Laura Munro M/S Kathy Bowler to approve the agenda as presented. MPU
- C. Approval of minutes—Meeting of July 11, 2023:** Kate Jackson M/S Pat Dousman to approve minutes as presented. MPU
- D. President's Report**
1. Announce guest Robert Scott Johnson – wants to know if anyone wants to bring Danes to the Sacramento Scandinavian festival on April 20, at the Elks Lodge. It is the largest Bay Area Danish/Swedish/Norwegian festival. In the past, there have been Great Dane groups present. They have invited our members to attend and show off our dog breed named after Denmark. Our club members are encouraged to bring dogs, represent the club, share info about the breed and talk with young adults who are interested. Also, Saturday May 4th there is another festival, Denmark Day, which is through a different organization and held in Petaluma. If people want to bring dog(s) even for an hour to one or both events, they would be happy to have us. There is a zoom session on December 12. Kathy Bowler said she would sit in and report back to the club. Michelle will help put out the word out about the two events to see if anyone is interested. Lorrie will help.
 2. BOD had annual budget meeting and established a working budget for the coming year. Two things came up during the meeting that need to be brought to general membership. Need to determine where the rescue donation and Charitable Contribution donation should go to. Board recommends reinstating GDRNC as our rescue donation recipient. Kate Jackson M/S Laura Munro. MPU. The Board recommends our charitable contribution be donated to the National Animal Interest Alliance. Dail Koehler M/S Sam Gillette that our 2024 contribution donation go to NAIA. MPU
 3. National – have not hear anything budget wise or when we will get our share or how much that will be. Club met volunteer commitments – thanks to all!
 4. Annual elections – 3 board seats up. Nominating committee Sam, Dail & Kate. Seats coming up are Audrey, Bill and Lorrie. Michelle has sent out a call for interested parties to the general membership; will send a reminder. If interested, notify the Nominating Committee by Friday, 12/8 at 5pm.
 5. Annual Awards – Please get information to Michelle by January 15, 2024.
- E. Report of the Corresponding Secretary**
1. **Incoming Mail**
 - 10/4-6 from AKC via email: Various notices re: applications for 2024 shows
 - 11/1 from AKC via email: Approval Notices for all 4 2024 shows

- 11/12 from GDCA via email: 2024 National Judge Change; shared with members 11/13
- 11/25 from GDCA via email: 2024 Annual Dues Notice; Mabel sent check 11/27

F. Report of the Treasurer

1. Budget report:

- Need to hire an accountant to conduct an audit, as required by Constitution and by-laws upon change of treasurer. Mabel has found an accountant who has agreed to do the work. On recommendation from accountant, Mabel has switched to the cost accounting method. The plan is to conduct the audit in January/February timeframe.
- CDs have been on automatic renewal, but not auto-upgrade so we have been missing out on higher interest rates. Mabel looking at switch to higher yield CDs. We have 2 CDs that are about \$2200 each with 3-month terms. One is coming up for renewal next week. Mabel recommends we renew for 7-month CD at ~4.2% (current rate). In January, the next one comes up and we can renew that for 13 months at ~4.8% (current rate). In April, Mabel would like to open a new CD in the amount of \$2000 for 7-months at ~4%. Sam Gillette M/S Laura Munro, to authorize the treasurer to enact this three-part plan.
MPU

G. Report of the Committees

1. Show Committee:

- AKC approved shows; SLK is set. Need one sweeps judge.
- MBGDC will be joining us on Monday, so we need to have pit crew available to load trailer and get it to storage on Monday.
- We have a show committee
- Photographer – Jill Wagner did them last year; Have not heard anything about people's impression of her work. Kate will ask her around January if she is interested in coming back.
- Sub-committee for 150th celebration. Mabel, Lorrie & Michelle have been putting together 100 welcome bags, but need people to help coordinate anything else.

2. Education: Melissa Pevy – no update

- ### **3. Membership:** Pat Dousman – no new membership applications; only one person hasn't paid dues. BOD discussed and recommends an honorary membership for Sue Dubie-Holbrook. Laura Munro M/S Kate Jackson second. MPU.

- ### **4. Ways and Means:** Lorrie Spencer – looking at new products to put out; still have stashlights.

- ### **5. Web site:** Kate Jackson—created a winner's page for 2023 and is linking pictures to it.

- ### **6. Discipline:** Sam Gillette—Nothing to report.

H. Unfinished Business:

- None to report

I. New Business—

- Need to clean up by-laws. Michelle looking for people to help review and bring recommended changes. Kathy Bowler, Kate Jackson and Mabel Labiak offered to be on committee.

J. Brags— Michelle bragged that Hamilton, one of the puppies from the first Sully/Maizie litter, finished his Canadian Championship at 9 months. Hamilton also got a BPIS in Canada and took 1st in his class at the National. Peanut got a best beginner puppy in show. Lorrie bragged that Layla was 2nd out of 6 and Emmie 2nd out of 3 veterans 8+ at the National. Dail bragged that Mighty got 1st in his class of 1 and behaved well. Sam bragged that he is officially in remission. YAY!

K. Next meeting date:

The next meeting date(s) will be determined. Michelle looking to schedule in person Holiday event in the Dixon area for January.

L. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 PM.