**TMHSDC Fall 2023 Meeting**

**November 12, 2023**

1. **Welcome and call to order** (Barth)
2. **Secretary reading of Spring 2023 minutes and approval.** Read by Charlotte. Ed motioned to accept, Chris 2nd, approved as read.
3. **Treasurer’s report and approval.** $1,013.61 Allen Thomas Fund. $2,355.22 in checking. Insurance bill due $650.00 Read by Gina. Charlotte made a motion to accept, Tara 2nd. Accepted as read.
4. **Animal welfare report**

Andrea Hoskins said she was not on the board and had nothing to report.

Charlotte reported from the April, May, June, September and October meetings. The AWAC did not have meetings in July and August. Items that pertain to dog sled kennels that have been discussed at these meetings include: Rabies surcharges and fees, increased dog licensing fees, limiting the number of kennel licenses one person can hold, Animal Control Officer training to include capacity for care, Animal Control Officer 3950-A form- Official Refusal or Neglect of Duty, and three bills going to legislation: Municipal kennels under the Agriculture Department for oversight as well as the Animal Control Officer, Rabies vaccination reporting and Training Animal Control Officers.

Andrea and Tara said they could not locate this information and wanted the link to be put in the meeting minutes. (The link had been previously posted in the Fall 2022 Minutes.)

[Animal Welfare Advisory Council: Animal Welfare Program: Maine DACF](https://www.maine.gov/dacf/ahw/animal_welfare/awac/index.shtml) –

Andrea made a motion to accept the report as read, Ed 2nd, unanimously passed.

1. **Correspondence secretary’s report**

Val purchased 50 post cards. 49 post cards were sent out to past and present members and people who have attended the races.

Tara said that she did not receive her post card notice of the meeting and rig race until Friday after the sign ups had closed, although she has commented on the facebook event prior to receiving the post card. Laurie Schneider said she received hers on Monday. Don Banker received his on Wednesday.

There was a discussion about the post cards being sent out earlier to members. It was also noted that the fall meeting and rig race are always the Second Sunday in November and it is written in the club By-laws: In addition the meeting was listed on the club website and the club facebook page.

1. **OLD BUSINESS-**
   1. **Club website -** The website is up to date.
   2. **Club Merchandise** –Running low on merchandise, sold items at the trade fair. Will put in a new order in January.
   3. **Fundraising**
      1. **Quilt –** Quilt tickets are for sale again this year. The club made $500 last year with the quilt raffle sales.
      2. **Trade Fair**

Thomas Carroll and Val Parent attended the trade fair and manned the club table for the entire weekend. The club got a lot of exposure. They also helped man the gate during the rig race. Thomas was also asked to help man the Can Am booth. More help is needed next year with people committed to sign up for one hour or two hour slots. Al Paradis attended the rig race at the fair and said the trails looked good. A discussion was had about attending the trade fair in 2024 as a club. The cost is only $35 for the weekend for the table. The fair is possibly October 18-20, 2024. Some items to improve on for next year: have membership applications on hand, set up a pay pal or venom account for the club, and post a reminder on Facebook about the trade fair ahead of time.

Charlotte made a motion for the club to attend the trade fair in 2024, Val 2nd, passed.

* + 1. **Boot Camp –** training at the fairgrounds cancelled due to heavy rains

1. **NEW BUSINESS**
   1. **Races**
      1. **Bradford Race Dates:** January 28, 2024, February 17-18, 2024, March 9, 2024
      2. **Frost Mountain Race** (Brownfield, Maine) January 20-21, 2024 Put on only by PA Sled Dog Club
      3. **Bridgton Training Day-** Charlotte saw Dan Gyger in Bridgton over the summer in passing. She spoke to him about training at Five Fields Farm. When snow is on the ground and we have an open date, call Dan and set something up. Charlotte and Shayla have Danny’s phone number.
   2. **Leonhard Seppela Award**
      1. Charlotte Carroll was nominated byThomas. A vote was conducted and passed. Val will order the plaque.
   3. **Allen Thomas Award**
      1. No nominations were received.

* 1. **Tours for fundraising-**Charlotte heard that you have to be a registered Maine Guide to give tours. Barth agreed. Tara and Shayla said Alex Theriault does not have a Maine Guide license. This needs to be looked into further. Val will also check with the insurance company to see if we are covered to give tours. Tara has 20 dogs that she could use to give rides. Shayla has dogs to use for rides. Barth said we have to justify not overworking the dogs.
  2. **Club By-Laws** – Running one dog in more than one class. Val will rewrite this to present to the club at the spring meeting.
  3. **Guest speaker at meeting –** The Raymond/Naples/Casco Animal Control Officer suggested that the club have an animal control officer come to a club meeting. Conduct an informational question and answer session. Go over kennel inspections.

1. **Adjournment, Thank you**

**Attendance:**

Don Banker Jr., Andrea Hoskins, Laurie Schneider, Tara Crossman, Thomas Carroll, Gina Deuyour, Charlotte Carroll, Chris Mitchell, Ed Parent, Val Parent, Al Paradis, Barth Deuyour, Shayla Stevens, Aspen Foster, Joel Foster, Denise Martinson, Rema Mitchell, Lewis Mitchell, Emma Rae, David Rae (Sarah Buckley and Veronica Jones participated in the rig race, but did not attend the meeting.).