

Minutes April 12th 2023

In attendance: Colleen Sauve, Evan Stainman, Dede LaRow, Valerie Smith, Michele Shepard

Call Meeting to Order: 1810

Approve minutes from March 1st meeting: approved

Approve treasurers report: approved

Electing new board members:

Claire Earley: Board would like to invite Claire to join the next meeting for an interview.

Melissa Akey: Board voted due to deny application due to inconsistencies identified with years as a certified team.

Craig Deslauer: Approved, Board waived Interview as all members are familiar and confident in Craig's abilities; due to the many roles he has held with in TDV.

The Board decided that moving forward we would like to do a Meet/Greet/Interview with applicants.

Annual Meeting:

The board needed to identify a date that worked for both Steve and Deb, it was suggested to offer the September 17th and October 1st, to see if those worked for them, the next board meeting is dedicated to annual meeting planning.

Leashes/ Merch

Collen showed a couple examples of leashes she ordered off from Etsy, for herself, she was planning to check with Pet food warehouse if we could order nice leashes in bulk and have them screen printed or embroidered locally.

The board wants to distribute the leashes at the annual meeting as part of a gift to members. Those who do not attend the meeting will be sent an email/letter stating what was given out and the option to have it sent to them if they would like it.

UVM MC UPDATE:

Bringing dogs back, language is more favorable, they're only starting with Pediatrics and only a few teams at a time, Michele is going to be the liaison for TDV with UVMCC

An Issue arose regarding members not renewing their certification but reported to still be making visits. The board decided that a letter will be sent stating that they would have 30 days from the date of the letter to renew or they would be asked to recertify. This will be going to all teams who have yet to renew for 2023. This will go out as an email and a letter. The Board is to be copied on the initial email.

Another issue arose with renewals being sent back, due to addressing issues, not sure if members aren't providing address updates or if issue with how the envelope is filled out. Michele noted her renewal showed up to her new address with no issues but the zip code was wrong. The board decided to requests that Member Services fill out Mailing labels moving forward instead of hand addressing.

Discuss Crisis Response Future / Ownership:

There has been question as to who is in charge or the Crisis Response Team. Emily Lester would like it to be a part of Member services. It was stated that Crisis Response and Member services are separate entities and a person formerly in charge of both member services and the crisis response team did so independent of the other.

The former person in charge of member services was a part of the formation of the TDV Crisis Response regardless of their position held with TDV.

Non-Crisis Teams responding to Crisis incidents:

A generalized call for teams to respond was put out via the Facebook page, for teams to visit Middlebury high school following a tragedy. It was learned that the school did not request a response but one was offered to them and non-crisis teams responded. In the future wait for organizations to request a response, ONLY crisis certified teams can respond in crisis situations due to further certification.

Further discussion of Crisis response was delayed until Susan is able to focus on it, hopefully in May

VT Share and Fundraising:

Postpone discussion, not needed at this time,

Policies for visiting at UVM will be added to new member welcome packets.

Covid Cards: No longer required

Places have been asking for copies of insurance: Board saw no issues providing copies

NYC Email: Board Voted not to send a member citing travel concerns for the dogs and suggest they seek a more local Therapy dog group.

Next meeting is May 3rd at 1800 hours

Meeting adjourned 2005