

MILWAUKEE DOG TRAINING CLUB
Membership Meeting Wednesday, February 25, 2026

Meeting called to order by President Erin Ruppel at 8:02pm

Minutes were approved as distributed by automatic consent.

OFFICER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Secretary

Nothing to report.

President

Thank you to Mari Pavleje, Sue Steinbach, Kayden Rinzel, and Kim Rinzel, who helped with the demos at the Pet Expo booth. Thank you to Lindsey Moore & Clyde, Kayden Rinzel & Watson, Tracy McCarty & Relixx, Daryl Stuppan & Kava for doing the demonstration at the Pet Expo and to Sue Bronson for MCing.

Treasurer

Checking \$16607.36

Money Market \$62k

Income \$7382.29

Expenses \$16328.05

Big expenses: 500 jump that was donated by Spzot. Property taxes \$9k. Energy \$1600.

Big income: obedience dues and donations

Training Committee

The Achievement trial is March 22 (no classes that day except for Basic). Sign up on the website.

There are a few spots left in the Cat & Dog First Aid and CPR class on March 15. Sign up if you are interested. You get a certification that is good for 2 years after completing the class.

Agility-No Basic Agility March 7 due to the Sports Show. All other agility classes will be held as usual.

Flyball-Nothing to report

Puppy Class-Nothing to report

AKC Show (June 6 & 7) -The premiums are out. There are paper copies in the large crate room, or you can check the AKC website for the form. We will need volunteers for both days. Kate Murphy is organizing AKC sponsorships this year.

Membership and Sales

2 Spots left in the April Basic class and we already have some people signed up for the May Basic class.

We are now putting the announcements on the member portal. It shows up below the membership status on the dashboard.

Member Engagement Committee

We are planning an Earth Day celebration/neighborhood clean up.
Next Social Sunday is March 29.

Good and Welfare- Claude Szpot's mother-in-law passed away.

- Stacy Vogeltanz had a baby.
- Tracy McCarty got a new puppy.
- Ellen Mack got a new puppy.

Facilities Committee

The self-service dog wash is up and running. You can sign up online. You have to meet with Ellen Mack or Sue Steinbach before you use it for the first time. You can also sign up for nail trims, or Ellen or Sue can teach you how to trim your dog's nails.

Remember to turn the heat down when you leave the building. Our energy bill was \$1600 for January. We are looking into smart thermostat options so the temperature can be adjusted remotely.

Revenue and Finance Committee

The committee discussed depreciation schedules at their last meeting, and is looking into what needs to have sales tax.

Community Engagement Committee

Exhibitions:

We had the Pet Expo on February 7th. Thank you to everyone who helped.

The Journal Sentinel Sports Show is March 6-8 at State Fair Park. The sign up binder is in the big crate room. There is a description of requirements in the front of the binder. Your dog should be in Beginner Novice or above. See Mari Pavleje with questions. There are a few spots left open for the shows. We are setting up Thursday, March 5 (meet at the club at 9:00 AM to load up vehicles.) We also need more volunteers to tear down and take things back to the club on Sunday, March 8th in the afternoon when the Sports Show ends.

We will be at the State Fair both Fridays again this year (August 7 & 14), with the Agility Demo in the coliseum on the 14th.

We have a demo at the Hales Corners Library in July.

We have an application in for the West Allis Ala Cart June 6 & 7. This is the same weekend as the AKC show. The Rinzels will run the booth.

Nominating Committee

We have our elections in May. The four officer positions (1 year terms) are up for reelection, and 2 board positions (3 year terms) are up for reelection. Reach out to Kris Connell or Amelia Harsch if you are interested in running for a position. At the April meeting, the nominating committee will have a slate of candidates to announce, and then we will take nominations from the floor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

We are a few years away from our 100 year anniversary. We are the oldest dog club in the midwest. We want to start working on the history of the club to celebrate. We will be collecting pictures and stories to celebrate the history of the club. Talk to Erin Ruppel or Daryl Stuppan if you are interested in helping with this.

In the past, we had a club historian. If you would be interested in taking on this role, let Erin Ruppel know.

NEW BUSINESS

The list of new members was read by Mari Pavleje.

Show wins: Lots of great wins, titles, and qualifying scores! Be sure to submit your wins to the newsletter by filling out the form under the member resources tab on the website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27pm.

Submitted by Katie Schmidt, Club Secretary