**Called to Order** **by** Rose Hallman **at 7:03 pm**

**Approval of Minutes** **Date** May and June Minutes received by everyone just before this meeting. Approval vote will occur by email following this meeting.

**Attendance:**

**Board Present:** Betty Brakefield**,** Chris Gabel, Rose Hallman, Carol Ouhl, Carol Lauren-Schmidt, Sandy Mauck, Bobby Moore-Reibel, Peggy Simerson, Cinda Waller, Lois Walton,

**Board Absent:** Kathy Sianko, Tim Peterson,

**Members:** Kate McKee-Boston Terrier Club, Janeen Knowles

**Guests:**

**President Report:** We will vote to approve minutes we just received once they are sent again with corrections from Board. Rose thanked the Board for good, productive, smooth working meetings

**Vice President Report:** None

**Secretary Report:**

**Corresponding**: Chris received an email from someone who has an 8-month-old Great Dane, owner loves the Fair, wants more info. Chris will respond

Chris received reply from the person who had inquired about a puppy from a breeder she thought was a member of our club but wasn’t. The person thanked Chris for the time she spent replying and the information she gave them.

Chris wants to make sure our handout “How to Find a Reputable Breeder” is posted on website

**Recording Secretary:** Carol’s Wi-Fi continues to be patchy but Verizon tech support has made tweaks on 4 occasions. She expects to remain connected to this meeting. In a separate note outside of this meeting, Rose was notified the meeting recordings she is sending me now carry a “conf.” extension rather than mp4. Carol has been unable to find a universal app that can read/play that extension.

**Treasurer Report:** Lois - Started month with $33,776.76. Dues received of $495 and $1090. Expenses $392.88 for insurance. Ended month with $34,951.89

**Moved to Accept Treasurer Report**  as emailed. Betty moved;Chris **2nd**

**Report Accepted:** Unanimous

**Committees:**

**Membership:** Bobby has no report; she is out of town. She and Rose are in constant contact with Huntington Bank. No one knows the cause of the problem. Rose proposed since some members are still waiting to pay their dues online, that we use Rose’s personal PayPal account. Rose will keep extension paper records on money coming in and going out. Lois moved; Peg 2nd to use Rose’s personal PayPal account. Motion carried unanimously. Bobby was later able to join the meeting and she said the Bank could issue a paper check.

**Constitution/Bylaws:** Carol O voting on Bylaws will now have to move to Sept. Timing would be Carol reviews Peggy’s questions on inconsistent use of forms for members. Weneed to review and potentially revise the final draft of the Bylaws. Carol will make recommendation to Board for their vote. Following that, we will not send final Bylaws to membership until after the Fair since no one will want to spend time on them in August.

**Directory**: Bobby **–** no report

**Legislation:** Chris -Morrison County near Little Falls has a confirmed case of rabies in family cat (probably infected by a skunk). Family dog and children are negative; children are being treated as precaution.

No legislation occurring. AKC has started releasing old items with new current dates.

**Education:** Carol Lauren-Schmidt has laminated “How to Approach a Dog” for handout at the Fair. She’ll send copies to Board

**Outreach/Recruitment:** Betty has heard nothing

**Juniors:** Wendy – Nothing

**Social Media:** Peggy – has not been able to devote time to any of our social media sites due to the workload at her office that has tripled to cover co-workers’ positions

**Sunshine**: Wendy -Nothing

**Grievance:** Not discussed; not staffed

**Website:** Diane Prange - Nothing

**State Fair:** Rose – **Budget** last year we didn’t use all our budget which was $2000 for capital items and $2000 for incidentals. Of that $4,000, we spent $1620. Committee is asking for the same $4000 this year. Committee moved and 2nd. Board approved unanimously.

**Upgrades** the fencing around the demo field needs to be replaced. Kids lean on it and it comes down. It’s difficult to work with. They are researching 2 different types. Carol noted there’s a Repurpose Material company that might have an inexpensive option of used fencing.

**Hours** – Rose is talking with Pam about our members concerns over the later closing. She is asking about lighting in the parking lots. Has notified Pam people may need to leave before 9pm. The Committee is discussing what types of educational material can be placed in benches so they aren’t totally empty. We discussed what other exhibits are open until 9pm. Chris noted Miracle of Birth is open until 9pm. Sandy noted the non-vendor she works for the Fair is open until 9pm.

**Bench assignments** filling up and looking good. Rose received a few reservations after her last reminder to members. Now she will start calling those who have not responded. A few people have dropped off the benching schedule, leaving more benches left to fill.

**Demo schedule** is full. List has been submitted to State Fair.

**St. Paul Police K9** will demo all days. Rose will check with them to see if we should ask Ramsey County Sheriff to be backup at the last minute should duty call as it sometimes does that prevents St Paul K9s to appear. Police demo is finished between 7:30 – 8 pm which means we will have lots of traffic by our benches between 8pm and closing at 9pm.

**Insurance -Tickets-Parking-** A few things have changed. **Insurance**-We’ve always been required to purchase our own liability insurance. The demo groups have their own insurance. This year we also have to purchase insurance from the State Fair. **Tickets**- in the past we’ve always provided a rough estimate of how many entry tickets we would need for members and were given that number. Then we returned any we hadn’t used. Some years our Club had to purchase more tickets than the Fair gave us. This year the Fair wants a more accurate count.

A good discussion followed about our how we handle various groups of people allowed on the bench and covered by our insurance. In the past many of us have brought other family or friends to help us. Due to the new insurance requirements we don’t feel we can allow that any more. Currently you can be on the bench if:

1. you are a *member of MPDBA* or
2. you are not an MPDBA member but you are *a member of a club that is a member of MPDBA*.

Possible solutions could be:

1. change your individual membership to a family membership.
   1. our Bylaws would then have to define “family” as anyone you choose to bring with you including grandchildren, 3rd cousins, neighbors, friends, or anyone who knows your dogs
   2. Current Bylaws use the term “family” but does not define it
   3. Proposed new Bylaws changed “family” to “household” defined as 2 adults living in the same home. Any additional people living in that home (excluding children) would have to become an individual member.
2. define/create new membership categories to cover:
   1. owners of your dogs/puppies that you co-own
   2. helpers or anyone you choose to bring with you
   3. juniors
      1. we would have to define age limit
      2. we could sponsor or create minimal member fee

**Website-** Diane is waiting for people to send her items to post

**Unfinished Business: Benching Rules** - Our discussion on rules regarding dogs on bench, specifically the 3-legged dog rule that has been in place since 1980. We started requirements because of the breed bans and all the designer dogs. We wanted a correct looking dog for each breed. We required a dog in a show clip with no disqualifying faults nor unacceptable coat colors. Additional points discussed were:

(1) AKC judging discusses correct movement of dogs

(2) We are a group of breeders dedicated to breeding to AKC / parent club standards. We don’t allow dogs with disqualifying faults for their breed.

(3) MPDBA is not an AKC club

(4) This is the age of inclusivity. We present our dogs to the public who themselves have a variety of challenges / disabilities; the public relates to that in our dogs and in their own dogs.

(5) Our rules over the years have changed with the changing perceptions of the public.   
 -We still ban muzzles on dogs; the public perceives a dangerous dog.   
 -Years ago, we didn’t allow crates on the benches because the public perceived them as abusive cages.  
 -Today we do allow them because the public has been educated on the benefits of crates for dogs.   
 -Perceptions are always changing.

(6) We now have several rescue groups as members; we didn’t accept rescue groups years ago

(7) The AKC recently published an article defining in which sports and under what conditions 3-legged dogs can compete

(8) Our group is dedicated to using the Fair to educate the public on all things dogs such as what makes a dog suitable for breeding, how to find a good breeder, encouraging pet owners to be active with their dogs and all dogs can be active regardless of their physical challenges

**Organization’s Names** that are so similar to ours that people don’t even realize there are multiple organizations/clubs with different goals/missions. Rose spoke with someone in the Attorney General’s office. That person thought we would have a good case to take action. Rose was also going to check with the Secretary of State’s office.

**New Business:** None

**Adjourn:** Moved by Sandy; 2nd by Carol Lauren-Schmidt. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.