

Agenda SMART board meeting 9/17/2017

Meeting called to order 7pm

Attending: Katrina Parkinson, Janet Massolo, Ernie Mills, Laura Hartwick, Vici Whisner

### **Equipment:**

#### **Buying timers**

There is a healthy balance in the bank currently \$35-38k, so this would be a useful purchase. Ernie moved to purchase 2 complete timer sets, one for each trailer. They cost about \$3000 each. This motion was passed. We will buy 2 sets, one for each trailer. Ernie will buy these and will do some research with people who have bought them in the past.

Katrina also asked whether Ernie could buy some tunnel huggers to use instead of bags or spikes. He has had difficulty finding these. Katrina offered to find out from Jim Aiken and send the info to Ernie. We have 6 tunnels, so we would want enough for 6 tunnels, or 12 pieces.

#### **Buying computer or computer plus printers**

Karey suggested that it's fine to keep borrowing BT's, but the overlap of trials is making this somewhat unwieldy right now.

Katrina suggests to get 1 more computer/printer set. She doesn't think there has been too much overlap with the SMART trials, and 1 new set would be helpful. Michelle's laptop could be used as a third to see how it goes. This seems like a reasonable idea, and then SMART would have 2 dedicated computers, and that could even work without borrowing Bay Team's if needed. Katrina said that Holly Newman, an IT person, offered to purchase a suitable computer and printer, she could probably fix up Michelle's computer as well. This motion was passed. Katrina will email Michelle and Holly and set it up.

#### **Nominating committee**

Last year it was for VP (Kraig replaced Michelle), Treasurer (Janet), Member at Large (Roberta re-elected)

This year it would be President (Katrina), Secretary (Laura), Board Members at Large (Ernie, Vici)  
We are concerned about Kraig's availability via email, so he might not be an ideal committee member since it would probably be an email committee. Janet does not have availability to head a committee right now. Laura will ask Roberta if she can head up the nominating committee. Derede might be a good person to invite on to the committee as well.

#### **Plan a December General Meeting date**

Laura will send an email to the board about selecting a date for the general meeting. This meeting is also the election of officers. Last year it was held at Kathleen's, perhaps there would be a location more southern this year? Vici offered her field as meeting place if the date is available, board members will also think of some other ideas.

#### **Update from Janet on the 1099 situation with tax specialist**

Janet is doing some paperwork to get ready for an appointment in 2 weeks with the tax person, she will have more info after that.

#### **Compensation Policy**

Should we revamp SMART's compensation policy or just go with what we have?

We have temporarily addressed the secretary issue by changing the compensation to dog entries instead of payment. For compensation, Kraig had expressed at the last meeting wanting to make all trials non compensated and volunteer only. This seemed to work well for a special trial, ala Bay Team's anniversary, but for all trials, it would probably burn people out.

It does affect the trial experience to work a big job, so that was the main idea behind compensating. For example, crew chief's not being able to warm up their dogs, or chief course builder missing parts of walk thrus. On the other hand, it is a non profit that should be volunteered based. So a happy medium in the middle of this is probably a good place to be.

The 1099 question may need to be answered first, as that might change some things in compensation. Maybe the next board meeting should be held after the 1099 issue is investigated.

Vici's opinion is that people are working really hard, it does impact their day, so some form of compensation is a nice thing to do. Laura and Ernie agreed. Perhaps tweaking the compensation somewhat is a good idea too. TRACS has a new method of working members paying the USDAA portion of the entry fee only, which is a reasonable compromise, and is less of a tax issue.

If we do form a committee to revamp the compensation, we should include as many members as possible on the revamp. Maybe this would be a good way to get some other members involved in SMART?

Janet says the non profit status of the club doesn't mean it can't pay people, so compensation is not necessarily wrong for a non profit.

This is a long term issue, for agility as a whole as well as for SMART. There are workers and competitors that scale back on competing and working if the compensation is cut, as costs of agility entries are quite high. It is hard to staff trials now with crew chiefs, it's hard work and people don't always want to do it. Compensation certainly helps that.

Janet points out that our trials are now making money, that was not happening in the past. If continuing to have trials means we need to compensate workers, then that could keep the club healthy so that SMART can continue to keep having trials. If we continue in the black, and we are still paying people then that's not necessarily a bad thing.

The board all was in agreement with all this.

Laura will find out October availability for everyone as well for our next board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm