**Meeting Minutes September 24, 2019**

Retriever Club of Alaska

Bella Vista Chugiak , Alaska

September 24, 2019

Members present: Harry Strahle, Dan Oyster, John Drennan, Mary Maxwell, Gwen Haynes, Guests – Rich Gardner and Alicia Zalauka

Members absent: Joanne Hanscom, Eloy Garcia, Pete Probasco

**Meeting called to order at 6:15**

Harry asked if there was any additional adds for the agenda.

Harry asked if we could ask Betsy about posting minutes to the web site since they haven’t been for some time. Mary needs to send her all the meeting minutes to post.

We will need someone to chair the first HT, as Joanne will be out of town.

John added classes to the agenda.

**Motion to approve Agenda** by Dan, seconded by Mary.

**Secretary report and August minutes** – Motion made to approve Minutes by Dan, seconded by Mary.

**Treasury report:**

Treasurer Report September 24, 2019

There is nothing new to report since August other than all checks have cleared with the exception of a scratch fee in the amount of $180.00 written to Gus Lamoreaux for Pt. Mac hunt test. I have emailed him today to find out if he received it.

I have transferred the gun purchase from Gaming to General Account in the amount of $1,1830.00.

I haven’t paid the Pt. Mac landowners yet as we still don’t have the totals.

I have not deposited the disbursement checks from Gaming which total $4,357.11 as they need signed. When the check clears and the disbursements made, the RCA balances will be:

General - $30,879.97

Gaming - $ 348.70

AWRC

Savings - $11,538.95

Checking - $1,037.44

**TOTAL - $$43,805.06**

As of today, our profit is $1,845.36. Once the landowners have been paid, I anticipate we will either break even, or experience a small loss.

The fee for Turnagain will be $319.54 which is 3.7% of the total Turnagain gross income of $10,408.57. This fee will be billed in December, 2019 and due in January, 2020.

Mary Maxwell

Treasurer

**President report**

Nothing new to report, with the exception of Unfinished Business.

Harry asked if Mary would contact the State of Alaska to see when the gaming permit is due. Mary said the 2019 report is due no later than March 2020, and that she has to enter the current membership before submitting the report. Harry asked if she could do this before the end of December, and Mary agreed.

The Dissolution of AWRC has not been finalized because Article 5 (the disbursement of funds) wasn’t submitted at the same time. Mary stated this was done, and she is waiting on the final paperwork from the State.

**Field Trial Report**

Harry will be completing the judges list for 2020. One of the Outside judges backed out, and one wasn’t confirmed.

Harry is looking into judges for 2021. Would like to reach out to new and old members to start judging. Dan agreed to take the FT judges test.

Harry had talked with Frank O’Brien about judges for 2020

Discussion was made on having a Derby next year, as we may have enough dogs.

**Hunt Test** **Report**

Joanne will be out of town for the last half of June. We will need someone to step in and help. Guest Alicia Zalauka volunteered to help out. Joanne will get the judges for 2020

Mary brought up that Pete Probasco would like to step away from being Chairman for the Pt Mac, but that he hasn’t made a final decision. Alicia Zalauka offered Chair for an event, as she is familiar with the task as someone very involved with her previous club in the Lower 48.

*Harry brought up looking into the reason the numbers were so low for the Turnagain HT. We had 80 entries at Pt Mac and 50 at Turnagain.*

The following was compiled by Joanne for the meeting and discussed regarding the low numbers:

JH at PT Mac had a total of 24 with 4 scratches

JH at Turnagain had a total of 26 dogs and 2 scratches

We had some move to Senior from PM and new people came in

SH at PM had a total of 34 with 6 scratches

SH at Turnagain had a total of 19 with 2 scratches

Most of the people that I talked with had either titled their dog at PM and the dog was not ready for MH or they just didn’t want to enter, one did move to MH and bombed out. We also had an outside entry at PM

MH at PM had a total of 35 with 6 scratches

MH at Turnagain had a total of 6 with no scratches. The difference was Baron not entering at Turnagain, I spoke with him directly and he told me he had nothing against Turnagain, but the MH dogs he was working all either got their titles or had their invitation to the Master National and didn’t want to spend the money for the tests in Turnagain. We also had 3 dogs entered at PM that were from outside, and others that were out of town at the time of the Turnagain Tests.

Alicia said she could help with getting Hunt Test judges for 2020.

**Unfinished business**

**Annual Meeting Banquet**

Mary checked into using the Rec Center again for our banquet per our last Meeting Minutes.

She said Sunday, January 12, 2020 isn’t available, but Saturday 11, 2020, Saturday is. All agreed for her to rent the room for Saturday. Mary will book the room and pay the $100.00 deposit

**Raffle 2020**

Harry wants to have our raffle tickets available early for all members to sell. Mary offered that we need to diversify our raffle offers to appeal to everyone. She suggested gift cards to Cabella’s, and the cruise from Major Marine. Harry will talk to Pete about another gun raffle, as it was a great money maker.

Harry again said that we need to have the raffle tickets ready and available to hand members attending the Annual Banquet to sell. Discussion was made that club members need to remember that this is their club, and should be helping to sell the tickets to keep us functioning.

Rich mentioned the MatSu sportsman show in April as a possible place to sell raffle tickets, also, maybe a dog demo and will check into that.

Our guest, Alicia Zalauka , offered lots of ideas for the growth of the club such as “social media”. Alicia also brought up Instagram and Facebook “groups” for training class people to bounce ideas off each other etc.

**Training Classes**

Joanne will offer a 4 week Beginning Retriever Obedience class, starting on Feb 8. Cost will be $50.

John Drennan will be starting the classes February 8 through March 14th every Saturday weather permitting and will be held in the valley. These two classes are for Junior Hunters (beginners) and Transition dogs who will be learning to handle.

The classes will be limited to 12 dogs and the cost PER DOG is $100.00. This fee does not include automatic membership to the Club.

John provided Mary with the class schedule for Transition and JH for her to post on the Facebook page, and forward to Betsy to send out. He also expressed that he didn’t want his contact information out publicly, and requested to work with Betsy again for the signups.

John said approximately 20% did their training homework, and Alicia said it’s possible the class information needs to be broken down more simply.

Alicia said she has access to property.

John said to use the fair grounds the fee is $40.00 per day if he had to use it. Harry brought up needing insurance certificate for that.

John said he would like to have access to one of the Thunder Shotgun Simulators for the class. Mary said she was concerned about using items from the club trailer for classes. Many items over the years disappeared when that was allowed. Harry will ask Eloy what he thinks about that.

John brought up the possibility of needing to plow access for parking on the upper hospital field.

**New business**

We need to update our membership application forms on both the website and Facebook page to reflect only RCA. Mary will forward this to Betsy, and will do the Facebook page.

Harry would like to reduce our dues to $40.00 since we are only paying for one club now. Mary motioned to approve, and Dan seconded. The fee will be changed on the new membership forms.

Discussion was held regarding possible benefits to joining the club. Harry said in reality there is no true benefit other than keeping the club going with all the expenses we incur.

Members that attend Picnic tests entries will have a lesser fee than non-members.

**Birds**

Discussion was made again whether to use live flier’s vs dead birds for the events. Rich said it’s possible he can care for them. Someone would have to catch and take the actual event birds per event. He said he would have to discuss with his wife and will let the board know.

Mary said a work party would have to be put together to take down the pen at Eloy’s. She said he wants to keep enough panels and his canopy tarp for his own birds.

If we can’t put the live birds at Rich’s house, we will have no choice but to do dead bird trials. Mary brought up that the AKC said we can hold dead bird events and Harry said the email said “trials” not tests. He will look into that.

Harry brought up that he and Mary would like to do an obituary add in Field Trial News for Eloy’s dog Meg. The cost would be $20.00 for a quarter page black and white ad. Harry mentioned the ad had to be submitted by October 1st in order for it to be published in November. The board voted unanimously to do this, and each board member attending the meeting along with Rich Gardner donated $20.00 to the club for the ad. The remaining cost of the ad will be $80.00 to the club. Mary will deposit those funds and await the proof.

Next meeting is scheduled for October 29, 6:15

Bella Vista restaurant in Chugiak.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm