



## Board Meeting Minutes – 5/20/2018

### Welcome

Board members in attendance:

Toni, Steve, Tina, Ellen, Kathy, Bob K., Ted, Bob W.

### Board positions

The board needs to fill the Secretary position. No board member was currently willing to take this role. Steve will assume the responsibilities until the position is filled.

### President's report

There are two upcoming dog hauls: 7 dogs will arrive in West Virginia on May 26. 3 dogs will arrive in Harrisburg, at Kim's house, on June 3.

The Waters donated \$2,000 to a new wash basin for the kennel.

Current worm protocol is three different medicines, 14 days apart, repeated as needed based on results of fecal test. May alter slightly for individual dogs.

### Treasurer's report

There is roughly \$50,000 in the savings account and roughly \$7,000 in the checking account.

Largest expenditures are medical (roughly \$17,000 in 2017) and employees.

### GiG 2018 Recap

The Eisenhower hotel was the leading cause of issues and complaints, including the banquet. The Aspire was better. Hopefully they learn for next year.

Volunteers were fantastic and were a large part of the success of the event.

In general, the event was a huge success. The biggest event ever in terms of attendance and fund raising.

### GiG 2019 Footprint and Planning

Allstar Family Fun Center and some hotels have contracts in place. We are removing the contract notification from the website because many participants wait until they are in place, while others make reservations as they leave the event, which leads to confusion.

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Nittany Greyhounds, Inc.

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Hotels increase their rates because of the volume of people that GiG brings into town, and there is nothing we can really do about it other than move to another city.

We will possibly do the parade at the Outlet Shoppes of Gettysburg again, it was a huge success. The Friday night event will be at an outside venue, like Appalachian Brewing Company or a winery to lighten our load. This will possibly be a historic night walk at Seminary Ridge. There will be Sunday vending again from 9am – 1pm. To draw participation on Sunday, there may be a buffet breakfast included for free in the activities area from 9am – 11am.

Other events may include another walk at the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, which was very successful, if a bit overwhelming for them. Perhaps an informal waterfall hike in the area as well.

A new GiG Planning Committee was created to work most of the GiG issues and plan the event. The committee will meet regularly and provide highlights at board meetings. This is an attempt to make GiG planning easier and shorten board meetings. Current members include: Toni Duchi, Steve Wagner, Tina Burns, Kathy Lee, Bob Koch, Ted Huryn, Rob and Beth Miller, and Beth Hench.

**\*\* Action to Steve:** High end auctions in the past vs. silent auction, which was more successful?

**\*\* Action Toni/Linda Jermyn:** Determine possible locations for GiG planning meetings between State College and Harrisburg.

### Trademark

The lawyer contacted wants a \$2,500 retainer. This will pay for possibly moving our current service mark to the primary register, possibly trademarking our logo, possibly trademarking categories #18 (collars, leashes, and animal clothing) and #25 (clothing).

Five artists were reached out to about making new logos or designs for \$200 that GiG has the legal rights to. Three have confirmed.

Kent Roberts is making the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo more generic for additional future use.

New logos or designs should be copyrighted, which is easier and lower fees than trademarks. To be determined as needed.

**\*\* Action to Steve:** forward the lawyer's email to the board with a deadline to review and vote on whether to proceed, and what to proceed with.

### Gathering of the Greys (August 26, 2018)

The event will have the same schedule as in past years. Send comments and ideas to Toni. Vendors will be welcomed as usual.

**\*\* Action to Steve:** Add the event to the website.

## Greyhounds Reach the Beach Ice Cream Social (October 5, 2018)

Ellen is the event coordination and will attend. Terri Malloy will be there and is a very good volunteer gathering donations. Jamie and Beth Oberdick will be in attendance and generally volunteer.

**\*\* Action to Steve:** Add the event to the website.

## Fund Raising

The shoe drive was a huge success. Over 15,000 pairs of shoes were collected. We have already received a check for \$2,700. The expectation is over \$6,000.

Centre Gives raised roughly \$3,800 through no planning or coordination. Many people paid outstanding bills from GiG or reimbursed for hotel stays to help generate additional matching gifts.

The Bon Ton fundraiser was successful, however, it will be the last time as the Bon Ton filed for bankruptcy. We may have or will receive a bonus check.

The holiday online auction will be coordinated by Kathy and Beth Hench in November. 50 more expensive prizes will be auctioned.

## Store

Need more GiG merchandise to sell. Toni, Tina, and possibly Steve will meet at Collegiate Pride on May 24. All GiG merchandise will be available online during the event. Sold out items can be ordered and fulfilled after the event.

## Lewisburg Group

Bob Witmer is to investigate Weis pet adoption month long fundraiser for next May.

**\*\* Action to Toni:** Provide Bob a list of volunteers and adopters in the Lewisburg area.

## Memphis in October

Randy Finnegan invited Toni to a high stakes race. Donations are provided to some groups in attendance. If anybody wants to go, contact Toni. This occurs the same weekend as Greyhounds Reach the Beach. More details to come.

## Social Media Coordinator

Jen Lee was asked, but she is too busy. We are looking for volunteers. Nate Miller may be interested; Beth Miller will look into it.

## Other Events

Should we attend other events and promote GiG?

Mountain Hounds (*Gatlinburg, TN / May 31 - June 3, 2018*)

Grapehounds Wine Tour (*Watkins Glen, NY / July 26-29, 2018*)

Beach Bound Hounds (*Myrtle Beach, SC / September 13-16, 2018*)

Greyhounds Reach the Beach (*Dewey Beach, DE / October 4-7, 2018*)

Sandy Paws (*Jekyll Island, GA / March 7-10, 2019*)

Hugs for Hounds (*Northwest of Toronto*)

Greyhound Health Conference by the Greyhound Health Initiative

**\*\* Action to Toni:** Contact other groups and ask if we can add something to their goodie bags.

### Florida Legislation

Regardless of the vote in Florida, greyhound racing is on decline. There is a need for a strategic plan going forward in the possible absence of dogs being available. The vote will take place in November.

### New Business

Voting to raise kennel and simplify kennel rates, effective immediately. Existing reservations will still be billed at the old rate. New rates: \$1.40/hour for the first dog in a kennel, \$1.00/hour for additional dogs in the same kennel, and greyhounds receive a \$0.20/hour discount. Steve motioned for a vote, Kathy seconded the motion. 7 voted for, 0 against, 0 abstained, motion carried.

Voting to sell the tractor and replace with a new riding lawnmower and two new push mowers. Tina motioned for a vote, Bob K. seconded the motion, 7 voted for, 0 against, 0 abstained, motion carried.

**\*\* Action to Toni:** Call about selling the tractor.

**\*\* Action to Steve:** Investigate new riding mowers and push mowers when the tractor sells.

Voting to create an executive committee to bring and foster new ideas before coming to the board in an effort to simplify board meetings. Steve motioned for a vote, Ted seconded the motion, 7 voted for, 0 against, 0 abstained, motion carried. Tina and Bob K. were given the new title of executive board members to attend the new meetings along with Toni and Steve.

Investigate increasing the adoption fee.

**\*\* Action to Toni:** Investigate what other groups charge for greyhound adoption fees.

### Adjourn

Bob K. motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ted seconded the motion.