

PBGF Meeting Minutes
Sunday, January 10, 2016
Zafar Grotto, South Williamsport, PA

Delegates in attendance: Carlisle, Eldred, Elizabethtown, Hilltop, Indiana County, Jacobus, Lebanon County, Lycoming County, Lykens Valley, Northern Lancaster, Oil Creek, Rainbow, Shamokin, Sharpsville, Stein's Hollow, Towanda, Tunkhannock, Webster.

Clubs not represented: Breakneck, Mason-Dixon, Pucketos, Susquehanna Valley, Bellwood, Cambria, Central, Conemaugh Valley, Monroe, West Branch, West Mayfield.

- I. **Call to Order-** 11:08AM. In prayer, Jim Katchko asked for all to remember and pray for Keith Collins whose brother passed away last week.
- II. **Approval of Minutes-** Minutes were discussed seeing as the introduction of a new secretary, should mean having them completed and distributed in a more timely fashion. Motion made to accept minutes by Northern Lebanon and seconded by Webster. Motion passed.
- III. **Officers' and Director's Reports**
 - A. **President-** Jim Katchko thanked everyone for joining us. He also introduced Grace Roland as the new secretary.
 - B. **Eastern Vice President-** Jim Girafalco- No report
 - C. **Western Vice President-** Jim Kazmarek- No report at this time, but more to come later.
 - D. **Secretary-** Grace Roland reminded all delegates to make sure they signed in.
 - E. **Treasurer-** Dave Sharer presented his report. Motion made to accept Treasurer's report by Webster and seconded by Shamokin. Motion passed. A copy of the report is attached.
 - F. **Director of Communications-** Claire Spettell- No report; unable to attend.
 - G. **Board of Directors-** West: Jim Roush; no new report. East: Dr. John Cable; no new report.
- IV. **Committee Reports**
 - A. Banquet 2016- Dave Sharer discussed about how today's date seemed to work well, and we are planning to have it the same weekend next year.
 - B. Directory Updates- Jim Kazmarek discussed how he has received no calls from clubs about updates for this year's directory. Please check the webpage first to see if any changes need to be made. If the directory

needs to be updated for your club, please contact Jim Kazmarek or Claire Spettell directly. Contact Jim or Claire ASAP, but no later than April. The directory will tentatively be distributed in June.

C. By-Law Committee

- a. Discussion- Membership in PBGF: Dr. John Cable discussed the possibility opening our borders and expanding to other states. A written by-law proposal was distributed. This differs from the proposal considered last year in that it states the championship trials would always be held within the state of Pennsylvania. Another point is that we have a lack of representation at national level politics. There was a motion made by Oil Creek to consider the proposal by full membership in June. The motion was seconded by Tunkhannock. There were 12 ayes and 3 nays. Motion passed and proposal will be considered in June.

D. Political Awareness

- a. SB 77- Senate Bill 77 that we have worked to support for several years passed the senate and the house unanimously. It was officially signed into law by Tom Wolf on November 24, 2015. The law will go into effect this month.
- b. SB 373- Senate Bill 373 that we thoroughly oppose is currently in the House Judiciary Committee. Just as a refresher SB 373 is the anti-tethering law. If you actually read the bill then you will realize the many issues with it. There's a campaign on Facebook in support of this bill. We have the access to Facebook, just as the bill's supporters do. Voice your opposition. Contact Committee Chair Ron Marsico directly by phone, email, or US mail. All you need to do is say/write "I oppose this bill..." Please keep up this intensity. There is someone keeping track of all communications for Rep. Marsico. You will need to respond individually for this to be effective. Attached is a form that can be printed and copied for club members to fill out and send in. They must fill in the name of their beagle club, their name and personal address.

i. Ron Marsico's contact information

1. Email- rmarsico@pahousegop.com
2. Phone- 717-652-3721
3. Address-
Rep. Ron Marsico
4401 Linglestown Road, Suite B
Harrisburg, PA 17112

- c. Luzerne County Outdoor Dog Ordinance- Jim Katchko introduced the discussion of this ordinance. It basically states that above and below certain temperatures, dogs must be brought indoors. As the ordinance is currently written, many believe there'd be no way for the municipalities to afford adopting it. However, if the SPCA gets involved, then it could pose an issue. Right now it is only in Luzerne County, but if it is in one place, then it could spread to another. Just be sure that you're being vigilant in your own counties.
- d. PGC Meeting - The PA Game Commission meeting will be on Sunday January 31, 2016 in January. We encourage for anyone that is able to attend, that you please do. Also, thank you to those of you who have attended in the past.
- e. Snowshoe Hare Survey- We have received more information about the snowshoe hare survey and Appalachian Cottontails. PGC biologist Emily Boyd was happy with the success she has had so far. She is continuing to collect heads. Also, they are interested in knowing if you have seen rabbits at elevations of 1500 ft. or higher. Boyd is also very interested in seeing the snowshoe hare habitat, so feel free to contact her about it. Keep in mind, she is trying to work with us.

V. Old Business

- 1. Treasurer's Audit Report- According to Barbara Kazmarek, Charlie Flexer, and Mike Maciejewski who looked over the books, everything is in order and looks good.
- 2. Presque Isle Application- Jim Kazmarek attended a trial at Presque Isle, and his recommendation was that they be accepted into the federation. The motion to accept them was made by Rainbow and seconded by Sharpsville. Motion passed. Welcome Presque Isle!
- 3. Championship Trial Preview
 - a. June 18-19, 2016 (24th Weekend) Derby Championship Trial: Mason-Dixon Beagle Club
 - b. October 8-9, 2016 (40th Weekend) All-Age Championship Trial: Breakneck Beagle Club
 - c. Nominations of 2017 AKC SPO National Judges
 - i. Top vote getters: Brian Phillips, Mark Malloy, Jay Long, Ian Hannis, and Jeremy Hooks
 - d. Election of Derby Championship Judges

- i. Top vote getters: West: Stephanie Elick, Matt Minnick, Jim Roush, and Ed Sankey. East: Bryan Grove, Don Dobbs, Taylor Lewis, and Brandon DeHaven
- e. Consistency Award/2015 Winners
 - i. A copy of the consistency awards is attached.
- f. 2015 Outstanding Hound Award
 - i. The outstanding hound award is on the same page as the consistency awards, attached.

VI. New Business

- 1. 2016-2017 Raffle Preview
 - a. Dave Sharer is currently looking for someone that would be interested in taking over as raffle chair for 2017. If interested then please contact Dave.
- 2. Good of Federation
 - a. The topic of making show optional at qualifiers was discussed. Shows would be optional at qualifiers, but would be kept as part of the championships. The discussion raised concerns about the economic impact of having a show, and also the resulting quality of dogs as a result. Motion to consider this at the June meeting was made by Northern Lancaster. Seconded by Steins Hollow. There were 6 ayes and 8 nays. Motion failed.

VII. Adjournment- Meeting adjourned at 12:58pm. Motion made by Steins Hollow and seconded by Oil Creek.