

GREYHOUND PETS OF AMERICA – CENTRAL TEXAS
Chapter Board Meeting
February 8, 2005

President Glen Bridge called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in Mangia's Pizza meeting room in Austin, Texas. Board Members present were Lana Henley, Tim Define, Jennifer Define, Barbara Clark, Donna Seago, Pam Cook, Sally McIntosh, Bobbie Wier, and Bob Trapp. Mike Waldon was ill.

Barbara handed out a Financial Statement for the period November, 2004 through January, 2005 (a copy has been placed in the permanent file).

Sally had emailed the Placement Team Report previously (a copy has been placed in the permanent file).

Barbara reported that The Hartford will not renew our insurance this year (current coverage until April 1, 2005). The annual cost for coverage is \$900. Bobbie will call our insurance agent to ask for direction. Pam also suggested we contact Charity First which helps non profits find insurance.

It was decided that an inventory of the storage unit will be taken on February 19, 2005. Jennifer took responsibility with assistance from other Board members.

Glen requested that whenever possible, the chapter's credit card be used for making purchases. The group decided to purchase a small number of squawkers to keep on hand and for possible resale.

Sally reported that a location for the Lee Livingood conference has not yet been determined but a location in Round Rock is being considered.

Lana reported that the Home & Garden Show, March 4-6, is progressing and that she will email opportunities to sign up for appearances to the Board. Donna will place an announcement about the show in the March newsletter.

The possibility of GPA-CT having a booth at the Lorena Spring Meet, March 12 & 19, was discussed. It was felt there would be enough odds and ends left over from various events to have something to sell. Bobbie will be responsible for the booth and was granted permission to spend up to \$50 for other items while on her upcoming trip to California.

Lee Mannix is holding several free classes. The "Babies and Dogs" class might be something beneficial to the chapter's adoption program.

It was decided NOT to participate in the Bow WOW Festival this year because of our current commitments to other activities.

The Board position of Events Coordinator has yet to be filled. Sandy Schultz's name was suggested as someone quite capable of filling the position. Bobbie will contact Sandy to discuss it with her. This is an appointed position until election of officers in April, 2005. Pam offered to be a mentor to anyone taking responsibility for this position.

Sally provided everyone with a Foster-to-Adopter Checklist which she will be providing to foster parents for each dog before its placement. With only a few minor changes the Board was in agreement as to the content of the checklist.

Donna reported that she is amending the chapter brochures for printing to have available for the Home & Garden Show. Brochures are available until then with sticker corrections.

Glen announced that he will be turning over the membership list to Lana which she will update from incoming mail and send to him for placement on the website and for the mailing list. It was also decided that a blank for a dog's name should be put on the renewal notice printed in the newsletter which may assist in tracking.

After some discussion it was confirmed that Bobbie will send "Thank You" cards for ALL donations received. If the donation is substantial it will be brought to Glen's attention at which time a letter from the President will be sent also. Lana will notify both Bobbie (for the "thank you" cards) and Donna (for the newsletter) when donations are received in the mail.

Sally brought magnetic card forms to the meeting to ask for assistance in getting contact cards created and printed for distribution. An ink jet printer is required, so Tim volunteered to take on the task.

It was decided that the best place for the Lenox greyhound statues would be on Ebay. Bobbie also suggested that the chapter's inventory of Chubbs posters (currently out of print and over 10 years old) be placed on Ebay also with an opening bid of \$5.00 plus postage.

The Board decided that there would be no printing of extra newsletters over and above the monthly 350 that are given to us free unless there was a special need. Glen volunteered to do small runs on his copier should they be needed. He also will be checking the newsletter mailing list to make sure TGA is included.

Bobbie and Pam reported that their appearance at Hill Country Bible Church school was a great success.

Lana reported that Diane Whiteley, Exec. Dir., TGA, would be acting as a guide for members of GPA-CT who were able to go on Tuesday, Feb. 22 to The Pet Blood Bank outside Llano, Texas.

The "Available Dogs" portion of the website was discussed. Bobbie and Tim passed along some constructive comments from outside the group, and everyone agreed to look at the site with an eye for suggestions for improvement. One suggestion was to place the word "Adopted" or something similar over the picture of a dog that had been placed to show placement activity.

Everyone was asked to look at the forms they use to see if they need updating.

Lana will investigate advertising in the Austin Pets Directory.

There was discussion about a change to the Bylaws which would take monthly membership meetings to quarterly. That discussion was tabled, but the Board meetings were changed to the third Tuesday of the month beginning March, 2005.

Considerations of The Buddy System, a quarterly planning meeting, a rescue/recovery kit, the "Greyhound Guardian" bracelets, and a Jamboree "How To" book were tabled. Bob made the motion and Donna seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Lana Henley
Executive Secretary