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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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PSDP Board of Directors Minutes
4/14/17, 12:30 p.m. PT/3:30 p.m. ET

Attendees

Veronica, Elaine, Chanda, Brad, Linden, & Heather

Agenda

- Next regular meeting
- Research
- List future
- Media
- Website
 - Links to site
 - 2016 Community Photos
- GreatNonprofits reviews
- Fundraising
 - Giving Assistant
 - eBay listing
 - Convention sponsorships
 - Corporate sponsorship
 - Waggin' Trail Dog Walk
 - Pup'parel
 - PWDF grant
 - Mad Monster Party
 - Belk Charity Sale
 - Convention
- Advocacy
 - Massachusetts, etc.
 - Indiana legislation
 - Networking with other advocates
 - Question for airlines and DOT
 - HR 620
- Housing clarification
- Revision of emergency card
- PAS & PAT updates
- Treasury Report



This regular meeting was called by verbal agreement during the prior meeting, or by intermediate written reasonable notification made in good faith and agreed to by a majority of board members through email or phone, and was held through videoconferencing.

- Next regular meeting
Friday, May 19th at 12:30 PT/3:30 ET.
- Research
We may assist an engineering firm with a project related to psychiatric service dogs.
- List future
We thinking ahead to what the list might look like in the future, as well as how we might address the needs of those for whom the list is not a good format.

•Media

Veronica plans to submit herself as a TED talk candidate.

Chanda was interviewed for a podcast in the works.

•Website

-Links to site

There are a lot of links from Pinterest to the memes on our site. We are planning to run another meme activity to make use of people's interest.

-2016 Community Photos

There was a good turnout for our 2016 Community Photos solicitation, thanks to our beautiful community members. We're excited to have posted these now that they're all ready!

<http://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/community-photos/service-dog-pics-2016>

•GreatNonprofits reviews

We're now soliciting more GreatNonprofits reviews so our community can help us earn this year's badge. We've had a great response so far. We need 10 positive reviews for the 2017 badge. As of this writing, we have seven new ones.

•Fundraising

-Giving Assistant

This site has the potential to send some micro-donations our way, so we signed up so our community members' donations get to us. The graphic/link is now on our "More ways to help" page.

<http://www.psychdogpartners.org/donate/more-ways-to-help>

-eBay listing

There was an eBay listing where the seller was set up to donate some of the proceeds to PSDP. We encourage other sellers to follow suit!

-Convention sponsorships

We had six sponsors for our 2017 convention: Banfield Pet Hospital of Rhonert Park, Courteous Canine, Earth Fare, Margie Cantwell, NAMI—Piedmont Tri-County, and VCA Sequoia Valley Animal Hospital. We are looking into 2018 convention sponsors to help us create an amazing experience and shore up our ability to provide scholarships in the future.

-Corporate sponsorship

We are designing a tier-based sponsorship program to facilitate expansion through corporate sponsors.

-Waggin' Trail Dog Walk

On April 29th, we plan to participate in a local event to help spread the word about and raise funds for PSDP.

-Pup'parel

Our logo wear is available through Pup'parel, which graciously chooses to donate to PSDP.

-PWDF Grant

We sent a letter of interest for a grant from the People with Disabilities Foundation (PWDF). We are waiting to hear from them in the next stage.

-Mad Monster Party

PSDP is in a position to benefit from this Rock Hill event's proceeds and to get publicity through the event. This was not a commercial co-venture, since the event did not advertise that proceeds would go to PSDP. We are awaiting the outcome, now that the event is over.

<http://madmonster.com/events/carolina2017/>

-Belk Charity Sale

A Belk store manager called and offered proceeds from a private sale. We looked into this fundraising opportunity, but found it won't mesh well with our highly-dispersed community and accounting aversion to commercial co-venturers.

-Convention

We received over \$100 in donations during the convention and are very thankful to our attendees. We were also able to make PSDP fliers available to the public at the hotel, where they were popular.

•Advocacy

-Massachusetts, etc.

We're investigating some states' service dog legislation. We have been a little too busy lately to take on every piece of legislation that pops up, but we are doing our best to prioritize. We recently prioritized Canadian regulations, a UK legislative update, and Veterans Administration advocacy.

-Indiana legislation

Indiana has some legislation in the works that would limit its increased benefits to users of service dogs that have been specially certified by vets as healthy (for service dog work, presumably). We plan to inquire as to the nature and justification for this proposed increased burden, since it would be more than a normal vet visit, and it's unclear what would be in the vets' "certification" form.

-Networking with other advocates

Other advocates contact us from time to time. We will continue to cultivate relationships with them, apportioning contact returns within board members' areas of expertise, as appropriate.

-Question for airlines and DOT

A community member asked an insightful question about the use of airline cabins' overhead luggage space for service dog users who buy the new "lowest class" tickets. These tickets do not (normally) allow a passenger to use the overhead bin space, yet the person would have the under-seat footspace for carryon luggage in non-bulkhead seats. The question is whether the overhead prohibition for this ticket would apply to a service dog user whose dog occupies the footspace, since the dog is a disability-mitigation device; would that person be entitled to overhead luggage space in lieu of the footspace the dog occupies?

We plan to ask our DOT contacts how they would enforce in such a situation. We may then also query some of our airline contacts.

-HR 620

There is a recurring business lobby effort to weaken the ADA. We are looking at getting behind NDRN (the National Disability Rights Network) to fight this corporate attack.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/620/text>

<http://ndrn.org/en/public-policy/ada-a-civil-rights.html>

•Housing clarification

The interplay of laws affecting housing situations is complicated. We recently updated our single FAQ answer on the topic to reveal more of this situation, and we are working toward putting out an article to help housing providers and seekers better understand the rules in play.

•Revision of emergency card

We are revising our emergency card to be additionally available as a fillable pdf. A draft is in progress based on board input.

We are also drafting a first-responder refrigerator notice, and will be doing so based on the 2016 convention's first responder discussion.

•PAS & PAT updates

We updated the PSDP public access test (PAT) and public access standard (PAS). There are multiple minor changes and at least one that is more significant.

<http://www.psychdogpartners.org/resources/public-access>

•Treasury Report

The treasury report includes changes to and progress in the categories of: income, expenses, current funds, the budget, earmarked funds, and fundraising.