

Present: Jeannie Losey, Anne Myers, Amanda Dillard (phone), Beckie Mossor (google), Beth Green (google)

Not Present: Stacey Hathaway (funeral), Sandra Portilla (sick), Kristin Callis (work)

1. Jeannie called meeting to order
2. Jeannie presented a \$2000 Life Insurance benefit for our members – a company that offers life insurance for members of non-profit groups. No cost for us, no initial cost for members. Beckie suggests for members to vote. On interest. Jeannie will put something together (survey or something).
3. Goals for NCAVT Board presented by Beckie. Need to get a budget from Sandi. Jeannie had emailed Sandi to get an idea of costs over past 3 years – waiting on Sandi to reply.
4. Amanda presented 123 Signup.com Jeannie and Beckie thinks it sounds like a good idea. Need to check budget.
5. Spring Conference – 2014 presented by Anne. Has 9 confirmed speakers so far. Jeannie knows of a speaker for dog behavior, but she would need 2 hours to speak. Maybe use her as a keynote speaker to help pay for her hotel. Beckie wants to know about setting up a third track and use Jonathan to speak OSHA. No wet lab if keynote speaker, but have Anne do a ECG tracings like she did at the Fall conference. \$25 for cost of ECG lab. \$25 for keynote speaker. Debbie Sawyer will do a basket for door prize. Kristin will take pictures. Anne will send out a speaker list to everyone and work on sponsors.
6. Non-Profit annual donation Vote – had 5 nominations this year:
  - a. The American Pit Bull Foundation. Nominated by Tracey McDonald. The APBF is not solely a rescue organization, they are an organization that **promotes responsible breed ownership through providing:**
    - owner and public education
    - positive alternatives to pit fighting
    - programs to endorse and recognize responsible breed ownership
    - provide medical and financial assistance for dogs with responsible owners
    - aid in adoption of Pit Bulls to responsible individuals or families

Their education programs range from school visits to 1 on 1 visits with owners, often times providing trainers to work with owners and provide balanced training to meet the individual needs of the dogs.

In addition the APBF has an “Emergency” fund and a “Helping Hands” fund to assist responsible owners who may be going through difficult financial times. Owners requesting assistance from the Emergency fund are required to “give back to the foundation, and/or community either monetarily when able, or, in volunteering. Any monies from owners who have received Emergency Fund assistance will go back into the Emergency Fund for other dogs in need.” All rescues go through a screening process that includes a thorough health exam and temperament testing to ensure that potential rescues are people and pet friendly. No dog is turned down due to health issues. Health issues are addressed by the foundation through their medical fund, donations and/or fund raising events.

- b. Patriot Rovers. Nominated by Michele Miller. They train golden retrievers to be paired with a returning soldier/sailor who have been diagnosed with post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). They work with the Salisbury VA Hospital. To learn more, their website is [patriotrovers.com](http://patriotrovers.com).
- c. Rising Hope Farms. Nominated by Joyce Boston. Rising Hope Farms is a therapeutic riding facility, and a 501(c)3. Everyone at Rising Hope, from the board, to the volunteers, to the special needs riders and their families recognizes the unique bond and healing qualities of the relationship between animals and people. To see a child who can not walk trot on horseback, or hear a child with autism who normally is silent ask a horse to “walk on” is an amazing experience. We hear laughter every day, yet even as the riders have fun, they build muscle tone, confidence and cognitive skills. Each person is accepted as they come every time they walk into the barn. The love and smiles are each riding session are heartwarming. Most of the 7 horses, 1 donkey, 2 cats, and 1 dog that make up the “paid staff” at Rising Hope were rescued animals, yet the trust and love they have for the volunteers and rider they work with is evident. As I implied, the animals are the only staff at Rising Hope that receive their board and care in exchange for their work. And as we all know, horse feed is not cheap! All the people who care for the horses and the wonderful riders are volunteers, and no rider is ever charged for services. The four instructors are certified therapeutic riding instructors through PATH International (the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship International. Rising Hope Farms subsists on donations alone, and just completed its 7th year of operation. The horses, riders, and volunteers would be very appreciative of a donation from NCAVT, as all expense needs are met by donations.
- d. Harnett Animal Welfare Coalition. Nominated by Ann Freshman
- e. Great Dane Friends of Ruff Love. Nominated by Julie Vineyard. A group of volunteers dedicated to saving Danes and other dogs, especially one’s that

may be passed up by other rescues due to special needs. We are an extension of **Ruff Love Rescue**, a 501(c)(3) non profit based in Thomasville NC. My husband and I foster for this group and one of our first fosters came to us from an sever neglect situation. She was a 15 month old great dane that weighed about 50 pounds. She also had a Rottweiler sister in the same condition that our rescue helped find a home for. We had her a little over 2 months and nursed her back to health and finding a happy family that would no longer neglect her. We have many heartworm positive dogs currently in our care and a few sanctuary dogs with medical needs that will live out there lives in their foster homes with the financial support of the rescue.

- f. After discussion about each group, Jeannie led a vote. The winners are Rising Hope Farms (large animal/mixed) and Patriot Rovers (small animal).
7. Beth needs newsletter items by end of the year. President's letter, non-profit winners write up, spring conference, membership renewal, meet the member, income statement, call for nominations for tech of the year.
8. 2015 Elections – Public Relations, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Coordinator, President-Elect, President. Discussed the possibility of 2 members at large with no voting rights.
  - a. Stacey stays VP, Anne stays Education Coordinator, Beckie stays NAVTA
9. The board would like to find out the average Pay for RVT's in NC. All to send Jeannie ideas/questions so that she can set up a survey and send out in Jan. 2015
10. Anne did the site visit for Gaston. It was suggested to look at Indiana's practice act as a good example.
11. Beckie went to the NCVMB with Stacey. It went very well. They were very receptive. The NC vet association could be our biggest obstacle.
12. Jeannie requested a motion to end the meeting. Amanda motioned, Anne seconded to end meeting.