Meeting Date and Time: October 9, 2024, 01:00PM – 02:00PM

Meeting Physical Location: 317 Academy Rd. Pittsford, VT 05763

Meeting Remote Location: Teams Meeting Information below

Minutes:

Members present: Dave Dewey, Rich Slusser, Mark Redmond, and Scott Dunlap

Staff present: Kim McManus

No members of the public

1. Call to Order: ( Chair Dave Dewey) at approximately 1:06

2. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

One addition to the Agenda – Slusser would like to raise some additional potential edits to the Standards, added after Obedience training.

3. Approval of September 17, 2024 meeting minutes

Minutes from September 17, 2024 meeting were moved for approval by Redmond, with noted edits to names that were misspelled, names will be corrected; motion seconded by Slusser. All members present approved the motion.

4. Committee membership

 How to recognize past service of committee members who recently resigned?

Committee members discussed different ways to appreciate past committee members.; potentially, landing on the idea of some sort of plaque.

Need to create a list of past members, can the academy help with that? It might require going through past minutes. Is there money available via academy/vcjc?

 New member recruitment

Standards allow 5-9 members. Current membership is 6. No need to add new members yet but a list of handlers with their start date would be helpful down the road to know who is eligible when future recruitment is needed.

5. Election – New Chair

Motion to move forward an executive slate of Dave Dewey and Mark Redmond as Co-chairs, and Rich Slusser as Vice Chair. Motion made by Scott Dunlap; seconded by Slusser, all members present approved the motion.

6. Obedience training

Obedience will be its own stand alone standard and will distinguish obedience standards for patrol dogs, non-patrol dogs who do evidence and article search, and all other non-patrol dogs.

Rich to draft language and send to kim. Obedience language and other standard suggested edits (see below) to be presented to the committee at next meeting for a vote to recommend changes to the Council.

7. Other Standard edits/issues to discuss

Remove powder detection from definition section as we changed powder detection to gun detection.

Should the canine committee be defined in the definition section?

Should the canine handler requirements explicitly state 3 years experience as a full-time law enforcement officer? Or should the experience of the applicant be made on a case-by-case basis. Do the handler minimum requirements, as written, establish that this is the minimum to apply not that one is automatically accepted if they meet the minimum requirements. would we want to add some language here and/or create a separate document to outline process for application – i.e., head trainer approval, review by canine committee, etc. Slusser and staff attorney to speak further on this topic.

Annual training hours – approval of outside opportunities to train. Does approval by VCJC make sense? Or should VCJC be changed to Head Trainer? Staff attorney stated that VCJC language provides VCJC the flexibility to shift the review to a head trainer when present or canine committee if we are without a head trainer. The issue seems to be one of operation – how do handlers request approval, what is the process for approval. Slusser to check in with Lindsay about form that we could co opt to create a training approval form, and that put out information to handlers on how to submit the paperwork.

Reminder that “with one training day” needs to be removed from #17 and #18 on page 10. This was previously recommended by vote by the committee, just needs to be cleaned up before submitted to the Council.

Spelling error on page 12, sec 3 – “fulfill” is misspelled

8. Gathering K9 deployment Data for VPA – need for a point person

E.D. has asked for help gathering statistics for the use of K9 teams in the state – numerical data plus a few highlights to demonstrate the utility of K9 teams and the continued need for maintaining the VCJC canine program.

Committee discussed how to use PackTrack as a source of information, and how we could go about pulling that information.

Will help the subcommittee to have a specific list of #s that the academy is looking for? McManus to work on that with E.D.

Discussion as to whether someone could be a point person for this data collection either on the committee or at the academy. One idea of separating the collection into regions was discussed.

Once committee has clarity on the ask, will discuss further how to pull the information.

9. Public Comment

 No public comment

Next meeting November 12, 2024 at 3pm

Motion to adjourn made by Slusser, seconded by Dewey, all members present approved the motion.

Meeting ended at approximately 2:29pm.

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