



August 3, 2025 – Business Meeting

Suffield Veterinary Hospital, 577 East St. S, Suffield, CT - ZOOM Available

Meeting called to order at 6:07PM

Present:

Debi Baker
Gretchen Boss
Ann Huntington
Chris Misseri
Mike Richards
Annmarie Wilson

ZOOM:

Michele Kowalski
Laura Athas
Lyn Blanchard
Susan Brownell
Andrea Heinman
Trish Hills

Laura Lafreniere
Fran Lloyd
Dave & Tina Warner
Raphael & Sue Werner

Minutes

The meeting minutes from the June 1, 2025 were emailed to all members.

MOTION to accept the minutes as distributed. (Ann H./Mike R.) Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Laura Lafreniere presented the treasurer's report.

Correspondence

Correspondence secretary was not present.

Working Certificate and FETCH

Working Certificate was poorly attended. Annmarie W. is hoping it was mainly due to the Master Amateur event in Maine. FETCH also had a low attendance this year. We realized about a \$100 loss however there are 5 unused ducks that have been kept frozen and will be purchased from LRCPV this month. This will result in a break even or small gain on the event.

The next Field Training Day is September 7th. Annmarie W. mentioned she is not available to organize this event. Someone will need to organize the event, obtain the permit, etc. Please reach out to Annmarie W. If no one can organize the event, we will forfeit the date.

Dock Diving

The Club sponsored event was a fun day for all. Everyone had a good time and discussion was positive to continue with this event in the future. Lyn B. will mail the checks to Laura L.

Health Clinic

September 14, 2025, Annmarie W. will organize helpers. We will have two doctors doing Echos so we will need another helper for Echos. Ann H. said she will have a technician available but lifters will be needed.

It was mentioned several members have sent in requests for spots at the clinic but have not

paid yet. Michele K. mentioned all payments must be received by the closing date or those spots will be forfeited to folks on the waiting list.

Several members in attendance offered to assist at the Clinic. They are: Gina Hills will help with eyes for the entire day, Reilly Hills will help with Echos for the entire day, Chris M. and Debi B. will help where needed for the entire day, Raphael W. and Sue W. will help where needed the entire day, Mike R. will help where needed for entire day if needed, Laura L. will help where needed starting late morning through end of day, Fran Lloyd will help morning until 3PM where needed, Gretchen B. will do the lunches and stay until the end of the day. Dave and Tina Warner will help in the afternoon.

Annamarie W. will send an email to confirm the above as well as request additional helpers.

LRC National Specialty Trophy Donation

The Club has agreed to a \$200.00 trophy donation to be spread among Conformation, Agility, Obedience and Rally. Laura L. will make the online donation and note how the donation should be applied.

Big E

Our Date for Meet and Greet with our dogs at the Big E is September 23rd, a Tuesday. Gretchen B. is organizing the event. Please remember, dogs must be trained appropriately on leash, good with other dogs and with many folks petting and giving attention to the dog.

November Specialty

Our November Designated Specialty is at the Big E on November 21, 22 and 23. We will need stewards for these days. Ann H, Laura A. and Annmarie W. have offered to steward, specific days to be discussed.

The trophies are all set for this show.

Our judges are: Paula Nykeil and Nancy Wolston Friday; Julie Jussaume and Abby Patrizio Saturday; Sharon Luckhart and Dr. Maryann Mack Sunday.

Contact Gretchen B. if you can help steward at these shows.

January 2026 Match

Deb B. and Karin B. will organize the match again for 2026. Discussion as to whether to just have January for Obedience and Rally and maybe hold Breed match later in the year. Breed historically has had a low entry however AKC rules state we must hold a breed match in order to have our Specialty. Ideas discussed about doing Breed outside and later in the year. Dave W. commented this would also potentially reduce the number of rooms needed to reserve at Tails to help reduce the cost of renting the facility. Exploring returning to Exercise Finished was also discussed.

There was discussion also about using the Dock Diving venue for a Breed Match and maybe pairing with a fun dock diving day. Lyn B. will check with them however Lyn and Trish H. both commented the grass is not well manicured and used for sheep herding so they did not feel it would be ideal. There are indoor areas that could be considered. Laura A. will check on the

facilities dock diving competition dates. The thought was a Breed Match followed by a Dock Diving 'try it' may pull in more exhibitors.

2026 Specialty

We have contracted with Brooklyn Fairgrounds for our 2026 Specialty. The grounds will be shared with the Nutmeg Cluster shows. Gretchen B. and Annmarie W. traveled to the area and there is plenty of space for our tents and rings.

Our new superintendent will be Dogzibit.

Need decisions on trophies by September 1st. Dave and Tina W. to confirm whether the Dollar prize for Rally Combined and Rally Triple Combined will be repeated for 2026.

The Better Living Building is available to LRCPV free of charge. Several members are exploring options to hold a Breed seminar on Friday of our Specialty. Annmarie W. checked with Dr. Emmanuel Fontaine. He charges \$500.00 per hour and will only do a live video stream seminar. It was decided not to pursue Dr. Fontaine. Gretchen B. will check with Dr. Bell, a canine geneticist. His practice is in Enfield and Dr. Bell is the geneticist at Tufts. Michele K. suggested an open discussion forum with local reproduction veterinarians. Dr. Ann no longer participates in these seminars. It was decided not to pursue this option.

LRC National Specialty 2027

Annmarie W. was approached about having the LRCPV having a Specialty at the 2027 LRC National. The group decided not to do this as we currently have several specialties each year.

Website

We are once again in search of a Webmaster. Quotes are being sought from various people. Betsy Arellano has quoted \$4,000.00 Gretchen B has the details of the quote. We are awaiting a quote from Karen Cheney. Annmarie W. is checking with Bryant Internet Solutions. For now, Annmarie W. will maintain the current website.

New Business

Deb and Jim Brunell would like the trailer stored in another location by September 1st.

Gretchen looked into storage facility options, but they are expensive. Gretchen and Chris B. have offered to store the trailer and tow it to our events when needed.

Michele K. requested two ZOOM meetings be scheduled. One to discuss Field Training. Invitees to that ZOOM will be: Michele K, Reilly H., Mike R., Maria S. and Annmarie W.

The second ZOOM will be scheduled after the Field ZOOM meeting and will be a Board Meeting. Annmarie W. was approached regarding field training property. Buck Shope is looking for Clubs that may be interested in his property in Templeton for field training. It is a long way off, however discussions are beginning.

While it is doubtful our Club will be partaking in the offer, Annmarie W. will sit in on the discussions to determine if the LRCPV can be involved in the use of the property.

Litters

Anne Crouss has 2 black males available, they are 9 weeks

MOTION to adjourn meeting at 7:08 (Ann H./Lyn B.) Motion carried

Next Meeting

Sunday October 5, 2025, at 6 PM

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Suffield, CT 06078

Zoom will be available

Respectfully submitted

Annmarie Wilson

LRCPV Recording Secretary