

**TCVESSA General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**April 11, 2026**  
**Lord Fletchers, Spring Park**

**Attendees:**

Carmen Laing, Sarah Willms, Carol Hathaway, Kathy Patregnani, Courtney Hansen, Deanna Henshaw, Karin Anderson, Sandy Klimers, Tekla Viker, Joan Beck, Jean Dockendorf, Gretta Thorson, Alice Musburger, Diane Slais, & Shelia & Ron Koon, Gina Paulucci, Liz Pike, Carol Hitz, Kay Glaeser, Shirley Harford, Sandy Klimers, Jill & Grady Dunham, Heather Podgorski, Lisa & Andy Putnam, Jennifer Jablonski, Susan Hatch, Ann Sunderman, Lucina Kayee, Tim & Julie Damgaard.

- Meeting called to order by president Courtney Hansen at 7:20 p.m.
- Meeting Minutes from March 21, 2026 Coffee and Canine event were distributed.  
Moved to accept: Karin Anderson, second by Diane Slais

**President's Report - Courtney Hansen**

- March 31 was the cutoff date for the grace period for members who have not paid dues. Anyone who wants to rejoin would need to re-apply.
- Mary Dahl has resigned from being Membership Chair and Sunshine person. We are looking for volunteers to fill these two positions.

**Treasurer's Report - Gretta Thorson.**

- 2025 Year End Financial Report showed \$84,824 in income, \$87,337 in expenses with a net loss of \$2,512. The Opening Balance was \$6,740 and the Year End Balance was \$4,228.
  - Major income sources are Events at \$79,215. The banquet contributed \$1,120 and fundraisers contributed \$1,225.
  - Major expenses are facility rental at \$19,507 (22%), event secretary fees at \$16,398 (19%), AKC Fees \$18,864 (22%) and judges at \$16,912 (19%).
- 2026 Q1 financial report shows \$32,176 of income and \$30,952 of expenses with a net profit of \$1,224. Opening Balance was \$4,228 and Closing Balance was \$5,452.

**Old Business:**

**Summer Solstice Conformation Shows – Courtney Hansen & Sarah Willms**

- Courtney requested \$372.00 to purchase ribbons from Ravishing Rosettes. Kathy Patregnani moved to approve; seconded by Liz Pike.
- Sign-up sheet for sponsoring trophies & ribbons was available at the Banquet. It will also be sent to all members.
- Event Reminders:
  - June 18-21, 2026, Isanti County Fairgrounds; Cambridge, MN; Cambridge Minnesota Kennel Club, Anoka Kennel Club, Onofrio is superintendent.
  - TCVESSA will do 4 supported entries, one each day. Saturday 6/20 will be a concurrent specialty in p.m. Sweeps, puppy, etc.

#### **Banquet** – Carmen Laing

- Members briefly discussed the breakfast banquet idea rather than an evening dinner. Carmen explained the difficulty in finding a private room for our sized group in a centralized location. No action was taken.

#### **TCVESSA Website** – Jean Dockendorf

- Website ([www.tcveessa.org](http://www.tcveessa.org)) has been revamped. It is still a work in process, but we have home page, events calendar, about us and newsletters/meeting minutes.

#### **TCVESSA Fundraising** – Diane Slais

- Diane is looking for both ideas and help with fundraising.
- She has received suggestions such as a Canine First Aid Course and a Pedigree Analysis seminar.
- Courtney mentioned that we will be looking at doing another online auction item with Small Dog Helpers.
- Sarah mentioned charging for educational seminars. When the ESSFTA Education Committee did an educational event with wine and charcuterie (similar to Canine & Coffee), they made about \$1000 profit.
- Scent Work trials was also mentioned as an income source, but that we may not have enough volunteers to put one on.
- Sign-ups for sponsoring trophies & ribbons will be available for our obedience/rally trial, Cambridge specialty and Hutchinson specialty. Sign-up sheets will be sent to all members.
- Sarah mentioned that they hope to raise funds to offer Minky crate pads & kennel blankets are prizes for the specialty.
- Sandy Klimers volunteered to do a raffle at the obedience and rally trial in May. Give item donations, gift cards, etc. to Sandy, Kathy or Courtney, or bring to the trial.

### **Amendment to Bylaws, section 9**

- Gretta read proposed amendment to allow remote meetings via zoom or another platform.
- Club members voted by secret ballot and the amendment was unanimously approved.

### **Officers & Board Members Election**

- A round of applause and sincere “Thank You” from all club members to Mary Dahl, Carmen Laing and Michelle Berge for their service to the club.
- Slate read by Courtney
  - President: Sarah Willms;
  - Vice President: Alice Musburger;
  - Secretary: Jean Dockendorf;
  - Treasurer: Gretta Thorson;
  - Directors: Heather Rand, Diane Slais, Kathy Patregnani, Courtney Hansen, Tekla Viker.
- Floor was opened for any additional nominations – none received.
- Liz Pike moved to accept; Kay Glaeser seconded. Approved by all, none opposed.

### **Volunteer Coordinator**

- Members briefly discussed having a volunteer coordinator to help get more club members involved. No action taken.

Motion to Adjourn 8:30 p.m. made by Kathy Patregnani, second by Tekla Viker.

### **Upcoming Events & Reminders:**

#### **Obedience & Rally Trial – Kathy Patregnani**

- May 16 & 17 and Cloud 9. Closing Date is Wednesday April 29, 2026 at 12:00PM
- Premium is posted at Xtreme K9s <https://xtremek9s.com/upcomingevents/>
- Kathy is looking for ring stewards/volunteers.
- Ring rental/run thru’s for rally & obedience on Friday, May 15. Kathy to establish fee.
- Sandy Klimers volunteered to do a raffle at the obedience and rally trial in May. Give item donations, gift cards, etc. to Sandy, Kathy or Courtney, or bring to the trial.

### **Agility Trials – Kathy Patregnani**

- **TCVESSA May Agility Trial** is May 29-31 at On the Run.
  - Entries are open. Final Closing Date – Wednesday, May 13, 2026 at 6:00PM
  - Volunteers needed, especially for the novice & open classes in late afternoon.
- **ESSFTA Fund Raiser Agility Trial** is July 19-21 at Cloud 9.
- **TCVESSA October Agility Trial** is ???

### **VOX Newsletter – Alice Musburger**

- Members can submit dog-related articles, book reviews, etc. in addition to Brags, etc.
- Next publication date is June 15. Deadline June 1.

### **Crow River Fall Classic Conformation Show – Courtney Hansen, Sarah Willms, Michelle Berge**

- October 1-4, 2026, Hutchinson, MN; Wright County KC & Granite City Kennel Club, Baray is superintendent
- No separate building, but we will have nice grooming area close to rings.
- TCVESSA will do 3 supported entries and 1 concurrent specialty.

### **Bylaws Review Committee:**

- Karin Anderson and Carol Hathaway volunteered to be on committee to review bylaws. Discussed possibly adding proxy voting.

### **English Springer Spaniel Rescue Plant Sale:**

- Diane Slais handed out order forms for 2026 Spring Plant Sale which is a fundraiser for English Springer Spaniel Rescue America. Order form includes hanging baskets, patio pots and tomato plants. Order forms and payment due April 20<sup>th</sup>. Order pickup is May 8 & 9 in Chaska. Contact Diane for details.

### **ESSFTA 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Pins**

- Kathy is selling ESSFTA 100<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary label pins for \$12.00 each. Contact Kathy to get one.

### **ESSFTA 2026 National Specialty**

- October 10-17 at Linn County Expo Center in Albany, OR.