

TCVESSA Meeting Minutes
March 21, 2026
Byerly's, St. Louis Park

Attendees:

Sarah Willms, Carol Hathaway, Heather Rand, Liz Riel, Joanne Riel, Kathy Patregnani, Deanna Henshaw, Karen Anderson, Sandy Klimers, Tekla Viker, Michelle Berge, Joan Beck, Jean Dockendorf, Gretta Thorson, Alice Musburger. Later Attendees: Diane Slais & Shelia Koon

- Meeting called to order by treasurer Gretta Thorson, 2:17 p.m.
- Meeting Minutes from April 5, 2025. Moved to accept: Karen Anderson, second by Tekla Viker

President's Report: Courtney Hansen, absent, no report

Secretary's Report: Mary Dahl, absent. Per Gretta, Mary reports that we have 80 members, 3 are minors and 7 have not paid dues, so quorum is 14. No new applications to be read.

Treasurer's Report: Gretta. New report will be emailed.

Old Business:

Obedience & Rally Trial (Kathy):

- May 16 & 17 and Cloud 9.
- Premium is posted at Xtreme K9s <https://xtremek9s.com/upcomingevents/>
- Kathy is looking for ring stewards/volunteers.
- Local judges, no additional expenses anticipated.
- Ring rental/run thru's on Friday, May 15. Kathy to establish fee. Rally and obedience rings available.
- Sandy Klimers: Volunteered to investigate doing a raffle at the obedience and rally trial

Agility Trial (Kathy)

- May 29-31 at On the Run – local judges, no additional expenses anticipated. Volunteers are always welcome, especially for the novice & open classes in late afternoon.
- October trial – Judge originally hired cancelled. Kathy was able to hire Christy Bowers. She will charge travel, not to exceed \$1300. Most out-of-town judges cost between \$1800-\$2000.

VOX Newsletter: (Alice):

- Many attendees thanked and complimented Alice on the new issue!
- Alice encouraged members to submit dog-related articles, book reviews, etc. in addition to Brags, etc.
- Next publication date is June 15. Deadline June 1.

TCVESSA Fundraising Idea:

- Discussed how club members could donate/sell used dog equipment, clothing, etc. at events or on website. Attendees were very excited about this as a fund-raising idea and an opportunity for newer members to acquire equipment from others who are down-sizing.
- Gretta reminded everyone that Diane is looking for more fundraising ideas

Summer Solstice conformation shows (Sarah)

- 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
- On Saturday, we will have a concurrent specialty in p.m. Sweeps, puppy, etc.
- Info on sponsoring trophies & ribbons will be available at the Awards Banquet.

Crow River Fall Classic conformation shows (Sarah)

- October 6-9, 2026, Hutchinson, MN; Wright County KC & Granite City Kennel Club, Baray is superintendent
- We won't have our own separate building like last year, but we will have nice grooming area close to rings.
- TCVESSA will do 3 supported entries and 1 concurrent specialty.

TCVESSA Website (Jean)

- Website (www.tcveffa.org) has been moved to new host GoDaddy using GoDaddy Basic content management system. Monthly price for hosting when paying for 1-

year in advance is \$9.99 per month. Jean donated first year's hosting fees. Future charges (beginning in March 2027) will be billed to the club.

- The domain name registration, currently \$17.00 per year, will need to be moved from Lycos to GoDaddy (or another domain name registrar) when it comes due later this year.
- Website is still a work in process, but we have home page, events calendar, about us and newsletters/meeting minutes.

New Business:

Nominating Committee (Alice Musburger, Jo Magney, Brian Schaffer)

- Slate read by Gretta. 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.
- Karen moved to accept; Michelle Berge seconded. Approved by all, none opposed.

Amendment to Bylaws, section 9

- Gretta read proposed amendment to allow remote meetings via zoom or another platform.
- Club members will vote on proposal at General Membership meeting at awards banquet.

Additional Discussion:

- Kathy brought up topic of how to raise a hand to take turns speaking on zoom.
- Alice discussed future examination of Robert's Rules of Order and potential article in zoom etiquette in newsletter.
- Kathy mentioned idea of possibly having a breakfast buffet awards banquet rather than having an evening event.
- Bylaws Review Committee: Karen Anderson and Carol Hathaway volunteered to be on committee to review bylaws. Discussed possibly adding proxy voting.

Motion to Adjourn 3:14 p.m. made by Kathy Patregnani, second by Karen Anderson

Other Items:

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 20th. Order pickup is May 7 & 8 in Chaska. Contact Diane for details.

ESSFTA 100th Year Anniversary Pins

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

Virtual Puppy Party

Sarah Willms will conduct a virtual evaluation of her current litter of puppies on April 6, at 3 p.m. The zoom meeting will be through the ESSFTA website as part of the Breeder's Education Committee.

Legacy Breeder Interviews

Sarah also mentioned that the ESSFTA Breeder's Education Committee will be doing interviews with legacy Springer breeders, and the first one will be with TCVESSA's own Julie Roberts! Details on when this interview will be available to come.

Canine & Coffee Discussion

Sarah Willms led attendees through a presentation on "*An Interactive Discussion on the ESS Standard.*" Attendees said they found this extremely beneficial and are looking forward to another session and continued discussion on this topic.

Minutes approved at annual meeting/awards banquet 4/11/26