



Fall 2019 Program Advisory Committee Minutes

Program: Companion Animals

Date: 10/17/19

Members Present:

Kate Peever - All Paws On Deck

Dan Carlson - Walk A Pup

Darlene Lane - Parent

Abigail Lane - Student

Kathleen Malliat - ECAD Service Dogs

Kate Meehan - Instructor

Haley Scofield - Instructor

Program Facilitator: (Haley Scofield)***

Committee Chair: (Kate Peever)***

Subject: Student Enrollment/Placement

Discussion: Haley and Kate M revamped the Discovery and Explore curriculum and have already noticed a dramatic increase in student engagement. Kathleen suggested more of a PAC presence at Open House. We will email PAC members and let them know day/time if they can make it, great! Kate P suggested reaching out to the local grooming community. Haley and Abby talked about making more clear just what Companion Animals are about..... Get some statistics of careers to show job possibilities. Per Dan, the industry is booming so again, making more clear what we are. It's a new thing to people, so let's explain it.



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Another idea was to have a career day before students make their final decisions..... CAN WE DO THIS? School wide? Or set something up during open house? Set up in Gym? Also increasing our social media, having businesses that we work with use links or hashtags to #companionanimals to spark interest.

** Have CAC make up companion animal careers pamphlets

Haley: Create a video - like an ad highlighting field trips, Westminster, reach out to Graphics to help with this. (DON/JILL can you help facilitate?) *“Whats wrong with this picture? Come to CA to find out...”*

Subject: Annual Programmatic Review

Discussion: We have made improvements in safety and signage and passed the last Dave Edmonds safety visit, so we did not go up to the labs for this. We will do so in spring.

Subject: Bias Review Checklist

Discussion: Same as above, as we have made no changes in our textbooks etc we are still good on this

Subject: Quality Assessment Tool

Discussion: See Above....

Subject: New Trends in the Occupational Area

Discussion:



Subject: Employment Outlook

Discussion: Business opportunities are all around. See notes on student enrollment for some comments.

Subject: New Business

Discussion: Reach out to Essex County CoOp re: field trip for animals and also nutrition.

Can we do anything with herding? Using our dogs or guest dogs herd sheep? Or TrayBall?

Abby: safety concerns re: new vet clinic. (Don was present) Concerned with people getting in and having nothing separating us. In addition, illnesses are a huge concern, for ours, our dogs and our public clients who have healthy dogs that could get sick from sick dog. Don spoke about Angel not being new at this, and other clinics being successful. Adjustments can and will be made as we go. He stated that Student Safety is our number 1 priority and he wants everything to be safe.

New training facility: Abby volunteers there, and is officially now considered staff. Haley showed pics. Don explained what the space is and why we have it. WiFi will not be up this year but Don has spoke with IT and hopefully it will be running next year. This is due to infrastructure.

Subject: Recommendations

Discussion CTAC - integration can include psychology (body language) , math (dilution, food angles for grooming), and science (food) Haley - Students need more Body Language training and practice - Dan said regular exposure is important. Go to dog parks and take videos. Sue Sternberg - Dog Park Etiquette. (Can we get her videos??)



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And don't forget Cats per Kate P. (and Kate can and will come in on Cat days....) Grooming shelter animals came up, Kate can bring foster cats in. Dan will talk again to NEAS as they have a new training program so they may be more interested in a grooming opportunity now.

If tools chests work out they would be a good choice. Kate P uses them in her shop but uses Husky.

Kate P - can she (and others) get contact info to use other co op employers etc to do work. Kathleen suggested a vendor community page. Darlene asked about our shop kids doing this as outside projects. Don explained that the challenge is that we work with municipalities that puts us out so far, it would be a long wait. Kate M also brought up connecting Home Depot for kennel as example.....

Andis has bathing systems that conserve water these control water pressure, dilute properly and you can use any shampoo

OPaws makes mannequins that we can get. Maybe have students pay for the outside coat each year and we re-use the base body.

Kate P is working with Andis to get us some equipment donated. We asked for cordless clippers, snap on combs and 6.5" shears.

She said to go onto New England Groomers Page and put in for shear donations.

Darlene asked about making a donation just to Companion Animals - her husband has a charitable contribution account. This is from Fidelity. Maybe for specific equipment?

The meeting adjourned at (time): 8:22