



February 26, 2026

Mission Statement (adapted from Constitution and Bylaws):

To promote the public's knowledge and appreciation of dogs in general and Chinooks in particular; To produce, publish, and distribute to the general public educational materials about the proper care, treatment, breeding, health, development and training of Chinooks; To support and promote study and research on the history, character, breeding, genetics and particular health problems of Chinooks; To establish a national database of resource materials about the Chinook; To further understanding of the disease, defects, injuries and other ailments that afflict dogs in general and Chinooks in particular; To acknowledge and advance the critical role of an UKC National breed club in providing education, health research and support of rescue for the benefit of the general public, purebred dogs, and Chinooks in particular; To conduct activities including sporting events, licensed events, specialty shows, working certificate tests, obedience, agility and tracking trials, and other such activities and events as may be held under the rules of the United Kennel Club, in furtherance of the above purposes; To urge members and breeders to be guided by principles of good sportsmanship, including fair and honest conduct, and to accept the standard of the breed as established by the COA and the United Kennel Club (UKC) as the only standard of excellence by which the Chinook shall be bred and judged. To otherwise preserve and protect the Chinook and to do all things possible to promote its natural qualities, including the encouragement of regional activities and/or interest/study groups.

COA Board Meeting Minutes

Call to Order and Roll Call of Board Meeting

- Meeting called to order:2/26/26 @ 7:03
- Present:Rachael, Brenda, Rick, Jon, Kristy, Daniela, Karen, Bob, Marty
- Excused:
- Absent:

Report of President - Daniela Metz

Report: Nothing to report

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ACTION ITEM:

- Put on hold until after new board assigned
 - To increase awareness of our breed:

- Appeal to the public with articles on Chinooks and their history in Dog Magazines
 - Modern Dog - waiting for response from Editors
 - Dogster - Head Writer: Nicole Cosgrove (NZ)
 - Dog's Today (British)
 - Others? Look for online only dog magazines.
 - Suggestions for developing a marketing campaign:
 - Place an ad in magazines as articles could take some time. This would be in addition to the article.

Report of Vice-President - Marty Wilson

Report: Nomination committee met last Sunday, below are meeting notes:

- Marty Wilson, Daniela Metz, and Karen Hinchy discussed filling four board positions—VP, Secretary, Bench Chair, and Regional Activities—prioritizing Bench Chair and VP due to the long-standing vacancy of Bench Chair, estimated by Daniela Metz to be three or four years, and the urgency of the upcoming mid-June specialty event.
 - Suggested next steps
 - Karen Hinchy will reach out to several people about the VP and bench chair positions.
 - Daniela Metz will reach out to a couple of people who may be interested in a position.
 - Marty Wilson will continue to send out marketing material and ask John to post on the COA again to get more participation.
 - Sent short marketing material form COA
 - Sent email to membership for COA positions.

Action Item:

- Nomination Committee
- Is there potential to use SEO to help promote access to the website and to our breeders. Marty will research and report back to the board.

Report of Secretary - Pam Turner

Report:

- Bylaws ballot

- 52 (18%) have been submitted
- Ballot ends 3/2/26 at Noon CST
- Future meeting attendance may be difficult due to work schedule and traveling

Action Item:

Report of Treasurer - Rachael Davis

Report: See below.

Accounts: End of January

Chase - \$43,172.96

PayPal - \$10,579.94

Total - \$53,752.90

Restricted Funds:

Total Restricted - \$6,091.47

Chester Sweetie Fund - \$303.81

Rescue Fund - \$2,113.99

Health Fund - \$3,673.67

Total General Fund - \$ 47,661.43

- Filed State and Federal Tax Forms for 2025

Action Item:

- Vote on 2026 Budget
- Chart specific Funds, totals, and where money comes from (Ongoing)

Report of Communications Chair - Jon Jolly

Report: Made various visual updates to the website (mostly front page). This includes the background, the main logo, the alternate logo (large/circular visible on large screens), the litters “notepad”, the website icon (shown in tab on browser), and others. Met with Bob Cottrell and got more information about

two events in Tamworth and created events in Facebook. Attendance may have been somewhat hindered by weather on both days.

Action Item:

- Add Active Chinook Program brochure to website
- Add open Board positions to CQ
- Get annual report up online and include blurb/link in CQ
- Way to store passwords
- Future CQ articles.
 - Karen - First cross to pure dogs (F3 litter)
 - Rachael and/or Marty about litter updates
 - Marty - 501C3
 - TBD article ideas
 - Passing of important modern history contributors like Bob Jones, Donna Boatright, Neil Wolpert...
 - Talk to Diana Fowler, Bob Cottrell, Ginger Corley, and Penthea Burns, Connie Jones?
 - UKC ownership change
 - UKC Breed Standard
 - Judges education program/committee
 - Modern History of Chinook - Susen Fletcher/Ginger Corley
 - Break down by decade?
 - History of COA creation
 - Benefits of Chinooks as therapy dogs
 - Instagram/Facebook (consider posting permission)
 - Historic cross lines - Donais and first litter that incorporated all 3 original cross lines
 - Current cross lines
 - History of Top Ten since UKC recognition
 - Breeder profiles (past and present)
 - Breeder mentoring
 - Plight of Canadian breeders given export restrictions
 - Passing and leaving historical items to COA
 - Possible funny photo contest

- Bob - Any history articles/throwback photos/etc./upcoming events (Tamworth Event)
 - Modern History article?
- Possible options for photo collage
 - Mischievous Chinooks
 - ??

Report of Membership Chair - Kristy Jolly

Report: **Membership Report – February 2026**

Current Membership Total: 285 (5 puppy memberships not signed up yet)

New Members (2): Meredith Mapes (AK), Richard Baker (MA).

Renewed Members (19): Laurel Wilkinson (MA), Gregg Oosterbaan (OH), Mindy Viechnicki (ME), Ashley Lutz (VA), Margaret Hughes (MA), Taylor Scanlon (AB, Canada), Jim Kucik (GA), Rebecca Knight (CO), Rachel Gray (VA), Andrew Hafitz (NY), James Donnelly (BC, Canada), Bryan Flagg (NH), Pam Turner (TX), Kelly Hall (WA), Kathy Barrett (AZ), Anneliese Sitterly (OR), Lisa Doner (NH), Kim Kramer (NJ), Eric Martin (OR).

Puppy Memberships (0):

Did a clean up on the MailChimp contact list

Membership Numbers by Month

Date	# of Members	Change
Feb-24	291	3
Apr-24	300	9
May-24	300	-
Jul-24	301	1
Oct-24	316	15
Dec-24	320	4
Jan-25	325	5
Apr-25*	274	(51)
May-25	279	5
Jun-25	277	(2)
Jul-25	285	8
Aug-25	281	(4)
Oct-25	286	5
Nov-25	286	-
Jan-26	289	3
Feb-26	285	(4)

*It was discovered the system wasn't demoting membership status when the expire date hit. Once it was corrected, emails went to the members to renew. Some did but some didn't, thus showing the sudden decrease.

Breed Standard Committee: Kristy Jolly

Report: Nothing to Report

Action Item:

Report of Health & Genetics Chair – Karen Hinchy

Report: Pending committee meeting 2/28/26

Report of Registrar – Karen Hinchy

Report: Pending committee meeting 2/28/26

Report of Historian – Bob Cottrell

Report:

Action Item:

- Outreach Details of all Bob's NH Humanities outreach programs can be found at this link:

<https://www.nhhumanities.org/programs/harnessing-history-on-the-trail-of-new-hampshires-state-dog-the-chinook>

- Part of summer traditional arts program

- Link <https://www.tamworthhistorycenter.org/events> and

<https://www.tamworthhistorycenter.org/events/mb1sh77x2vo8wngf3x6enqcz8rcumy>

- Updated the clio chinook trail single entries into a tour

- Adding more

- See Link: <https://www.theclio.com/tour/2608>

- Mar 31, 2026 Chinook Polaris & Igloo (History of the Chinook)

- Started with an Email from a gentleman at the South Pole, C. Bigford (friend of Walden) made dog sled and was part of the 10th Mountain division (WWII). Story to be posted in the CQ

Report of Regional Activities Chair – Vacant

Report: No update

Action Item:

- Discussion regarding tablecloths, materials at events. Time to update what we have? **John will research and bring back to the group**

Report of Rescue Chair – Brenda Dean

Report: We received 2 applications for dogs looking to be re-homed

Action Item:

Report of Active Chinook Program Chair – Rick Prausa

Report: The Active Chinook Committee has decided to change its monthly meeting schedule to a bi-monthly schedule. We do not anticipate any resulting effect on the Committee's productivity. The Committee will continue to meet as needed when time-sensitive work requires it, such as meeting to discuss title applications in a timely manner. It continues to make good progress on the following action items.

Action Item:

- Applications for Titles/Certificates (ongoing action item) – Review applications, issue certificates to owners and dogs meeting requirements and provide related information for publication in the Chinook Quarterly (CQ).

No applications for certificates or titles were received over the past month.

- New Program Participant Guide. The previous action item to streamline the title application process is being folded into a recommendation (from the Draft Health and Safety Review) to develop a *Participant Guide* for the program. The Committee has started an initial draft of the new participant guide.
- Program Health and Safety Review. The Health and Genetics Committee is currently reviewing the ACP Health and Safety Review draft report.

Report of Bench Chair - (Vacant)

Report:

- Discussion on the Kalamazoo June Specialty status without a Bench Chair
- Check to see if there is a UKC Gateway Show late October or other large UKC show

Action Item:

New Business

Motion 2026-04

- *Motion by : Rachael Second: Karen*
- *I move that the COA Board approve the proposed operating and capital budget of \$8,280.28 for 2026 as presented to the COA Board on February 26th, 2026.*
- Ayes: 10 Nays: 0
- *Motion passes with unanimous vote.*

Motion 2026-x

- *Motion by: Seconded by:*
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- Ayes: Nays: Abstention:
- *Motion*

Unfinished Business

- Kristy: UKC response to registering puppies is lacking; won't process DNA samples in time; Huge frustration dealing with UKC!
- Daniela will follow up when connecting with UKC about the Specialty **in progress**. Recommends trying Chat Line closed
 - Pam & Kristy to work on a official club letter outlining the concerns
- Active Chinook Program Liability Disclaimer
 - Rick has requested quotes for legal advice related to updating the program liability disclaimer from local law firms. Any quotes received will be presented to the Board.
 - Contacts with six local Virginia law firms over the past two months have not produced any quotes or interest in working on this project.
 - Discussion of other options.
- Develop a marketing group Marty, Daniela, Jon, Kristy, Karen, Brenda.
 - Hold until 2026**
 - Develop a member contest of social media posts.
 - TikTok/Instagram to promote a short Chinook video. Karen will research.
 - Jon to send out a few ideas

COA Board meetings are scheduled for the last Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be **Thursday, March 26, 2026** at 5 pm PST, 6 pm MT, 7 pm CST, 8 pm EST.

Approval of Minutes

Motion 2026-05

Motion by: Daniela Second by: Rick

I move that the February 26, 2026 minutes be posted and approved by unanimous consent within 48 hours of posting.

Motion passes with unanimous consent.

Adjournment

Motion 2026-06

Motion by: Daniela Second by: Rachael

I move that the February 26, 2026 Board meeting be adjourned by unanimous consent following email approval of the minutes. If there are no objections by the conclusion of the vote on the minutes the meeting will be adjourned.

Motion passes with unanimous consent.

Join with Google Meet: meet.google.com/bho-wocx-qxx

Join by phone

(US) +1 402-588-0242 PIN: 673 534 700#