

# NCA Board of Directors Minutes

Face-to-Face Meetings March 27-28, 2006 (Approved April 19, 2006)

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Roger Frey, President, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

The following Directors were present: Jan S. Boggio (JSB), Jacqueline K. Brellochs (JKB), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Aura Dean (AD), Jack Dean (JD), Roger Frey (RF), Kevin Gallagher (KG), Sandee Lovett (SL), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Mary Lou Roberts (MLR), Debra Wigal (DW). Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, *ex-officio*, was present. Board-elect

member Meredith Reggie was present. Tom Broderick, *ex-officio*, was absent. Board-elect members Pam Rubio and Cathy Sands were absent.

Member-guests present were John Cornell, Chuck Fisher, Lori Littleford, Tamzin Rosenwasser and Beth Sell.

There was a brief discussion to set the order of the agenda and the times when committee chairs or NCA members would be able to address the Board.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board instructed that the minutes reflect the Board's gratitude to Mary Lou Cuddy for her service as Recording Secretary.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Mary L. Price seconded to accept the suggested changes to lines 547 through 552 of the February 23/March 9, 2006 minutes. The motion passed. 11 Yes (JSB, JKB, MLC, AD, RF, KG, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 1 No (JD)

Jack Dean moved and Aura Dean seconded to consider the amplification of lines 684-686 of the February 23/March 9, 2006 minutes with the addition of the summary presented in an email from Jack Dean.

Summary of discussion: A Board member wanted a summary that he had sent to the Board in a previous email to be included in the minutes.

The motion failed. 3 Yes (JSB, AD, JD); 8 No (JKB, MLC, RF, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 1 Abstention (KG)

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to accept the February 23/March 9, 2006 minutes as amended. The motion passed. 11 Yes (JSB, JKB, MLC, AD, RF, KG, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 1 Abstention (JD)

### **Report of the President**

Roger Frey, President, reported that he had received a letter from the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program regarding the money raised from NCA members' participation in redeeming weight circles from Purina products. The NCA earned \$4,103.92 for 2005. Of that, \$2,051.96 was donated to the AKC Canine Health Foundation for use in our Donor Advised Fund. The remaining \$2,051.29 was given to the NCA for use in educational projects, the Health Challenge or rescue.

The President reported that he had received a letter from Attorney Lisa Davis. She has gone into private practice and would need a letter authorizing the release of information from the previous firm in order to continue to advise the NCA.

Summary of discussion: It was asked if the NCA was contracted to her or the previous firm. It was asked if she had billed the NCA for when the President had contacted her with a question about the reduction of dues. She did not charge the NCA for that question as it did not take any appreciable time.

Kathy McIver moved and Sandee Lovett seconded to retain Atty. Lisa Davis and to sign the release of information authorization so as to continue to use her as an NCA attorney.

Summary of discussion: Some Board members expressed reservations in that the NCA had not been given any billing information. A Board member was concerned that she had made a “snap decision” about the dues reduction with no apparent research.

The motion failed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and Jan Boggio seconded to ask Atty. Lisa Davis for further information concerning her billing.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President**

Sandee Lovett, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, reported on the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) meeting that was held the previous week. At that meeting, the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) unanimously recommended the funding of an ACORN grant to the Canine Health Foundation, in the amount of \$500, for a preliminary study on “Fluorine-18 Flurodeoxyglucose: Uptake in Dogs With Cutaneous Mast Cell Tumor and Malignant Lymphoma.” The CTMB approved the funding for this grant.

Research Advisory Committee Chair, Cherrie Brown, also reported that a researcher at UC-Davis had submitted a proposal for an ACORN grant to study a blood platelet function disorder in Newfoundlands, and that RAC wanted permission from the CTMB to provide a letter of tentative support for this proposal. Such a letter does not obligate the CTMB to provide financial support unless the full proposal later passes peer review and is approved by RAC. The CTMB gave its approval to provide the letter of tentative support.

The Newfoundland Club of Northern California (NCNC) had requested financial assistance from the Rescue Fund for two dogs that had required extraordinarily expensive medical care totalling \$5,665.88. CTMB Chair, Clyde Dunphy DVM, had reviewed the expenses with NCNC’s Rescue volunteers and shared his findings. Based on the policies and past practices of the NCA Rescue Committee, as explained by its Chair, Mary L. Price, the CTMB approved a rescue grant in the amount of \$2000 to the Newfoundland Club of Northern California.

The Pacific Northwest Newfoundland Club had requested funding for \$1400 to cover the costs of surgery for a rescue dog. Based on the policies and past practices of the NCA Rescue Committee, the CTMB approved a grant for \$700 to help with these expenses.

The CTMB discussed the need to develop criteria and procedures for processing such requests, which would include pre-approval and disclosure of a regional club's financial status before funds could be granted. The CTMB is placing this topic on the agenda for a future meeting.

Summary of discussion: It was asked if the CTMB would be reporting back to the Board in greater detail than in the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President's report as the Board should have the technical information much sooner. A report from the CTMB was passed around to the Board. A Board member asked about the paperwork submitted from the regional clubs and if the club's financial situation was considered when the grants were approved. It was replied that there will be consideration of each situation and there may be times when it was felt that money should not be distributed.

There were questions about the CTMB doing more outreach into the research community. It was stated that this is one of the goals of the CTMB but that the CTMB was just getting started and that some time was needed before results would be seen.

It was stated that if the CTMB approves a decision within the parameters established by the Board, then it is final. But any changes to policy or procedure must come back to the Trustee, the NCA Board, for approval.

There was discussion about RAC and the studies that are turned down for funding. It was asked if the CTMB is given the details of those studies. There are issues concerning confidentiality, but the CTMB is given the details. It was noted that RAC has only considered studies that have been submitted to them - the committee has not gone out to solicit studies. A Board member commented that it is getting hard to justify members' donations to the Health Challenge with so few studies coming forward.

A Board member questioned the choice of banks used for the various CDs. It was replied that this is not the proper venue for this question. It should be addressed to the CTMB.

A Board member reminded the Board that, at this time of the year, the AKC Canine Health Foundation sends letters with their various studies and the amounts needed to the parent clubs based on the health concerns listed by the parent club. A letter from the Morris Animal Foundation listing their studies comes out later in the summer. The Board was reminded that NCA should support the right studies and not throw money away on studies that may not be of benefit to our breed. If the right study comes along, the NCA will have the funds available to make a substantial commitment to that study.

There was discussion that when a major study would need to be funded, it was felt that donations from members would pick up and even more funds would be available. It was stated that a mini-health survey should be done every year and the NCA should annually set what problems we are interested in looking at. It was stated that the NCA needs to lay the seeds (as in these ACORN grants) to get the word out to researchers that the NCA will fund these projects. This may take some time but there would be big pay-offs.

## **Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: *Policy Manual***

Mary Lou Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, reported on the progress of the ***Policy Manual***. She outlined a proposal to create a new ***Policy Manual***. She recommended taking the current manual, updating it to January, 2006 and then freezing it. The new manual would start from that point with current job descriptions, policy and procedures with updates added as approved in a standardized form. It was hoped that the project could be completed within a year. She felt that it would be a better product and more useful to the Board and to the committees.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the NCA begin to develop a new ***Policy Manual***, section by section, addressing the committees first.

Summary of discussion: A Board member asked if the Board could see a mock-up or an example. Another Board member wondered if the time line was realistic. In regards to the job descriptions, they have not been changed but only put into a standardized format. The committees and the Board would see the changes. Committees make up only about 50% of the ***Policy Manual***. It was felt that one year would be needed for the draft, 2 years for the final product.

The motion passed. 11 Yes (JKB, MLC, AD, JD, RF, KG, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 1 Abstention (JSB)

## **Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: *Constitution and By-Laws Review Committee***

Mary Lou Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, updated the Board on the minority report received from the ***Constitution and By-Laws Review*** Committee (CBLR) on the question of grievance procedures and Board members being required to recuse themselves from consideration of a grievance against him/her. The minority report stated that this should be addressed as a standing rule of order and not in the ***Constitution and By-Laws***.

Summary of discussion: There was discussion about standing rules of order. A Board member reviewed the history of this subject and how it was brought to the CBLR. It was stated that this subject could have come from any NCA member.

## **Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: *Rescue Awareness & Education Committee***

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President reported on the request from the Rescue Awareness & Education Committee (REACT) for a change in its job description.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Aura Dean seconded to add the statement “and other forms of indiscriminant breeding” to the job description of the Rescue Education & Awareness Committee. The motion passed. 9 Yes (JKB, MLC, AD, RF, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 3 Abstentions (JSB, JD, KG)

There was discussion of a report and a request from REACT for funds to monitor newspaper ads. This is an effort by the committee to develop some initial data and is meant to see if this will yield valid information. It was felt that the committee should just build the funds needed into their 2007 budget request.

Mary L. Price moved and Aura Dean seconded to send the Rescue Education & Awareness Committee's report back to the committee with the suggestion to include their request for funds for monitoring newspaper ads in their 2007 budget request. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Report of the Recording Secretary**

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared and distributed the February 23/March 9, 2006 minutes and the March 27-28, 2006 agenda.

### **Report of the Corresponding Secretary**

Aura Dean, Corresponding Secretary, reported that all show information, various processing and confirmation letters and application forms received from the AKC were forwarded to the Specialty Show Coordinator. There was a letter from Michael Liosis, Director of Club Relations at AKC, regarding the updating of NCA officers with the AKC.

She reported on an AKC letter from Ronald Rella regarding NCA's participation in the selection of recipients for the 2007 AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards for exemplary participation in one of each of the three following categories: conformation, companion events and performance. NCA nominees are due by May 15, 2006. She asked that Board members begin to think of potential nominees.

There was a report from the AKC on the Online Breeders Classified Ads. There are approximately 3,700 searches per day. The AKC thanks the breed clubs for requesting improvements to the breeder profile and the AKC has adopted some of the additional suggestions received from the breed clubs.

Aura reported that Marget Johnson, Membership Chair, had forwarded the electronic file of members' names and zip codes to the AKC as requested by the AKC for use in determining club membership of breeders using the Online Breeders Classified Ads.

She presented information from Gina DiNardo Lash regarding the NCA's participation in the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship show in Long Beach, California. The letter requested that the NCA again consider sponsoring the three breed medallions and purchasing a catalogue ad. The Board will consider this request at a later meeting. There was a brief discussion about inviting the Newfoundland Club of Southern California and the Newfoundland Club of San Diego to host the breed booth at the this show.

She reported that she had forwarded the NCA's check for \$1,000.00 to the Scotia Bank in Newfoundland, Canada for the "Sable Chief" Restoration Fund and had sent a letter to Judy Ferguson, coordinator of the fund-raising project, advising her of same.

Solicitations from two event facilities that had been received were circulated to board members and it was reported that emails received by virtue of the NCA website continue to increase. All have been answered or referred to committee or members located in the geographic area of the questioner. She also noted that school children continue to request information about the breed, particularly Seaman.

### Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price reported the following.

#### NCA Operations

Checking Account	11,763.01	
Savings Account	34,726.46	
CDs	<u>210,128.24</u>	
	256,617.71	256,617.71
"Distinguished Member"		
Restoration	-6,306.89	
CD	<u>1,200.54</u>	
	-5,106.35	-5,106.35
Uniform Trophy Fund		
Money Market Account		<u>770.55</u>
		\$252,281.91

Mary reported that the "Distinguished Member" CD is coming to maturity and will be transferred to NCA, Inc. to repay NCA, Inc. for funds used to return the painting to the Tate Museum.

There was a question about the amount of money in the checking account and it was stated that was due to the returning of the painting and that the "Distinguished Member" CD will reimburse that amount to NCA, Inc.

A Board member questioned the interest rate on the savings accounts. The Treasurer will report back to the Board with the rates. A Board member wanted to know if there was a policy developing where all transactions are going back to one bank. The Treasurer stated that funds are distributed among the three approved banks and that FDIC limits have to be taken

into consideration. There was a brief discussion about the timing of investments and the effort to obtain the best interest rates.

The Treasurer reported on the efforts by her and the Membership Chair to reconcile the membership roster with the dues income. It was verified that membership applicants listed in the 2004 issues of *Newf Tide* were inadvertently not sent renewal statements. It was decided at this late date not to go back to these members for the dues in question. There was additional discussion over the format and layout of the membership roster.

At 3:00 p.m., the Board recessed.

At 3:47 p.m., the Board reconvened.

### **Report of the AKC Delegate**

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported the following. At the last AKC Delegates' Meeting, the election for the AKC Board of Directors was held. Out of six candidates, three were elected: David Keene, Dr. William Newman and Nina Schaefer.

There are two proposed amendments that will be voted on at the June 2006 meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina. The first amendment would eliminate the exclusion of "professional judges" as delegates. It was reported that this had been defeated before but the momentum seems to be moving now in the direction of it passing. The second amendment would eliminate the AKC Nominating Committee. All candidates, including incumbents, would run by petition and the number of Delegates' signatures needed on a petition would be raised from 20 to 50 signatures.

Mary will report on registration statistics at the Annual Membership Meeting.

Mary reported that at the AKC Board of Directors meeting in April there may be continued discussion of limited registrations. The NCA has so far unsuccessfully supported the use of limited registrations as the default registration. Mary suggested that the NCA Board again contact the AKC Board of Directors and staff members to urge them to consider our proposal.

### **Old Business**

#### **AKC Draft Title**

The Board considered a letter received from Clifford Dahl, who is chairing a proposal for an AKC Draft title, asking the NCA if it wants to be included in the list of breeds eligible to compete for this title. There was discussion about the history of this proposal. It was stated that some NCA members will choose to participate in this. It was said that it is hard to consider this without seeing the regulations and criteria and that Mr. Dahl should be contacted to obtain a copy of the regulations. It was also stated by several Board members that Newfoundlands should be included in the list of breeds. It was the consensus of the Board that Sandee Lovett would contact Mr. Dahl and see where the whole process stands.

## **Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation**

Sandee Lovett moved and Kathy Mclver seconded that the NCA donate \$1,000.00 to the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Junior Handler Awards**

Kathy Mclver moved and Aura Dean seconded to include the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show, in addition to Westminster, for the stipend given to junior handlers that qualify for the Junior Showmanship competition held at these shows. The Junior Handler would need to conform to the NCA requirements to qualify for the stipend. This would be retroactive to the November 4-6, 2005 face-to-face meeting.

Summary of discussion: This needed to be made retroactive as a Junior had applied for this thinking that the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show was already included. The motion had already been referred to the Juniors Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **Password Information**

Kevin Gallagher moved and Aura Dean seconded that any account number and/or secure password information to information owned/managed by the NCA (e.g., web sites, databases, password-protected CDs, etc.) be held by the NCA President, the NCA Treasurer and the Chairman of the committee.

Summary of discussion: There was a friendly amendment to specify the NCA President, the NCA Treasurer and the Chairman of the committee. This vote would make this action policy.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **AKC Canine Ambassador Program**

The Board considered two agenda items relating to the AKC Canine Ambassador Program. It was stated this had been considered before but was not approved because of insurance concerns.

Kathy Mclver moved and Sandee Lovett seconded that in order to educate children about responsible dog ownership, canine safety and a variety of other canine-related topics, the NCA will promote the AKC's Canine Ambassador Program.

Summary of discussion: There was discussion of insurance concerns and would the NCA be held liable even if a dog was covered by Therapy Dog International (TDI) or Delta Dog or a similar program. There were also concerns about verifying TDI or other documentation. After further discussion, it was decided that the NCA would promote but not participate in the

Canine Ambassador Program and the second agenda item that referred to all dogs participating in this program must be certified therapy dogs was withdrawn.

The Canine Ambassador Program would be promoted in ***Newf Tide*** articles and in the Companion Dog column. It was stated that since Newfoundlands are such wonderful therapy dogs, the NCA should promote their work in this field.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **United Kennel Club**

Kathy McIver moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the Newfoundland Club of America petition the United Kennel Club (UKC) to accept the NCA as the "official" Newfoundland breed club for the UKC.

Summary of discussion: It was stated that the AKC is not as exclusionary as it once was. A letter from Fred Bock, who is an AKC and UKC judge, was read. The President had called Jim Crowley, AKC Executive Secretary, to talk about this agenda item and Mr. Crowley's opinion was that AKC would not have a problem with this item. It was stated that UKC has no limited registration and will register an AKC limited registration dog as a UKC fully registered dog, although the UKC does have a registration similar to the AKC's Indefinite Listing Privilege (ILP). The NCA would need to petition the UKC and hold UKC shows or "educational events" in order to be named as the parent club.

There were concerns about the UKC standard which is 20 years old and is in conflict with the current AKC standard and thus the NCA would be in conflict with its own ***Constitution and By-Laws***. There was more discussion about the effect this would have on NCA's relationship with the AKC. It was reported that there was a group organizing that may try to be the UKC parent club. It was stated that the UKC's priority was holding performance events and not being a registry. It was said that the NCA should continue to monitor and collect pertinent information before making a decision.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded to call the question concerning that the Newfoundland Club of America petition the United Kennel Club (UKC) to accept the NCA as the "official" Newfoundland breed club for the UKC. The motion passed unanimously.

The original motion that the Newfoundland Club of America petition the United Kennel Club (UKC) to accept the NCA as the "official" Newfoundland breed club for the UKC failed unanimously.

### **Membership Rebates**

The Board considered an agenda item to return some of the membership's money to the members.

Jack Dean moved and Aura Dean seconded to give back to the membership some of the accumulated cash in a one year program by giving a rebate of \$5.00 for each NCA member's Newf for the first water and/or draft test they enter this coming year and to pay all of their entry fee if they pass that test and to subsidize various types of health testing by paying for the tests and result registrations of NCA members if they apply in advance and agree to make the results public. There should be a limit placed of about a hundred dollars per member.

Summary of discussion: It was discussed that the first part of the agenda item would be considered similar to a previous dues reduction motion that was defeated. It was agreed that that the first part would be withdrawn leaving the rebate for working tests and the rebate for health tests as part of the motion. During the course of discussion, it was stated that it would be better to defeat this motion and to consider each of its parts separately.

The motion failed unanimously.

Jack Dean moved and Aura Dean seconded to give back to the membership in a one year program some of the accumulated cash by giving a rebate of \$5.00 for each NCA member's Newf for the first water and/or draft test they enter this coming year.

Summary of discussion: It was stated that the Steering Committee has not addressed this. Several Board members felt that this would be a logistical nightmare with the additional paperwork and mailings. Other issues that would have to be considered would be co-owners and handlers. It was suggested that it would be better to eliminate the application fee charged to the host club and have the host club reduce the entry fee.

The motion failed. 11 No (JSB, JKB, MLC, AD, RF, KG, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 1 Yes (JD)

Jack Dean moved and Aura Dean seconded to subsidize various types of health testing by paying for the tests and result registrations of NCA members if they apply in advance and agree to make the results public. There should be a limit placed of about \$100.00 per member.

Summary of discussion: A Board member stated this would encourage health testing and the \$100.00 amount is negotiable. It was stated that the motion does not state which tests would be covered. Some Board members felt that logistical concerns were still a problem. It was asked why people should be paid to do the right thing.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Kathy McIver seconded to call the question concerning the subsidizing of various types of health testing by paying for the tests and result registrations of NCA members if they apply in advance and agree to make the results public. The motion passed unanimously.

The original motion concerning the subsidizing of various types of health testing by paying for the tests and result registrations of NCA members if they apply in advance and agree to

make the results public failed. 11 No (JSB, JKB, MLC, AD, RF, KG, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 1 Yes (JD)

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Jack Dean seconded that the NCA cover the cost of the OFA input of cardiologist and cystinuria DNA results for NCA members for a one-year period, beginning with the initiation of the reduced fee program negotiated with OFA and scheduled to start March 1st, 2006.

Summary of discussion: It was stated that Beckie Stanevich could coordinate this along with the other OFA project. It was stated that a limit could be placed. There were concerns expressed about how much this will cost. It was said that some breeders just are not going to do this even if it was free. It was suggested that this discussion be tabled until later when some OFA statistics can be researched. There was concern that limits should be placed on the number of submissions as some members could conceivably submit a large number. It was stated that between January 2005 and January 2006 there were 161 cystinuria and 397 cardiac submissions to OFA. It was stated that there are also submissions made to the Database Chair and perhaps information from her is needed.

Aura Dean moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded to postpone the motion regarding the NCA covering the cost of OFA input of cardiologist and cystinuria DNA results for NCA members for a one year period, beginning with the initiation of the reduced fee program negotiated with OFA and scheduled to start March 1st, 2006 until further information is received from the Database Chair on cardiac and cystinuria clearances. The motion passed unanimously.

At 5:04 p.m., the Board recessed.

At 7:36 p.m., the Board reconvened.

### **Executive Session**

At 7:37 p.m., Kevin Gallagher moved and Sandee Lovett seconded to go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 7:38 p.m., Jan Boggio moved and Aura seconded to come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board approved the membership applicants list dated March 9, 2006.

Member guests present were: Beverly Cusac, Benita Edds, Chuck Fisher, Barbara Hearn, Dee Holland, Lori Littleford, Patrick Randall, Tamzin Rosenwasser, Richard Symington, Becky Wigginton and Scott Wigginton.

### **Electronic Stud Book Transfer to Database Chair**

It was reported the Database Chair is now receiving the AKC Stud Book electronic files.

## **Information to Absent Board Members**

Aura Dean moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that at any face-to-face meeting of the Board of Directors, the Recording Secretary be charged with the responsibility of providing to any absent Board member a copy of any and all additional information distributed to those present at the meeting. This information should be provided within ten days of the date of the completion of the meeting. This procedure should be added to the policy and procedures manual relative to the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

## **AKC DNA Repository**

The Board considered an agenda item concerning the NCA participating in the Canine Health Information Center's DNA repository.

Kevin Gallagher moved and Kathy McIver seconded to refer to the CTMB the agenda item that RAC (and, possibly, Steering Committee) investigate what is needed for the NCA to become involved in the AKC's Canine Health Information Center's new DNA repository for future research, including review of all the health concerns relevant to our breed that should be on file for potential investigation.

Summary of discussion: There was discussion about storing DNA for pedigree testing versus DNA health testing. There was a brief discussion over who would own the DNA and who makes the decisions covering its use.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **Listing of Health Information in *Newf Tide* and *Annual of Titlists***

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Mary Lou Cuddy seconded to reinstate the listing of health information in either ***Newf Tide*** or the ***Annual of Titlists*** by listing the dogs that have qualified for entry into CHIC along with an explanation of what CHIC is and how to find health results on the OFA database. If the ***Annual of Titlists*** is utilized, this information is to go at the front of the publication as previous OFA listings at the back were easily overlooked after perusing all the photos and pedigrees.

Summary of discussion: A Board member stated that she doesn't like telling an editor how to do a layout. It was stated that by the time the ***Annual of Titlists*** comes out, the information is at least several months old and the OFA website would give up-to-date information quickly. A Board member stated that she felt it gave the health clearances greater prominence when included in the publications. It was suggested that a small explanation of how to access and use the OFA database would be more cost-efficient. General Education and Steering Committees could also be utilized in getting this information out to the members.

The motion failed. 3 Yes (JKB, MLC, RF); 9 No (JSB, AD, JD, KG, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW)

Jan Boggio moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that, by May 1, 2006, a statement written by the General Education, Health & Longevity and Breeder Education Committees will be placed in the introductory section of the *Annual of Titlists* detailing how to conduct a search on the OFA website. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Regional Clubs**

Kathy McIver, Regional Club Liaison, reported that she is working on a report and will forward it when it is completed and if it is needed.

Jan Boggio moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the NCA Board appoint a Regional Club Committee (RCC) to consist of an NCA Board member and an invited officer or Board member of each regional club, to further define the responsibilities of the Regional Club Liaison and to explore how the NCA and the regional clubs can assist each other.

- Each regional club will appoint one member of their club who is an NCA member and who should also be a member of the regional club's Board of Directors to represent and to serve on the proposed Regional Club Committee.
- The committee may make a recommendation for Chair of the committee to the NCA Board for appointment.
- The current Regional Club Liaison will be a member of the committee and serve as a conduit for ideas to and from the NCA.
- The appointee from the regional club shall not be a current NCA officer or Board member.
- The committee, after consensus, shall present ideas and/or motions to the NCA Board through the Regional Club Liaison.

Summary of discussion: There was discussion of issues raised between the Regional Club Liaison and the Southeastern Newfoundland Club. It was stated that regional clubs and the NCA need to work together for the betterment of both groups and for the breed. Some Board members felt that this motion was much like the old Committee of Regional Clubs (CORC). Some Board members reviewed the history of CORC and its predecessors. That committee dwindled and was disbanded due to lack of participation. The Regional Club Liaison stated that often she has to send individual emails to clubs to get any response to requests for information. There was discussion over who should be designated in each regional club to receive and respond to such requests and whether an ad hoc committee was needed to explore options. There was a suggestion to take this to the Regional Clubs meeting and report back to the Board at the next teleconference as to the responses.

There was a suggestion that teleconferences or email meetings may generate a better response from the regional clubs. Some Board members felt there was no need for an ad hoc committee. It was commented that the club's newsletter editor might be a good contact point as they could put the information directly into their newsletter. It was added that the President should also be a contact. Concerns were expressed about when the newsletter editor is not an NCA member or a regional club officer.

There were some friendly amendments made to the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Jack Dean moved to give the Southeastern Newfoundland Club (SENC) the Regional Club report that was submitted to the Board. The motion died as there was no second.

After further discussion, it was then the consensus of the Board to give the SENC a copy of the report.

## **ROM Award**

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to “retire” the ROM award effective 2007 and institute a new ROMS award, using the same criteria as before but with the additional requirement that, in order to receive this award, the dog/bitch must have hip, elbow, heart, and cystinuria test results posted in the OFA database. Dogs born prior to January 1, 2002 would still be eligible under the old qualifications.

Summary of discussion: It was stated that these are the top producing dogs in the breed and, while they do not have to have passed the tests, the results should be posted. The NCA states the importance of testing in all their literature. Some Board members have heard lots of concern from members and it was felt that the membership needs more time to discuss this. There was discussion about the ROM being a traditional award for producing excellence. There were many comments about leaving the ROM as is and add an additional award. It was stated that anything that can be done to get members to utilize an open database needs to be encouraged. It was said that the open registry is also a tool for puppy buyers and there is a need to encourage NCA breeders to list results in an open database.

There was a suggestion made to refer this to the Steering Committee for their input. It was said that posting more testing results may lead us to some answers. It was noted that the Board entertains rebates and offers to members to post results.

Jan Boggio moved and Jack Dean seconded to refer to the Steering Committee for a report back to the Board by September 1, 2006 the following motion: Mary Lou Roberts moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to “retire” the ROM award effective 2007 and institute a new ROMS award, using the same criteria as before but with the additional requirement that, in order to receive this award, the dog/bitch must have hip, elbow, heart, and cystinuria test results posted in the OFA database. Dogs born prior to January 1, 2002 would still be eligible under the old qualifications.

Summary of discussion: It was asked why this should go to the Steering Committee. It was replied that it would be a good place for this discussion.

The motion passed. 7 Yes (JSB, AD, JD, RF, KG, KM, DW); 5 No (JKB, MLC, SL, MLP, MLR)

## **Regional Clubs**

The Southeastern Newfoundland Club requested time to address their concerns with the Regional Club report that the Board had received. The members of the regional club addressed each item of the report. There was some history and background given to the Board on the some of the items.

The NCA President and the President of the regional club had talked about these issues in the days before this meeting and had resolved the majority of the issues. It was stated that the NCA Board had very little information on these issues as communications have been between the Regional Club Liaison, the NCA President and the Board of the SENC. The Regional Club Liaison felt that the issues had been resolved also.

It was recommended that both the Regional Club Liaison and the regional club itself encourage members with issues to work within the club to come to a mutual agreement. There was discussion that these issues have been resolved.

There were additional discussions that problems that have been reported to the Regional Club Liaison should be referred back to the regional club for resolution. The Regional Club Liaison stated all complaints except for one had been addressed with the regional club first. The one complaint had not been addressed with SENC first because the complainant was not a regional club member. There was discussion of the NCA Board issuing a letter to assure the regional club that they felt the issues have been resolved and these particular complaints will not be brought up again. It was stated that such a letter would only cover past complaints.

A Board member wanted to release a transcript of an executive session. It was stated that it was in everyone's best interest to accept the resolution of the issues and to move forward.

Jan Boggio moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the Board issue a letter of completion of discussion of these issues to the Southeastern Newfoundland Club.

Summary of discussion: The motion was discussed further.

Kevin Gallagher moved and Jan Boggio seconded to call the question regarding the motion that the Board issue a letter of completion to the Southeastern Newfoundland Club. The motion passed unanimously.

The original motion that the Board issue a letter of completion of discussion of these issues to the Southeastern Newfoundland Club passed unanimously.

It was directed that the Corresponding Secretary will write the letter.

It was the consensus of the Board to recess until the next morning at 9 a.m., March 28, 2006.

**NCA Board Reconvenes on 3/28/06**

At 9:15 a.m., the NCA Board reconvened.

The following Directors were present: Jan S. Boggio (JSB), Jacqueline K. Brellochs (JKB), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Aura Dean (AD), Jack Dean (JD), Roger Frey (RF), Kevin Gallagher (KG), Sandee Lovett (SL), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Mary Lou Roberts (MLR), Debra Wigal (DW). Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, *ex-officio*, was present. Board-elect members Meredith Reggie, Pam Rubio and Cathy Sands were present. Tom Broderick, *ex-officio*, was absent.

Member-guests present were Jill Britton, Barbara Finch, Beth Sell, Barbara Frey, Barbara Hearn, Bethany Karger, Sue Raney, Robin Seaman and Ken Wildman.

### **Committee Report Deadlines**

Jacqueline Brellochs moved that committee reports and updates to the Board are due the same time Board members' agenda items are due and will be included in the meeting packet from the Recording Secretary. Committee items received after the deadline will be included in the packet for the next scheduled Board meeting with the exception of issues with relatively short timelines that need to be addressed by the Board. The motion died as there was no second.

### **Evaluating the National Specialty Week**

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Aura Dean seconded to refer to the Specialty Show Committee the suggestion that the Board, the Specialty Show Committee, the upcoming National Show Chair and the last four National Specialty Chairs will meet at a designated time to evaluate and update the National Specialty week, the mandates from the National club, and the events included in such a way as to minimize timing conflicts.

Summary of discussion: It was stated the National Specialty week was overloaded with events. It was said that the Board mandates additional events without regard for the money or time involved. There is a need to look at how best to finance a National Specialty without the host club being at risk for losing money. There were suggestions for some brain-storming sessions. The show chairs for the last several National Specialties would have a great deal to offer in the way of experience. There were some friendly amendments to the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Online "Whelping Box"**

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded to establish an online "Whelping Box" on the NCA website to let those looking for a Newfoundland find reputable breeders with puppies and/or adult Newfs available.

Summary of discussion: There was discussion about the **Breeders List**, what this will take away from it and if the **Breeders List** is still needed. The breeders on the **Breeders List** pay

a fee to be listed and there were concerns expressed about the effect this would have on the number of breeders that are listed. There was much discussion about making it easier for puppy people to find NCA breeders that have puppies and/or adults available. There was concern expressed about the logistics of listing and tracking litters. It was stated that the disclaimers that appear on the **Breeders List** would have to appear on this website page along with other appropriate information.

The motion passed. 10 Yes (JSB, JKB, MLC, AD, JD, RF, KG, SL, MLP, DW); 1 No (KM); 1 Abstention (MLR)

### **Specialty Show Committee**

Jill Britton presented the Great Lakes Newfoundland Club's bid to host the 2009 National Specialty April 26 - May 2, 2009 in Frankenmuth, Michigan. This is the same site as the 2001 National Specialty. The grounds have been improved with the addition of a large steel building near the rings that will be used to house the vendor and grooming areas. They are working with the host hotel for reasonable room rates.

There was discussion about the fact that Great Lakes lost \$7,000.00 on the last National Specialty they hosted. It was explained that there were extenuating circumstances in that the original site had gone bankrupt and the club had to really push to get into the Frankenmuth site. They had to pay top dollar as they would be the first dog show that hotel had hosted. The NCA has since been the best club to host a dog show at this site and the host hotel is anxious to have the NCA back. The club expects to get a much better agreement this time. They are applying to the City Council for a waiver to allow RV camping at the site. A Board member asked if rescue booths would be allowed. While she could not speak for the club, Jill did not feel that it would be a huge problem. The club will agree to follow the new Specialty Show guidelines so the rescue discussion is moot.

Deb Wigal moved and Kathy McIver seconded to approve the Great Lakes Newfoundland Club's proposal for hosting the 2009 National Specialty April 26 - May 2, 2009 at Frankenmuth, Michigan. The motion passed. 10 Yes (JSB, JKB, MLC, AD, RF, KG, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 2 Abstentions (JD, SL)

Nancy Duggan, NCA Specialty Show Properties Chair, could not attend the meeting and sent a report with Jill. Jill reported that the logo plaque used in the photographs has been re-done by a local town resident at no cost to the club. They asked that the Board send a thank-you letter to him. It was also announced that most of the National Specialty Best of Breed photographs have been collected from the Ron Pemberton collection and work has started on the Best of Opposite photographs. It is hoped that they will be displayed at the 2007 National Specialty.

### **Specialty Show Guide**

Barbara Finch reported on the updated **Specialty Show Guide**. She explained that this is a work in progress and will need to be updated every two years or even more frequently as

needed. She stated that it should be available on the NCA website and hard copies would be available to anyone who needed one. There was discussion about some of the choices presented to the host club in the Guide. It was noted that the index pages were not correct. Barbara invited to the Board to submit comments and corrections.

It was stated that the committee had worked hard on this project and this **Specialty Show Guide** will be a great help to clubs hosting specialties.

There was further discussion about the pages addressing room reservations, the judges selection process and other issues.

Kevin Gallagher moved and Kathy McIver seconded to approve the sending of the **Specialty Show Guide** draft to the High Country Newfoundland Club with the understanding that changes may be made to the document. The motion passed unanimously.

Robin Seaman, Specialty Show Chair, passed out to the Board a proposed event survey that the Specialty Show Committee would like to use for a three-year trial period.

Kevin Gallagher moved and Aura Dean seconded to approve using the event survey as developed by the Specialty Show Committee for a trial period of three years.

Summary of discussion: The Board was assured that the input received from the survey would be shared with other host clubs.

The motion passed unanimously.

At 11:35 a.m., the Board recessed.

At 11:55 a.m., the Board reconvened.

### **Meet the Breeds**

Joan Schernekau, Newfoundland Club of Florida, handed out a pamphlet with photographs of different "Meet the Breeds" booth that were at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show. There was a discussion about the various booths. These booths attract a very large crowd and the club members and dogs manning these booths are constantly busy. It was commented that there was an interesting split in the booths between those that went for a glamorous look and those that were more strictly educational. It was directed that the minutes reflect the Board's thanks to the Newfoundland Club of Florida for their outstanding work at this show.

### **Newf Tide Policy Committee**

Aura Dean, **Newf Tide** Policy Committee Chair, submitted the bids received for the printing and mailing of **Newf Tide**. It was stated that Jan Boggio, as **Newf Tide** editor, did not participate in the bid process other than to collect the bids as they were submitted. The entire

printing and mailing process was explained in greater detail in the bid specification letter to try to improve the problem areas. Bid letters went out to eight printers; three of which did not submit a bid. Five printers returned bids with one printer submitting two different bids.

It was reported that the committee had spoken to several knowledgeable printers about the weight of paper used in the printing of **Newf Tide**. The committee decided that the bid specifications would include using 80# paper.

It was stated that the **Newf Tide** editor's donations of time has saved the club a significant amount of money. The job of editor is quickly becoming a full-time job. The editor's contract is up for renewal in November 2006.

Three problem areas were reported. The first is the mailing and delivery problems. As has been explained previously, once the magazine leaves the mailing center the NCA has no control over the delivery process. The second problem area is the photographs. It needs to be remembered that this is an amateur production with amateur photographers and writers. Every issue is a challenge to get the photographs received into a printable form. The third area is the editing of articles. The quality of the writing varies widely and no one likes to hear that material that they have written needs to be reworked.

There was discussion about the two bids submitted from the current printer. The differences in the two bids are that in one, the company would give the editor the appropriate scanner and computer and the editor would do the work herself. It was explained that publishing is now moving to receive electronic files. This does allow the NCA more control over content and layout but is also more work for the editor. There was a brief discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of owning the appropriate scanner and computer. The second bid's figures reflected the printer doing more of the work.

The Board considered the other bids. The **Newf Tide** Policy Committee recommended that the Board consider the bids from two of the new printers. Both currently publish dog magazines of which samples were passed around for the Board's consideration. The Board was cautioned that the bid prices do not include postage. That is always a separate item.

It was asked if the dog magazines were contacted to see if they were satisfied with their printer's performance. This was done at the very beginning of the process.

There was a discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of using a print broker. It was said to be very effective in some situations but developing a working relationship with one printer has worked well in the past for the NCA, especially since this is an amateur production. Although it might be financially more efficient in some cases, it was feared that quality would be hit or miss with a broker.

There was discussion about the late issues. There have been some problems with the current printer but other times, it has been the NCA's fault. There was a brief discussion of the costs incurred when time-sensitive materials ride with **Newf Tide** and it goes out late and the materials have to be sent 1<sup>st</sup> class separately. It was reported that the current printer had

two people that had worked closely with the editor and they have both left and since then there have been more problems and the quality has gone down. It was reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter issue will have to be printed by the current printer but it will cost the NCA more as the contract has expired.

The owner of one of the printing companies has personally contacted the editor and she reported that she felt comfortable with him. He has been the only one to initiate contact and obtain additional information from us. Both of the two recommended printers have their owners as project managers.

It was felt that both printers would help the NCA to transition production to be more in-house or will help to move to out-sourcing more of the work. It was noted that Jan Boggio did not plan to continue as editor beyond the end of her contract.

Kevin Gallagher moved and Sandee Lovett seconded to ask Sutherland Publishing for a letter of intent and a copy of the contract for review.

Summary of discussion: It was stated that the Ad Hoc **Newf Tide** Review Committee report has not been considered in this discussion. The Board was reminded that the policy is now that all contracts must go through the Finance Committee so it is important that the NCA has a copy for review.

The motion passed. 11 Yes (JKB, MLC, AD, JD, RF, KG, SL, KM, MLP, MLR, DW); 1 Abstention (JSB)

Summary of discussion: The Finance Committee will just review the contract. It was stated again that the Ad Hoc **Newf Tide** Review Committee report needs to be considered. It is in the best interest of the NCA to settle this quickly as the current printer will be raising the price for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter issue. It was requested that a decision and contract be in place by June 1, 2006.

### **National Specialty Room Reservations**

The Board considered a letter from Bruce Karger regarding the procedure used for room reservations at the National Specialty.

Kathy McIver moved and Deb Wigal seconded to refer the letter from Bruce Karger regarding room reservations at the National Specialty to the Specialty Show Committee. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (AD)

A letter will be sent to Bruce Karger informing him of this decision.

The President read a letter from the Putnam Valley Kennel Club. They have donated \$200.00 to the NCA in memory of Helen Munday.

At 11:25 p.m., the Board recessed.

At 11:45 p.m., the Board reconvened.

### **Working Dog Judges' Qualifications**

The Board considered a letter from Newfoundland Club of Northern California regarding the new working dog test judges' qualifications. The Working Dog Committee has already sent its response to this letter to the Board upholding their reasons for upgrading the qualifications. It was suggested that Cheryl Dondino, Working Dog Committee Chair, and Lori Littleford meet, along with other interested members, and discuss their differences. It will be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting that this will take place before the Top Twenty on Thursday.

At 12:51 p.m., Mary Lou Roberts moved and Kathy McIver seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Lou Cuddy  
NCA Recording Secretary