



Board of Directors Meeting
Millennium Hotel, Boulder, Colorado
April 30 - May 1, 2007 face-to-face, Approved June 21, 2007

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Face-to-Face meeting of the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. Board of Directors was held on April 30, 2007. President Roger Frey called the meeting to order at 1:27 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time (MDT). Present were Jan Boggio, Jacqueline Brellochs, Aura Dean, Roger Frey, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Mary Lou Roberts (via Telecom), Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, and AKC Delegate, Mary W. Price, *ex officio*. Also present were Board-elect members Barbara Finch and Sue Marino.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Pam Rubio moved and Aura Dean seconded to approve the minutes of March 15, 2007, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and Jan Boggio seconded to approve the minutes of March 23, 2007, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Aura Dean moved and Kathy McIver seconded to approve the minutes of March 30, 2007, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Roger Frey introduced the 2007 National Show Chair, Sue Raney. Sue welcomed the Board and gave an update on the show grounds. There is confusion about controlling the temperature in the bubble, which can be a problem considering the unseasonably warm weather. Sue has met with the NCA Show Committee Chair, Robin Seaman, regarding alternate plans for rings, and the location of all rings will depend on the weather.

Sue also reported an obedience judge change due to illness. The Board stated it would support the decisions made by the Show Committee. Sue thanked the Board for its support and reminded everyone about the effects of high altitude and the need to drink adequate water.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Roger Frey)

No report.

1ST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Sandee Lovett)

The CTMB recommends to the NCA Board that the chairperson of the Research and Advisory Committee be designated as NCA's official contact person with health organizations concerning the welfare of the Newfoundland Breed (i.e.; OFA, CHF, Morris Animal Foundation, Veterinary Colleges, etc.). If organizations knew where to send information, it would facilitate NCA receiving pertinent information in a timely fashion. It would also eliminate the confusion within the health organizations when they are contacted by unauthorized members or receive redundant requests from different individuals

CTMB will also be making recommendations for appointments to the two-year and three-year. Director-at-Large positions following its next meeting.

Sandee reported that there was no quorum at the April meeting. The next meeting will be held on May 24, 2007.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Mary Lou Roberts)

Individual reports deferred to Committee Reports later in the agenda.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT (Jacqueline Bellochs)

Jacqueline shared an email from the AKC opposing California Assembly Bill 1634 along with a sample protest letter. This bill, known as the California Healthy Pets Act, would require the mandatory spaying or neutering of all dogs or cats over four months of age, unless the owner acquires an intact animal permit. The American Kennel Club strongly supports reasonable and enforceable laws that protect the welfare and health of purebred dogs and do not restrict the rights of breeders and owners who take their responsibilities seriously. The American Kennel Club feels that it is imperative that all parent clubs write a letter opposing this bill.

Kathy McIver reported that the bill has passed the Assembly Appropriations Committee. There was discussion about how to get information on this bill out to the NCA membership. The possibility of putting a link on the NCA website was proposed.

The Canine Health Conference will be held in St. Louis on October 19-21, 2007. One representative from each club will be allowed to attend the conference this year.

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT (Cathy L. Sands)

The Recording Secretary received an email from National Bulgarian Newfoundland Club requesting the right to use information from the NCA Web site on their own site.

TREASURER'S REPORT (Mary L. Price)

The Treasurer asked for direction as to what to do with the monies received from the now defunct Newfoundland Club of Ohio in the amount of \$1,974.80. The Board postponed a decision until after discussion of other items on the agenda.

Mary L. Price requested that the Board approve the Incorporation and Insurance Grant Application forms which were sent to the Board. Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded to accept the report and application forms. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the letter received from David Hartman of the Penn Ohio Newfoundland Club. He questioned the propriety of using of NCA funds for rescue insurance administration and incorporation fees and suggested some alternatives that could be more financially responsible.

Kevin Gallagher reported on resolving our dispute with the vendor that printed the election packet and ballots. He asked that we offer the company an additional, compromise amount, and he will attempt to close this matter via a telephone call while he is in Colorado.

AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT (Mary W. Price)

The AKC Delegate distributed copies of three letters that she received from the American Kennel Club (AKC):

1. Chairman's report
2. Letter regarding AKC's stand on voting rights for foreign members
3. Letter praising the NCA archived collection

RECESS

The Board recessed at 4:00 P.M. Mountain Daylight Savings Time (MDST) It will reconvene at 8 P.M. MDST on May 1, 2007.

MEETING RECONVENES

The Board reconvened at 8:12 p.m. Present were Jan S. Boggio (JSB), Jacqueline K. Brellochs, Aura Dean, Roger Frey, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands , and Mary W. Price, AKC delegate, *ex officio*. Mary Lou Roberts was present via Telecom. Board members-elect Sue Marino and Barbara Finch were also present. Guests present were Jill and Steve Britton, John Cornell, Beth and Ron Sell, Pat and Judi Randall, Tamzin Rosenwasser, and Marylou Zimmerman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Juniors (Jill Britton)**

Jill Britton reported on the Juniors Program. She showed the Board the certificate giving special recognition for the juniors.

One Board member asked if the Board could have a copy of the NCA logo that Jill used on the certificates. There has been a problem locating the original artwork for the logo and the one Jill has is much cleaner than the one we have. Jill will send the Board a copy.

Jill asked for direction as to when to announce the NCA stipend to be awarded to a junior. It was decided she should make the announcement at the Annual Membership Meeting on Tuesday night.

- **Committee Restructuring (Mary Lou Roberts)**

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Pam Rubio seconded to combine the Database, Internet, and Technical Resources committees. Marylou Zimmerman was asked her opinion of the motion; she stated she was in favor of it. The motion passed 9 yes (Jacqueline Brellochs, Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey; 1 no (Jan Boggio); 2 abstain (Aura Dean, Kevin Gallagher).

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Mary L. Price seconded to appoint an Educational Liaison as a contact person to help coordinate the activities of the Breeders Education Committee, General Education Committee, Judges Education Committee, and the Health & Longevity Committee. The motion failed 1 yes (Mary Lou Roberts); 10 no (Jan Boggio, Jacqueline Brellochs, Aura Dean, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Pam Rubio, Roger Frey; 1 abstain (Cathy L. Sands).

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Pam Rubio seconded to make Health & Longevity Committee a closed committee with no more than 12 members plus the chairperson(s). The motion passed; 8 Yes, (Jacqueline Brellochs, Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands); 4 no, (Jan Boggio, Aura Dean, Kevin Gallagher, and Roger Frey).

- **Discussion (Roger Frey)**

Roger Frey raised the issue of communications within committees and suggested that final decisions on issues should be done via teleconference with a quorum in attendance. This would comply with Connecticut state statutes, which essentially require simultaneous auditory communication.

Kathy McIver moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to require all committee chairs to hold teleconference meetings of their committees at least quarterly. There must be a quorum of said committee. All committee actions must result from a teleconference or face-to-face meeting with a quorum of said committee. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Breeder Education (BEC) Kathy McIver**

Kathy McIver gave information about materials that are available to the membership via the NCA web site. The BEC has many items on their page of the NCA site that can be downloaded.

The BEC, at their meeting, voted unanimously to request the following additions to the Specialty Show Guide:

“All Committee Chairs shall supply a list of all the principals and possible conflicts to the National Specialty Show Chair”. By consensus, the Board referred this recommendation to the Specialty Show Committee.

All Committee Chairs will receive a tentative schedule to review for possible conflicts nine months in advance of the National. The NCA President, the Specialty Show Coordinator, and the Specialty Show Chair shall work together to resolve any possible conflicts.”

Kathy McIver moved and Cathy Sands seconded to accept the BEC recommendation to provide committee chairs with a tentative National Specialty schedule nine months prior to the specialty show for review for possible conflicts and any conflicts be resolved by the NCA President, the Specialty Show Coordinator and the Specialty Show Chair. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Breeder Referral/Online Whelping Box (Kathy McIver)**

Kathy McIver moved and Jan Boggio seconded to review and redefine the Online Whelping Box. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Internet and Website (Marylou Zimmerman)**

Marylou Zimmerman spoke about Web site design and explained how search engines work. The more links to the NCA website we have the higher the NCA page will rank with search engines. She would like to see some of the NCA members be able to link their home pages with the NCA home page to help boost the NCA webpage in rankings.

Marylou Zimmerman presented a list of four proposed website links which would help to boost the NCA homepage rankings. Mary Lou Roberts moved and Jan Boggio seconded to accept the proposed links. The motion passed unanimously. Mary Lou Zimmerman will provide an article for *Newf Tide* explaining how members can help improve the search engine rankings.

Marylou Zimmerman asked that the NCA own the ncanationalspecialty.org. domain name. The site has been purchased for 24 months by NCNE - they are happy to share with the NCA for 2009 and then the NCA could assume ownership. Jan Boggio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the NCA purchase the URL. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about placing NCA informational advertisements in the catalogs of the major benched shows in the United States. Meredith Reggie moved and Cathy L. Sands seconded to place the advertisements. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board thanked Marylou Zimmerman for all of her efforts and hard work.

- **Working Dog Achievement Award (Brian Hodges)**

The Board discussed the report received from the ad hoc Working Dog Achievement Committee. Meredith Reggie stated that she will abstain on voting regarding the suggestions in the report as she feels that the titles involved are not equal in her mind. She also feels that the Board has not given the Committee adequate direction.

Mary Lou Roberts stated that she feels the Committee has done what it was asked to do. The idea of the Working Dog Achievement Award was to encourage everyone including non-conformation people to work with their dogs and be given recognition for their efforts.

The Board will further address the report when it meets again on Tuesday, May 1.

RECESS

The Board recessed at 10:37 P.M. MDT. It will reconvene at 9 A.M. on Tuesday, May 1, 2007.

RECONVENE (Tuesday, May 1, 1007)

President Roger Frey reconvened the meeting on Tuesday May 1, 2007 at 9:15 A.M. Present were Jan Boggio, Jacqueline Brellochs, Aura Dean, Roger Frey, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Mary Lou Roberts (by telecom), Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, and AKC Delegate, Mary W. Price, *ex officio*. Also present was Board member-elect Sue Marino and Robin Seaman, chair of the NCA Specialty Committee. Mary Lou Roberts participated via Telecom. Board member-elect Barbara Finch was excused to attend the Judges Education Committee meeting.

Robin Seaman asked the Board to approve up to \$400 for flowers for the rings. By consensus the Board approved this purchase. Robin left the meeting at 9:16 A.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:17 A.M. Aura Dean moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded to go into Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing the membership applications and appointment of an NCA Volunteer of the Year. The motion passed unanimously.

While in Executive Session the Board approved the Applicants List of April 30, 2007 for publication.

While in Executive Session the board elected the NCA Volunteer of the Year which will be announced at the Annual Membership Meeting.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:55 A.M.

The Board discussed the need to make the membership aware that the new membership application form is now available on the NCA Web site. Many are still using the older application form which is not as user friendly.

NEW BUSINESS

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Aura Dean seconded to reinstate Board members' voting rationales, such rationales to be limited to 50 words. The rationale must be stated during the discussion and cannot be edited later for content. **Rationale:** There can be various reasons to indicate how particular Board members feel about any particular issue. This would show that Board members are very willing to stand by their opinions. The motion passed. 7 yes (Jan Boggio, Jacqueline Brellochs, Aura Dean, Kevin Gallagher, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Roger Frey); 4 no (Santee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie); 1 abstain (Cathy L. Sands).

Meredith Reggie moved and Aura Dean seconded to begin recording meetings effective with the next teleconference. There was discussion about making the recording available via the NCA Web site. Kevin Gallagher said there is a way to edit out the executive session portions and make the rest of the teleconferences available. He needs to learn more about the technical aspects before we can give the membership access to the recordings. Kevin asked that the Board table the motion until he can get the necessary information to work out the details.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded to table the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ***Newf Tide* Policy Committee (NTPC) (Aura Dean)**

Aura Dean submitted the following suggested new policies on behalf of the NTPC. The NTPC was unanimous in its support of the listed recommendations. The Board decided to vote on each recommendation separately.

Recommendation 1. In the Group Placement, New Champions and New Titlists sections of the magazine, the gender of the dog will be added and appropriately placed by the editor. Format of the cut line is to remain consistent. Rationale: The addition of this information was suggested by Jacqueline Brellochs some time ago; the committee members felt it would be useful information to the readership. Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Pam Rubio seconded to accept this recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation 2. The *Newf Tide* editor should be permitted to invoice regional clubs for additional page(s) used in the presentation of the Regional Specialty reports at the page rate in effect at the time. The page rate charge shall be that which is currently in effect; at present (2007) it is \$160.00. Rationale: The editor works with the clubs to prepare the layout and being able to invoice them directly would aid in efficient recording of payments. Aura Dean moved and Sandee Lovett seconded to accept this recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation 3. In working dog articles (draft and water) only Newfoundland qualifiers will be listed. Rationale: This is a Newfoundland magazine and while some working tests are open to other breeds, the reporting of qualifiers should be for Newfoundlands only.

Meredith Reggie moved and Aura Dean seconded to accept this recommendation, amended to read: "in regional clubs' reports of Tests, only Newfoundlands will be listed as qualifiers." The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation 4. Omit the words "paid advertising" in full page ads. Rationale: These words are difficult to place in ads prepared and directly submitted on DVDs. The post office does not require these words appear as they now require a separate statement specifying all paid pages or portions thereof. Aura Dean moved and Cathy L. Sands seconded to accept this recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation 5. All information and photos for ROMs, Top Producing dogs and Versatile Newfoundlands be submitted directly to the *Newf Tide* editor. Rationale: Submission of these photos and write-ups directly to the editor is more efficient and will cut down time checking for the "missing." Meredith Reggie moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to accept this recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

Recommendation 6. The *Newf Tide* editor will have the flexibility to request candid photos from regional clubs for use in the layout of regional specialty shows (as space permits and as the editor shall determine). Rationale: If space permits, the addition of candid shots would add an extra dimension to the report. (See First Quarter, *Newf Tide*, 2007 page 44) Meredith Reggie moved and Jan Boggio seconded to accept this recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about expanding the committee, which the committee discussed at its teleconference on March 29, 2007. Committee members Ken Wildman and David VanCouvering felt that adding members would add to the costs of teleconferences and would make it more difficult to conduct business. Beth Sell and Nicki Gundersen felt they were too new to the committee to make a recommendation and wanted more time on the committee before evaluating the concept. Aura and Meredith thought it would be a good idea to add two to the committee. The general consensus of the committee was that the Board should decide if the committee should be expanded. The Board agreed by consensus that there should be an odd number of members on the NTPC in order to avoid tie votes.

Kevin Gallagher moved and Kathy Mclver seconded to add members to the NTPC with a maximum number of 7. The motion passed 8 yes (Jan Boggio, Aura Dean, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Mary L. Price, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey); 2 no (Jacqueline Brellochs, Mary Lou Roberts); 1 abstain (Meredith Reggie); 1 absent (Kathy Mclver).

Meredith Reggie spoke about the use of an index to the minutes in *Newf Tide*. She stated that because of the formatting the index was not very helpful. There was additional discussion regarding the space the index takes in the publication. Kevin Gallagher moved and Cathy L. Sands seconded to remove the index of the Board minutes from the *Newf Tide*. The motion passed unanimously.

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Cathy L. Sands seconded that the Chair of Newf Tide Policy Committee (NTPC) does not need to be a sitting Board member. The motion passed 10 yes (Jan Boggio, Jacqueline Brellochs, Aura Dean, Sandee Lovett, Kathy Mclver, Mary L. Price, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey), 2 abstain (Kevin Gallagher, Meredith Reggie).

RECESS & RECONVENE

The Board recessed at 11:57 A.M. The Board reconvened at 1 p.m. Present were Present were Jan Boggio, Jacqueline Brellochs, Aura Dean, Roger Frey, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Kathy Mclver, Mary L. Price, Mary Lou Roberts (via Telecom), Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, and AKC Delegate, Mary W. Price, *ex officio*. Also present were Board-elect members Barbara Finch and Sue Marino.

The following guests were present: Mary Lou Cuddy, Janice Anderson, Joe Reinisch, Celia Gebhart, Kathy Mitchell, Mary Killian, Ken Wildman, Tamzin Rosenwasser.

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Aura Dean seconded to ask the National Specialty Show Committee to allow all the workers and the Board to reserve up to two of the 2007 Limited Edition plates. These people will not be available to stand in line to obtain plates due to other duties and commitments. The motion passed 11 yes, 1 abstain (Kevin Gallagher).

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

- **Membership (Mary Lou Cuddy)**

Mary Lou Cuddy recommended that the Board reconsider adding the second email address to the membership directory for the following reasons: (1) an additional field in the database would have to be maintained. There are already many email addresses that are not valid because many members do not think to update the Membership Chair when their address changes. Invalid addresses are a concern when electronic notices are sent to the membership. (2) In the current roster format, additional lines would increase the number of pages. (3) The membership chair is already getting requests for second phone numbers, cell numbers, etc to be listed. This would set a precedent.

Kathy McIver moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to rescind the policy adding a second email address based upon input from the Treasurer and the Membership Chair regarding technical problems and costs involved. The motion passed 9 yes (Jacqueline Brellochs, Sandee Lovett, Kathy Mciver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey); 2 no (Jan Boggio, Aura Dean); 1 abstain (Kevin Gallagher).

Mary Lou asked for approval of the wording for the announcement to the membership for the discontinuation of the senior discount. The following wording was approved by consensus:

“A Senior Membership category is not provided for under our current Constitution and By-Laws. In order to comply with the Connecticut statutes which govern the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. and the American Kennel Club By-Laws, the Newfoundland Club of America Board of Directors has voted to discontinue the senior discount for 2007-2008

The membership will have an opportunity to decide if a senior membership category should be included in a proposed revision of the Constitution and By-Laws currently under review.”

- **Regional Club Liaison (Kathy McIver)**

Janice Anderson presented the status of a new club forming in California, the Cal-Neva Newfoundland Club. Janice spoke about the density of potential members in the state of California, and Joe Reinisch also spoke about the need and room for an additional regional club.

There was discussion regarding other regional clubs giving up or sharing areas of service with Cal-Neva. Many members of the Cal-Neva Club are also members of other regional clubs in California. Several members of the Newfoundland Club of Southern California, which does not wish to cede counties to the proposed new club, spoke about the issue. The Newfoundland Club of Northern California is discussing sharing part its geographical area.

Janice reported that there are approximately 30 members of the new club at this time. They are holding meetings and events and keeping good records to submit to the NCA. Roger Frey spoke regarding the dedication of the Cal-Neva club members and asked if they would continue doing events and services if they were not recognized. Janice stated that the club is willing to accept guidance from the NCA and can be available to meet with the Board in the future.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Annual American Kennel Club Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Member clubs are allowed to nominate one candidate in each of the three event categories: conformation, companion events, and performance.

On-Line Whelping Box

There was much discussion regarding the Online Whelping Box. Listed below are some of the comments:

- Only those breeders on the Breeders List should be allowed to use the Online Whelping Box option.
- Being on Breeders List is an earned privilege
- The Whelping Box should allow equal access to all NCA breeders
- Whelping Box users need to educate potential buyers
- Whelping Box users need to be educated
- There needs to be a list of qualifications for breeders to list online
- This is a quick fix and not well thought out
- Many on the Breeders List oppose allowing non-listed breeders to post to the Online Whelping Box.
- Many members who are not on the Breeders List feel they should have equal rights to post
- Breeders List members do not produce enough puppies to meet the demand of the public.

Roger Frey suggested that the topic be referred to the membership for input at the Annual Meeting. Cathy L. Sands moved and Aura Dean seconded to refer further discussion to the membership. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Specialty Show Committee**

Robin Seaman of the Specialty Show Committee joined the Board for discussion of the motions on the agenda regarding the National Specialty show.

At the October 3, 2007, Teleconference, Cathy L. Sands requested that the NCA be responsible for subsidizing costs of required tenting, generators and fuel at National Specialty shows. The Board referred this item to the National Specialty Show Committee for input. The committee is still discussing this item and other possible changes to show sites and required costs.

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Kathy McIver seconded that once a conformation judge has been utilized for a National Specialty that judge shall be removed from the list and not hired again for ten years. **Rationale:** We currently have 67 conformation judges on the NCA membership voted list approved to judge at our Nationals. In 10 years, 30 of them would have judged for us, or just 45 percent of those on the list (i.e. there are enough to choose from and to provide increased variety and opportunity for our exhibitors). There was discussion about the host clubs having the right to choose the judges they prefer and how this proposal would affect them. The motion failed 8 no (Jan Boggio, Aura Dean, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands); 3 yes (Jacqueline Brellochs, Mary Lou Roberts, Roger Frey); 1 abstain (Meredith Reggie).

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Mary Lou Roberts seconded that conformation judges' contracts stipulate that they agree not to accept Newfoundland assignments for six months prior to the National for which they are being hired. **Rationale:** To ensure that the intent of November 2005 Board vote to ask National Specialty judges not to accept Newfoundland judging assignment...is followed. This was not followed when Dorothy Collier judged a Regional Specialty in October 2005 and the Bitch classes at the National in March 2006. Such a contract agreement is required by other breed clubs. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the NCA handle all National Specialty room reservations the same way that spots are handled for Water and Draft Tests: on a postmark basis. **Rationale:** This system has been used very successfully for years for working events. It is completely fair and does not give any advantage to people who can drive to the hotel to hand in their reservations. It eliminates the need for members to spend money on express mail services. And it is much fairer to our international guests whose mailed entries might take a substantially longer time to arrive than those who are mailing their reservations from within the U.S.

There was discussion regarding the legibility of postmarks. Additional discussion included the opinion that the proposed process would make the room reservation process even more cumbersome than it is now. There was discussion regarding whether or not the NCA should be involved in the room reservation process and that it

should be handled solely by the hotels. One member stated that reserving rooms is the business of the hotels and that they know best how to do the job.

The motion failed. 4 yes (Jacqueline Brellochs, Sandee Lovett, Roger Frey, Mary Lou Roberts); 8 no (Jan Boggio, Aura Dean, Kevin Gallagher, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands).

Several members felt that all reservations should be made directly by the host hotel and not by the host club. Hotels are in the reservation business and the NCA is not. Meredith Reggie moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the Specialty Show Committee be directed to investigate and establish a criteria under which reservations will be taken and processed by the hotel and not by the host club. The Committee is to report to the Board on this by the 2007 fall face-to-face meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Specialty packet will include information about hotel and site facilities and limitations for people with disabilities. It will state the distance from the hotel to the rings and to other locations at the site that will be used for various events, including grooming facilities and meeting rooms. It will explain fully what problems, if any, those who are wheelchair-bound or who have difficulty walking more than short distances may encounter, and will describe what accommodations, if any, the host club has made to assist them in being able to participate fully in the National Specialty and its events. **Rationale:** People with disabilities, especially those who use a wheelchair, should know what to expect when making plans to come to the National. There was one situation where one person had planned to come to the Monterey, California National but cancelled her plans at the last minute for another reason. Had she come, she would not have been able to get to the rings at all since nothing was published about the fact that no wheel chairs or golf carts would be allowed on that road. Had she come, she would have spent a great deal of time and money and not have been able to attend the event. The position of the show site in California was also a problem for people with difficulty walking substantial distances as were the grooming facilities in Ellicottville. Lack of availability of golf carts in Maryland also caused a problem for people without access to a car. It is understandable that some of these situations exist, and the host club is not always expected to rectify them to everyone's satisfaction, but making people aware of the limitations will give people an opportunity to determine whether or not they want to come based on the site situation. The motion passed unanimously.

Jan Boggio moved and Aura Dean seconded to rescind the following motion: "Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Kathy McIver seconded that a ringside public address system be used to call each class at national specialty shows. Once class placements have been made, the public address system would also be used to announce winners and absentees by number. There will be no announcements on the public address system while a class is being judged unless there is an emergency." **Rationale:** Jan Boggio stated that a number of NCA members have contacted her regarding their

concerns on this matter. They asked that this motion be rescinded, and that the National Specialty Committee have the opportunity to discuss this matter prior to mandating such action at Nationals. Even if a professional is hired to install and operate a public address system, there is the chance that audio feedback could interfere with judging. In addition, the cost of such a system is significantly higher than was discussed. The motion failed 3 yes (Jan Boggio, Aura Dean, Kathy Mclver); 9 no (Jacqueline Brellochs, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey).

Barbara Finch distributed copies of the revised Specialty Show Guide and asked that the Board approve it. The Board felt it needed time to review the revised Guide and will send their first round of comments to Barbara by July 1, 2007.

There was some discussion about the possibility of locating permanent show sites around the United States to hold the National Specialty Shows. The Committee has brought up this subject in the past and there is a lot of interest in the idea. The Specialty Show Committee was again asked to investigate the possibilities and report back to the Board.

- **Judges Education Committee (JEC) (Kim Griffith)**

Kim Griffith joined the Board meeting at 4:00 P.M. The Judges Education Committee (JEC) has now upgraded the CD to a slide show and added some video footage. There has been no verbal (written changes) in the dialog on the CD. The JEC has now approved the CD for use and will present it to the Board for their approval.

The judges program at this National will have a new format with several new additions. The judges will sit with breed mentors at ringside on Friday and Saturday. There is a study class being held on Thursday afternoon with the new CD and written materials. After the judging on Friday the judges will have a "hands-on" with dogs being examined and gaited. Each judge will place the dogs and explain their placements.

The current JEC members wish to continue to serve on the Committee. Kim left the meeting at 4:15 P.M.

- **Ad Hoc Ethics Committee (Ken Price)**

Ken Price joined the meeting at 4:00 P.M. He has accepted the position as Chair of the new ad hoc Ethics Committee. He will continue asking for feedback from the membership regarding what they feel should be in the Ethics Guide.

Ken spoke about the "repeat offenders" that the Grievance Committee hears about. There needs to be good documentation when a complaint is lodged. Many people do not have good documentation or do not choose to submit it to the Grievance Committee and so many times the bad experience is just chalked up to an expensive lesson in how to purchase a Newfoundland.

ADJOURNMENT

Kevin Gallagher moved and Cathy L. Sands seconded to adjourn at 4:30 P.M. MDT.
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Cathy L. Sands
NCA Recording Secretary