

**Board of Directors Teleconference
December 6, 2007 – December 10, 2007
Approved 1.24.08**

President Roger Frey called the meeting to order at 8:20 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Present were Jacqueline Brellocks, Barbara Finch, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Sue Marino, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands. Also present was Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, *ex officio*.

Mary W. Price asked that the order of business be suspended to present the AKC Delegate's report and so that she might leave the meeting early. The Board agreed by consensus.

AKC DELEGATE'S REPORT (Mary W. Price)

Mary W. Price thanked the Board for accommodating her schedule tonight.

Mary gave a lengthy report on the multiple events associated with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship shows held in Long Beach, California, over the previous weekend and the two days of Delegate meetings which followed.

Friday night was the Canine Health Foundation fundraising gala which netted a record \$80,000 for the organization. At the Meet the Breeds exhibit held on Saturday and Sunday in the same venue with the various dog competitions, the Newfoundland booth, created and manned by Southern California Newfoundland fanciers, was awarded first place among Working breeds for the second year in a row. Conformation judging for Newfs, an entry of thirteen, was held on Sunday.

On Monday Mary attended meetings of several of the Delegate Standing Committees, including the Parent Club Committee, which discussed the possibility of group realignment. AKC Board member Dr. Thomas Davies is chairing a committee to address this issue. There are 40 breeds awaiting AKC approval in addition to the 160 breeds now recognized. Mary also attended the meeting of the Canine Health Committee. New officers and board members of the Canine Health Foundation were announced. Cindy Vogel is serving as acting president.

Prior to the Delegate meeting on Tuesday, December 4th, AKC Executive Secretary Jim Crowley moderated a forum at which candidates for Board seats were asked to state their positions on previously submitted questions. Nominees for a four-year term in the Class of 2012 are the three incumbents, Walter Goodman, Thomas Davies and Ronald Meneker. Carmen Battaglia, a former AKC Board member, has been nominated to fill a vacant seat in the Class of 2010. Running by petition for this vacancy is NCA member Fred Bock.

At the start of the regular meeting, each candidate for election to the AKC Board of Directors was allowed three minutes to address the Delegate body. The candidates' remarks will appear in the minutes of the meeting. The election of Board members will take place at the annual meeting on March 11, 2008.

Delegates defeated a proposed amendment which would have removed the restriction of term limits on the AKC Board of Directors. Delegates approved an amendment to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows which creates an Amateur Owner/Handler Class. Delegates amended the original proposal by voting to maintain the Novice Class, as well as offering the new Amateur Owner/Handler Class. It is likely that clubs will have the option of offering either or both of these classes at point shows held on or after January 1, 2009.

Mary reported that in March Delegates expect to vote on an amendment to the Rules Applying to Registration and Discipline, which would allow for a dog's name to be changed under certain provisions without impacting the stud book or event records. A copy of the proposal will be included in a Board packet.

Mary also reported that AKC has formed a Political Action Committee and is seeking financial support. Information will be forwarded to Board members.

Mary W. Price left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Mary Lou Roberts)

Working Achievement Award Committee (Brian Hodges, Chair)

Brian joined the meeting at 8:45 p.m. He presented recommendations from the *ad hoc* Working Achievement Award Committee regarding the requirements for the award. The Committee recommends that the TDD title and the DD and TDD re-qualifications be moved from the core requirements to the optional list; that the RAE be changed to RA; and that any Open Agility class be allowed. The Board thanked Brian and the Committee for their input. Brian left the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded to approve the minutes of the October 18 teleconference as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Kathy McIver seconded to approve the minutes of the fall face-to-face (November 2-4) meeting of the Board as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

Regional Club Liaison (Kathy McIver). Southeastern Newfoundland Club (SENC) members Chuck Fisher, Darlene Fisher, and Margaret Rancourt joined the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Darlene spoke regarding the frustrations of SENC in getting the changes in their By-Laws approved. The SENC feels that there have been unnecessary delays and roadblocks in the process. Roger Frey apologized for any misunderstandings.

The Board and SENC members reviewed the proposed SENC By-Laws.

There was discussion regarding the Honorary Membership definition.

MOTION: Kathy McIver moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the Honorary Membership should be defined as something for non-SENC members. The motion passed 8 yes (Jacqueline Brellochs, Barbara Finch, Sandee Lovett, Sue Marino, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Pam Rubio, Roger Frey; 4 no (Kevin Gallagher, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Cathy L. Sands).

There was discussion regarding changing the required regular club meetings from two to four meetings per year.

MOTION: Kevin Gallagher moved and Cathy L. Sands seconded to call the question. The motion to call the question passed unanimously.

MOTION: Kathy McIver moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that SENC have four regular club meetings per year. The motion failed: 2 yes (Jacqueline Brellochs, Kathy McIver); 10 no (Barbara Finch, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Sue Marino, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey).

MOTION: Section 4: Voting: Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded to revise the wording to read "Each Voting Member who is a member in good standing may vote at each meeting of the Club at which he is present." The motion passed 10 yes, 2 abstain (Kevin Gallagher, Meredith Reggie).

MOTION: Mary Lou Roberts moved and Meredith Reggie seconded to approve in principle the SENC by-laws as jointly agreed upon in this meeting, pending submission of the final document for formal approval. The motion passed unanimously. NCA Recording Secretary, Cathy L. Sands, will send a revised copy to the Board and the SENC.

The Board recessed at 12:08 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. The Board will re-convene at 8:p.m. on December 10, 2007.

RE-CONVENE

The Board re-convened at 8:05 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on December 10, 2007. Present were: Present were Jacqueline Brellochs, Barbara Finch, Roger Frey, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Sue Marino, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Roger Frey) No Report.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Sandee Lovett) No Report.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT (Mary Lou Roberts)

Mary Lou stated that she had received emails from two members of the previous CB&L Committee requesting the working documents that the current Committee had presented to the Board. There was discussion regarding the fact that working documents from this Committee had not been released in the past. The membership will receive the Committee's recommendations when they are finalized. The previous Committee held all of its meetings in Executive Session and none of the content of those meetings was released to the NCA Board or other NCA members. The NCA Board does not feel that there should be any policy change regarding working documents for the current CB&L Committee.

Mary Lou reported that she had received communications regarding the similarity in name of the first issue of the NCA's electronic newsletter to that used by the Newfoundland Club of New England. There was discussion regarding the differences and similarity of the names. The NCA Board would like to encourage all regional clubs to develop an electronic newsletter. There was discussion regarding content of the next issue of the NCA electronic newsletter.

MOTION: Cathy L. Sands moved and Sue Marino seconded to change the name of the NCA electronic newsletter. The motion passed: 8 yes (Barbara Finch, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Sue Marino, Meredith Reggie, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey); 3 no (Jacqueline Brellochs, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price); 1 abstain (Mary Lou Roberts).

MOTION: Mary Lou Roberts moved and Meredith Reggie seconded to name the electronic newsletter "Newf-E-Highlights". The motion passed: 7 yes (Barbara Finch, Kevin Gallagher, Sue Marino, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey); 3 no (Sandee Lovett, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price); 1 abstain (Pam Rubio).

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT (Cathy L. Sands). Cathy reported that the election mailing has gone out and that she has received notification regarding a few households missing one ballot. Several NCA members in Canada have reported receiving duplicate packets. Two communications were received regarding the size of the print used and ballot size. Reducing both of these saved the NCA approximately \$1,000 in mailing costs. She does have the election packet available as a Word file for anyone requesting it.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT (Jacqueline Brellochs). Jacqueline reported that she had received a dues notice from the AKC which has been sent to Mary L. Price, NCA Treasurer, for payment.

The AKC has levied a fine for late submission for a regional specialty show. There was discussion regarding whether the regional club or the national club pays the fine. The regional club will be responsible.

She has received a letter from Rend Lake Resort and Conference Center at Wayne Fitzgerrell State Park, a resort in southern Illinois, offering to host Specialty Shows. This could be a potential location for an NCA National Specialty Show.

Jacqueline received a thank you letter from the National Animal Interest Alliance Foundation (NAIA) and the NAIA Trust for the NCA contributions last year. The letter also asked for donations again this year. NAIA is primarily a public education organization working with the media, schools, legislatures and others to provide factual, first hand information and positive representation to the public for animal owners.

NAIA Trust focuses more of its attention on legislative and legal issues, providing assistance and supplying needed resources at the local level.

MOTION: Pam Rubio moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded to give the NAIA donations in the same amount as last year (\$750 each). The motion passed unanimously.

Cissy Sullivan sent a thank you note to the Board for including her in the lunch at the face-to-face. The Board is grateful to Cissy and the members of North Central Newfoundland Club for their hospitality at the face-to-face Board meeting. The Corresponding Secretary has sent them a thank you letter for their gift baskets and hospitality.

A solicitation from Winning Dog Productions was received. Jacqueline will contact Robin Seaman, Specialty Show Committee Chair, to see if she also received the mailing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Mary Lou Roberts)

Health & Longevity Committee (H&L) - Pam Rubio. Pam submitted a report on the teleconference of the H&L held on December 4, 2007.

- MOTION: Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the NCA adopt the OFA nomenclature and abbreviations for health screenings and health matters to be used in the NCA database and all NCA publications. The motion passed unanimously.

- MOTION: Pam Rubio moved and Cathy L. Sands seconded that the NCA add a requirement to the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) that all dogs awarded a CHIC must have submitted a blood sample to the DNA repository, effective January 1, 2009. The motion failed: 4 yes (Kathy McIver, Pam Rubio, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey); 7 no (Jacqueline Brellochs, Barbara Finch, Sandee Lovett, Sue Marino, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie, Mary Lou Roberts); 1 abstain (Kevin Gallaghef).

Other recommendations received from H&L Committee will be discussed at the January 17 teleconference.

Whelping Box

MOTION: Mary Lou Roberts moved and Kevin Gallagher seconded that the Board should move forward on this issue with the input received from the Breeders List Committee and the Breeders Education Committee and without input from the *ad hoc* Ethics Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Working Achievement Award (Sue Marino). Based on input from members of the *ad hoc* Working Dog Achievement Committee and feedback from other NCA members, the requirements were reviewed.

MOTION: Sue Marino moved and Pam Rubio seconded to amend the requirements as follows:

- Core title requirements
 - Companion Dog Excellent (CDX)
 - Water Rescue Dog (WRD)
 - Draft Dog (DD)
- Plus any 3 titles from the optional list below
 - 1 Utility Dog (UD), 1 Utility Dog Excellent (UDX), or 1 Obedience Trial Champion (OTCH)
 - 1 Tracking Dog (TD), 1 Tracking Dog Excellent (TDX), or 1 Variable Surface Tracking (VST)
 - 3 WRD re-qualifications or 1 WRDX
 - 1 TDD (Team Draft Dog) or 3 re-qualifications of DD or TDD or any combination thereof
 - Rally Excellent
 - Any Open Agility

This new award will be effective immediately and any eligible dogs may receive the award at the 2008 National. This award must be applied for via the Versatile Newfoundland Committee; deadline to apply is March 1, 2008. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board noted that Brian Hodges and Joyce Arivella have volunteered to serve on the Versatile Newfoundland Committee for the purpose of administering the Working Achievement Award.

Regional Club Liaison (Kathy McIver)

MOTION: Sue Marino moved and Barbara Finch seconded to direct Niagara Frontier Newfoundland Club to send membership renewal notices to those who were listed as members on their 2004 membership roster but who are not listed on their 2007 membership roster. These notices must be postmarked by January 2, 2008 and have a deadline for renewal of May 1, 2008. The motion passed 8 yes (Barbara Finch, Kevin Gallagher, Sandee Lovett, Sue Marino, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Mary Lou Roberts, Pam Rubio); 4 abstain (Jacqueline Brellochs, Meredith Reggie, Cathy L. Sands, Roger Frey).

TREASURER'S REPORT (Mary L. Price) Mary presented the Treasurer's report. It was accepted unanimously. She reported the following balances: checking account: \$1461.80; savings account: \$47105.52; invested in CDs: \$256193.41; and the NCA operations balance total of \$304760.73 with \$4,417.96 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund money market account balance is \$13,294.53 and a grand total of \$318055.26.

Mary recommended that NCA fund the incorporation grant request received from the Newfoundland Club of Southern California.

MOTION: Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that an incorporation grant not to exceed \$1,000 be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

While in Executive Session the Board approved the applicant's list of December 12, 2007 for publication.

While in Executive Session the Board appointed Laura Gallagher and Patti Pigeon to the Working Dog Committee.

The Board adjourned at 12:30 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

All agenda items not addressed will be placed on the January 17, 2008 teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy L. Sands
NCA Recording Secretary