

NCA Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of March 18 & 25, 2010
(Approved April 15, 2010)

Roger Frey, President, called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m. Eastern time. The following directors were present: Jacqueline Brellochs (JB), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Mary Lou Roberts (MLR), Pam Rubio (PSR) and Pam Saunders (PS). Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA) was absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Board-elect members John Cornell and Donna Thibault were present. Aura Dean, Barbara Finch, Lori Littleford and Donna Zink were present as member guests.

Approval of Minutes

The Board considered the minutes of the February 18, 2010 meeting.

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the February 18, 2010 meeting as amended. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

Report of the President

Roger Frey, President, reported that he had contacted the AKC Parent Club Conference Chair regarding the possibility of sending two NCA representatives to the AKC Parent Club Conference. He was told that, depending on the number of responses from the other parent clubs, there might be space available for a second NCA representative. But it would be an additional charge for the second representative. The Chair will contact Roger if space does become available.

Hearing no objection, the Board deviated from the order of the agenda.

Lifestages

The Board discussed the *Lifestages* newsletter program proposed by REACt. Some Board members had concerns with some of the articles included or referenced in the newsletters as some of the information was outdated. There was some discussion whether the committee and the Board were operating with the same set of expectations for this program. Some Board members thought that the articles should have more information on the actual stages of growth. There was discussion concerning the articles used, their appropriateness and whether it was information that would be useful to new puppy owners and how best to get the information to the new puppy owners. The Board did agree that the formatting and layout were well done.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Mary Lou Roberts, 1st Vice President, reported that the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) met during the previous week. The CTMB received a report from the Morris Animal Foundation on research projects funded and some new proposals. Due to confidentiality clauses, the CTMB and the Research Advisory Committee could not give many specifics on the information they had received.

Mary Lou informed the Board that Consie Powell had finished the A-Z book as a fundraising project for the Health Challenge and that pre-orders have started to come in. The book will be available at the 2010 National Specialty.

Mary Lou stated that the CTMB had begun some discussion about committee appointments and that there would be information from the CTMB after their next meeting.

There was some discussion about the Junior Scholarship program. There have been few applicants and the Board discussed whether the requirements were too stringent. It was stated that NCA, Inc. as the Trustee would request the CTMB to review the requirements. Mary Lou will take the Board's comments back to the CTMB for their consideration.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Kathy McIver, 2nd Vice President, updated the Board on the NCA Committee Survey. There was discussion about the information that was being returned. Despite the best efforts to insure that the survey responses were completely anonymous, it was reported that there were a few committees where the responses made it possible to identify some respondents. It was reported that the data will be manually pulled and placed into a spreadsheet which will then limit any identification. The NCA Committee Survey Committee had been under the impression that the data would be pulled electronically. Only one person will pull the data. A suggestion was made to have the data pulled by someone from outside the NCA. There was discussion about terminating the survey immediately and not using the data. At the time, there had been 97 responses.

At 9:02 p.m., Aura Dean joined the meeting.

Committee Submissions to *Newf Tide*

Aura Dean, *Newf Tide* Policy Committee (NTPC) Chair, explained the policy concerning committee submissions to *Newf Tide*. Committees are encouraged to submit one-page articles at any time for publication, which is a policy that has been in effect for many years. If a committee wishes to submit a longer article or report, the committee needs to communicate that to the *Newf Tide* editor for planning purposes. If a submitted article or report overlaps another committee's responsibility, that

committee is shown the article as a courtesy. The *Newf Tide* editor also has the right to ask committees to shorten longer articles.

There was some discussion over the differences between an article and a report. Aura agreed to take the comments from this discussion back to the NTPC for clarification of the *Newf Tide Policy Manual*.

There was additional discussion about other committees' submissions. It was stated that the committees should be able to talk to other committees but that one committee could not assign work to another committee. It was agreed that the Board would discuss intra-committee communications at its next meeting.

There was a question about the post-publication report that the NTPC develops after each issue of *Newf Tide* is printed. It was agreed that the report would be forwarded to the Board after each issue.

The Board thanked Aura for her attendance at the meeting and for her hard work on the NTPC.

At 9:30 p.m., Aura Dean left the meeting and Barbara Finch joined the meeting.

National Specialty Hospitality

Barbara Finch invited Board members to sign up for two hour shifts at the Hospitality table. She informed the Board that the Hospitality area will be in the Lions' Club building near ringside and that there will be many tasks there, such as answering questions, banquet sign-up sheets, items for sale and so on. She would like two Board members per shift. A schedule will be emailed to each Board member.

Barbara then read a memo from Sandee Lovett, 2010 National Specialty Show Chair, that the preparations for the show were going along according to plan.

Technical Resources Committee

Barbara Finch, Technical Resources Committee Chair, reviewed with the Board the conversation she had with AKC concerning the use of the AKC Stud Book for the NCA Database. At the present time, AKC has not granted permission to use the AKC Stud Book in the NCA Database as the NCA Database is an "open" database, that is, available to anyone.

Barbara reported that Deb Bridge has completed the programming to calculate the Working Achievement Awards and the TOD/TODD awards.

There was discussion about the missing draft titles. Sue Marino, Working Dog Committee Chair, stated that she had tried diligently to contact previous draft test chairs for the missing information with little response. The working test catalogs have

all been sent to the AKC Archives and it was reported that there would be a fee to have the archivist pull the information. Mary W. Price will talk with the AKC to determine what can be done. There was further discussion of obtaining the needed information.

At 9:55 p.m., Barbara Finch left the meeting.

AKC Parent Club Title Program

The Board considered a letter from the AKC regarding the new AKC Parent Club Title Program. This program would allow parent club titles to be recorded by the AKC and placed on a dog's pedigree. The AKC would have to approve each title and the test requirements which could not resemble any AKC test. There would be a \$50.00 fee for each title to be recorded with the dog's name.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Maredith Reggie seconded that the Board inform the AKC that the NCA will choose not to participate in the Parent Club Titles program.

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, informed the Board that she had additional information that she wanted to bring forth in her AKC Delegate's report.

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to table this motion until after the AKC Delegate report. 1 Absent (LA)

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared March 18, 2010 agenda packet and the February 18, 2010 minutes. She informed the Board that the February 18, 2010 Applicants List had been unanimously approved with nine ballots returned.

Dues Renewal Form

Mary Lou Cuddy, Membership Chair, presented the 2011 dues renewal form to the Board for approval. There was a suggestion to ask for volunteers for foster care for rescue dogs on the renewal form with a place for members to indicate their interest. There was discussion about the lack of available space on the front page of the form along with the added work of tabulating any responses.

Pam Saunders moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board approve the dues renewal form as presented. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

There was continued discussion regarding finding volunteers and foster care. It was agreed that a request for foster care volunteers could go in *Newf Tide* as space allows. Interested members would be instructed to contact Diane Lynch, Rescue Assistant Chair.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$7,689.63; checking account for 2010 National Specialty: \$14,663.48; savings account: \$35,238.25; invested in CDs: \$148,512.94; and the NCA operations balance total of \$206,104.30 with \$4,310.08 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$698.62 for a total of \$206,802.92.

Mary reported that the uniform trophies have been ordered for both 2010 and 2011. She informed the Board that Sandee Lovett, 2010 National Specialty Chair, indicated that a monetary advance might be needed to cover NCA logo items, catalog notebook covers and assorted printing.

At 10:23 p.m., Donna Zink, Rescue Education and Awareness Committee Chair, and Lori Littleford, Rescue Education and Awareness Committee member, joined the meeting.

Lifestages

The Board returned to a discussion of the *Lifestages* newsletters. There were comments that the Board had anticipated that the different newsletters would be geared more towards specific ages or growth stages than what was presented to the Board. The committee wanted to get this project launched quickly and will continue to develop and perfect the newsletters. The committee explained that they used articles that the Board had previously approved so as to make this approval process quicker. The project would have taken much longer if each article had to be developed individually.

It was said this is an important project as it will remind puppy buyers repeatedly that the NCA and *NCA Website* with all its information is available to them.

Lori Littleford has volunteered to monitor this program for its first several years and will continue to develop more age-specific articles and to update articles that have outdated information.

The Board recognized the hard work and effort that went into the *Lifestages* newsletters and expressed their appreciation.

There was discussion about articles and subjects that needed to be updated quickly or replaced. The Board should send their individual comments to Lori by June 1, 2010 with a report to the Board from Lori, if possible, by the July 15, 2010 teleconference.

The Board thanked Donna and Lori for their hard work.

At 11:05 p.m., Lori Littleford left the meeting.

***Newf Tide* Coupon Program**

Donna Zink reported on the *Newf Tide* coupon program. She stated that the funding is fine and the project will not be over its budget. She informed the Board that she would have a report on this program by the Board's meeting at the 2010 National Specialty. She reported that requests for the free issue of *Newf Tide* are coming from across the country. In a few months, REACt will be able to determine if there has been a bump in *Newf Tide* subscriptions and new membership applications. It is estimated at this time that 10% of the *Newf Tide* coupons in the AKC registration envelopes are being returned.

The Board thanked Donna for her update.

At 11:10 p.m., Donna Zink left the meeting.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported on the Parent Club Title Program that was mentioned in the January, 2010 AKC Board minutes. The AKC Board has already approved this program. She stated that this program had not been discussed at any of the AKC Delegates' meetings. The program was started at the behest of the American Belgian Malinois Club to recognize Schutzhund titles. AKC would review a parent club's performance titles and the tests' rules and regulations. The AKC may determine that some titles' names could be changed to bring some consensus to, for example, all draft titles. Once the AKC approved these, any changes in the titles or the test rules and regulations would have to be approved by the AKC.

Mary Lou Roberts moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board send the AKC letter regarding the AKC Parent Club Titles program to the Working Dog Committee for the committee's input with a report due back to the Board by April 15, 2010. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

Mary then reported that the Grand Championship program will start May 12, 2010 and that there did not seem to be any real enthusiasm by the AKC Delegates for this new program.

Mary informed the Board that the Parent Club Committee had discussed adding a health title based on clear results to breed-specific tests.

Mary stated that Charles Garvin, William Newman and Patricia Scully were elected to the AKC Board on the first ballot.

Mary reported the following items: The proposed group realignment has been referred back to the AKC Board for reassessment by the Group Realignment Committee. The Delegates voted in favor of an amendment to remove the word "telegram" from the

AKC Bylaws. An amendment concerning the dog show veterinarian was sent back to the Dog Show Rules Committee for a re-write. The announcement of the 125th anniversary of the AKC was read into the United States Congressional Record.

Litter registrations were down 12% and individual registrations were down 8%. There was an increase in the number of shows but overall entries were down. Subscriptions to the *AKC Gazette* and *Family Dog* were also down.

The next AKC Delegates Meeting will be in June, 2010 and held in Atlanta, Georgia.

It was brought to the Board's attention that Mary was recognized during the Delegates meeting for her long service to the sport of dogs which included 25 years as the NCA Delegate and her years of service to her all-breed club. She was presented with a medallion from the AKC.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Pat Randall, Corresponding Secretary, reported on two emails received from NCA members. One email questioned whether the NCA election procedure met Connecticut state statutes as the Connecticut statutes stipulate a signed ballot. The question will be referred to the NCA attorney. The second email asked for a legal review of the NCA election procedure and a report on the instructions given to the company which received and counted the ballots.

It was stated that our election procedures follow very standard procedures. Since the NCA attorney is paid by the hour, all questions will be saved and sent together with the questions about the *Constitution and Bylaws* interpretations. There was some additional discussion about signed ballots, the Connecticut statutes and election counting procedures.

At 12:06 a.m., Mary W. Price left the meeting.

The Board discussed a previous request for information from an NCA member in regards to the financial aspects of the NCA Database. Treasurer Mary L. Price had forwarded copies of invoices and budgets. The Board agreed that both the Board and the committee do not have the time or resources to accommodate the remainder of the request. This will be conveyed to the member by the Corresponding Secretary.

Pat reported on a letter from the American Dog Show Judges requesting a donation to their organization. It was agreed to refer the letter to the Judges Education Committee.

Pat stated that he had referred several other letters to the appropriate committees. A request to send a cancer study appeal for volunteers to the regional clubs was considered. The Board agreed to send the request to the Research Advisory Committee and the CTMB.

Committee Reports

General Education Committee

Nicki Dobson, General Education Committee Chair, had requested permission to contact the Heart of America and River King Newfoundland Clubs to help with the effort of two elementary school students to have the Newfoundland dog recognized as the State Dog of Missouri. The school is requesting educational materials and a visit by Newfoundland dogs along with assistance in getting the word out to state representatives. By consensus, the Board approved the request.

Breeder Education Committee

Kathy McIver, Breeder Education Committee Chair, reported on the kennel management heart survey and a glitch in the survey software. The glitch has been resolved by putting the survey on a DVD that will be sent to all members of the *Breeders List*. It was reported that the DVD and the survey should be simple to use. The committee is hopeful that the Board will grant final approval at the next meeting and the survey will kick-off at the 2010 National Specialty.

Working Dog Committee

Sue Marino, Working Dog Committee (WDC) Chair, informed the Board that the WRDX revisions will not be in effect for this coming water test season. The committee's discussion of "control versus instinct" is taking some time and the committee wants to take the time to do the revision correctly.

The committee did vote on a motion to delete the WRDX fitness swim certification test citing the difficulty in getting the certifications. The committee will emphasize the importance of proper conditioning.

Mareidith Reggie moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the Working Dog Committee to eliminate the required WRDX fitness swim test. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

There was some discussion of the termination of an exercise versus the termination of the test for a dog who having difficulties completing an exercise due to improper conditioning.

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the following statement be distributed as amended: For the 2010 water test season, this statement will be posted in NCA e-notes, *Newf Tide*, the *NCA Website* and each regional club will place it in their water test premium lists – "Though a fitness certification is no longer required it is the handler's responsibility to prepare and condition their dog physically for the extreme distance and time required to complete these exercises. It is the judges' responsibility to terminate any exercise at any time a dog is deemed to be in distress

or appears to be experiencing difficulty in completing any of the exercises. The exercise will be stopped immediately and the dog will be excused from further testing.” The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

Sue reported that the WDC discussed application fees when a club applies for permission to hold a working test. The Board discussed the number of working tests being held each year and the costs of the patches and certificates.

Pam Rubio moved and Pam Saunders seconded to end working test application fees starting with the 2011 season. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

Sue informed the Board of the WDC’s discussions regarding the WRDX as a separate test. There are some problems in dealing with the bitches in season possibly being tested after the WRDX test and before the WD/WRD test. Move-ups are another problem. The WDC will continue its discussions.

There was some concern expressed about the flagging of judges who have not competed in a recent working test themselves. It is making it difficult for some clubs to find judges and some judges have entered untrained dogs just to lift their flag.

Sue reported that the membership has been asking that new rules and regulations be added into the online rules and regulations rather than just be noted on the *NCA Website*.

Electronic Publications Policy Committee

The Board considered the proposed privacy statement as developed by the committee.

Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board approve the Electronic Publications Privacy Policy as presented. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

The Board considered the request from the committee to place the Breeder Referral 800 phone number on the *NCA Website* home page.

Kathy McIver moved and Pat Randall seconded that the Board approve the request of Electronic Publications Policy Committee to place the Breeder Referral 800 phone number on the *NCA Website* home page. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

Executive Session

At 1:18 a.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

At 1:34 a.m., Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

While in executive session, the Board considered the March 18, 2010 Applicants List.

While in executive session, the Board considered additional appointments to the Breed Steward Program.

Board Recesses

At 1:45 a.m., Pam Rubio moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board recess the meeting until Thursday, March 25, 2010 at 8 p.m. at which time the Board will finish the agenda. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

NCA Teleconference Meeting, reconvened March 25, 2010

Roger Frey, President, reconvened the meeting at 8:02 p.m. Eastern time. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Mary Lou Roberts (MLR), Pam Rubio (PSR) and Pam Saunders (PS). Jacqueline Brellochs (JB) was absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was absent. Board-elect members John Cornell and Donna Thibault were present.

Working Dog Committee

In response to a request from the Working Dog Committee, the Board considered a suggested grammatical change in the fitness swim statement approved at the recessed meeting.

Meredith Reggie moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the amended wording to the previously approved statement from the Working Dog Committee regarding the removal of the WRDX fitness swim. The statement will now read, "Though a fitness certification is no longer required, it is a handler's responsibility to prepare and condition his or her dog physically for the extreme distance and time required to complete these exercises. It is the judges' responsibility to terminate any exercise at any time a dog is deemed to be in distress or appears to be experiencing difficulty in completing any of the exercises. The exercise will be stopped immediately and the dog will be excused from further testing." The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

At 8:03 Jacqueline Brellochs joined the meeting.

Laryngeal Paralysis Study

The Board considered a request for a letter of support for a laryngeal paralysis study. Due to time constraints, the Corresponding Secretary had already replied to the letter with a statement of support but no commitment to the study. There was some discussion that the study should be sent to the CTMB for their information.

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to send to the Charitable Trust Management Board a letter concerning a Laryngeal Paralysis research project and the Board's letter of support.

Parent Club Title Program

The Board returned to a motion that had been left un-addressed regarding the Parent Club Title Program. The Board agreed to hold the motion until after the Working Dog Committee made its recommendation at the April 15, 2010 meeting.

Guidelines for Responses to Common Inquiries

Pat Randall, Corresponding Secretary, requested that the Board consider developing "talking points" to assist in answering many of the common inquiries received. These inquiries can include such questions as recommended dog foods, ages for spaying/neutering, vaccination protocols, breeder versus veterinarian differences, breeder versus puppy buyer differences, etc. Pat stated that it is very difficult to answer these questions without inferring an official NCA policy or an endorsement. These inquiries need to be addressed in some form. Liability issues will also need to be considered.

It was stated that NCA members have diverse opinions. "One size fits all" responses will not work in most situations. It was suggested that inquirers be given sources of information such as the *NCA Website* particularly the General Education and Breeders Education pages, veterinary school websites, regional clubs, the *Best Breeding Practices* and the *Ethics Guide*. The Board discussed how to go about setting up these "talking points". It was agreed that this was a productive discussion and Board members were encouraged to contact Pat with additional ideas or suggestions.

Judges Education Seminar Participants

In response to a request from a member, the Board considered making a list of participants at the NCA Judges Education seminars available to the membership. Some Board members felt this was a good idea. There was a brief discussion about making the list retroactive and if it were possible. It was stated that judges applying for breeds presumably have attended at least one seminar. It was also stated that a list of participants must be turned into AKC to be used for verification so such a list does already exist.

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board refer to the Judges Education Committee a request that a list of attendees at NCA Judges Education

Seminars be made available to NCA members. A report will be due back to the Board by its June 17, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Guidelines for Silent Auctions/Fundraising at National Specialties

The Board discussed some concerns that were raised about the number of silent auctions and other fundraisers at the National Specialty and the limited consumer dollars available. It was stated that most of these were to benefit individual regional club rescue efforts; however, one club was said to be raising money just for that club and not specifically for their rescue program. The Board questioned whether this issue was addressed in the *Specialty Show Guide*. It was suggested that a Rescue room, much like the consignment shop, be considered.

Maredith Reggie moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board refer to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee for their input a discussion item concerning guidelines for silent auctions/fund-raising at the National Specialty by regional clubs to raise funds for rescue. The motion passed unanimously.

Constitution and Bylaws

In light of the recent information received from Lisa Davis, the NCA attorney, the Board discussed possible changes to the Board-approved revision of the *NCA Constitution and Bylaws*. It was suggested that the bare minimum be put in the *Certificate of Incorporation*. This would have the effect of making things simpler and more concise and would lower our legal bills. In effect, the *Certificate of Incorporation* would become much like the current *Constitution*. The Board will continue this discussion at the April teleconference and the face-to-face meeting at the 2010 National Specialty.

Pat Randall moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board amend the previously adopted draft *Constitution/Bylaws/Ethics Guide*, removing the entirety from the *Certificate of Incorporation* and having a committee draft a new *Certificate of Incorporation* including only the current *Constitution* and whatever other items are required as a minimum for the state of Connecticut. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Packets on NCA Website

The Board considered a request to post committee reports that are included in the agenda packet on the *NCA Website*. Some Board members believed that the posting would be easier for NCA members to keep up on committee activities and would help to increase the transparency of the work of the Board and committees. Other Board members expressed concern that some NCA members might interfere with the work of a committee. It was agreed that any comments on committee reports must come to the Board first. There was discussion concerning the best way to post the agenda packet; whether to post everything in its entirety or to provide links to the appropriate committee article/page. There was a brief discussion how to determine whether the

postings were being used and if the number of hits could be counted to determine the popularity.

Kathy McIver moved and Pat Randall seconded that all committee submissions, along with the agenda, will be made available to members instead of being distributed only to the Board as is currently done. This policy will apply to the next six agendas and will be re-evaluated at that time. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of National Specialty Committee Chairs

The Board discussed the fact that the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee had appointed the committees and chairpersons for the 2010 and 2011 National Specialties without bringing their suggestions to the Board first. The Board was reminded that the *Constitution and Bylaws* states that all committees are appointed by the Board. It was agreed that this needs to be clarified.

Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board refer to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee for its input on the issue of the appointment of National Specialty committee chairs. The report will be due back to the Board by its April 15, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

NCA Contractor Communications

The Board briefly considered a request to develop guidelines for communications with NCA contractors. It was agreed that this was not needed at this time.

Committee Liaison

The Board considered the question of a committee chair also serving as a Committee Liaison. In recent years, the 2nd Vice President has acted as the Committee Liaison and some have concurrently served as a committee chair. There was a discussion of appointing a non-Board member as Committee Liaison and could a committee not be served properly if the committee chair was also the Committee Liaison. It was recommended that the Board spend some time on governance issues at the face-to-face meeting if time allows.

NCA Advertisements

The Board addressed NCA advertisements and the fact that the ads have not appeared in designated bench show catalogs. The General Education Committee has admitted that some deadlines have been missed. There was a suggestion that the responsibility of placing the ads in bench show catalogs be moved to the Publicity Committee and the appropriate number of committee members would be added to the Publicity Committee to assist with this responsibility.

Meredith Reggie moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board refer to the Publicity Committee for its input the motion that the advertising responsibilities (magazine ads and benched show catalog ads) be transferred from the General Education Committee to the Publicity Committee. To facilitate these functions, two additional members will be added to the Publicity Committee. This change would become effective when committee assignments are made after the 2010 National Specialty. This report will be due April 15, 2010.

There was additional discussion that the General Education Committee's job description does give the committee this responsibility. It was suggested that additional committee members be appointed whose task it would be to ensure these ads are submitted.

The motion that the Board refer to the Publicity Committee for its input the motion that the advertising responsibilities (magazine ads and benched show catalog ads) be transferred from the General Education Committee to the Publicity Committee failed unanimously.

Meredith Reggie moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board postpone making any changes to the Publicity Committee until the Board discusses committee appointments. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Deliberations

The Board discussed whether committee deliberations are to be considered as executive session. Some committees believe that their discussions should remain within the committee while other committees feel free to share their discussions with non-committee members. It was stated that committees are privileged entities and are able to decide how their discussions will be handled. Committee submissions or reports are the public face of a committee. The committees should inform the Board and/or the membership of how they came to a decision but the sharing of the actual discussion is up to the committee. It was said that committee guidelines should be clarified. Committee should be encouraged to work through decisions before reporting out and that minority reports can be utilized.

Kathy McIver will work on clarifying the committee guidelines that pertain to this issue and will present her recommendations at the next Board face-to-face meeting.

Lifestages

The Board returned to the discussion of the *Lifestages* newsletters. A Board member asked that the AKC Puppy Handbook be considered as it may contain almost everything the Board would like to see included in the *Lifestages* newsletters. This could make an excellent template to which breed-specific information could be added. The Board agreed that this could be shared with Lori Littleford and Donna Zink as they continue to develop this project.

Adjournment

Board officers were reminded that officers' report will be due by April 20, 2010.

At 10:12 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary