

NCA Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of August 19, 2010
(Approved September 16, 2010)
(Amended October 21, 2010)

Roger Frey called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. Eastern time. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy Mclver (KM), Maredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Jacqueline Brellochs (JB) and Mary L. Price (MLP) were absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was absent.

Approval of Minutes

The Board considered the minutes of the July 15, 2010 meeting.

Pam Saunders moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the minutes of July 15, 2010 be approved as amended. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (JB, MLP)

Report of the President

Roger Frey, President, did not have a report at this time.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Jacqueline Brellochs, 1st Vice President, was absent.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Kathy Mclver, 2nd Vice President, reported that Pat Randall, *ad hoc* NCA Governing Documents Review Committee Chair, requested a copy of the current Certificate of Incorporation. Roger Frey stated that he would get a copy to the committee.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the July 15, 2010 minutes and August 19, 2010 agenda. She requested the Board's input regarding the posting of the election statements of candidates for election to the Board on the *NCA Website* in addition to the election packet that is sent out via the postal service. The Nominating Committee had suggested that this action be considered. There was a brief discussion about the reasons for the posting.

Sue Marino moved and John Cornell seconded that the NCA election statements submitted by the candidates be posted to the *NCA Website* in addition to being included in the election packet. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (JB, MLP)

At 8:10 p.m., Donna Thibault left the meeting.

The Nominating Committee had also recommended that photographs of the candidates be published with their statements. The Board discussed this recommendation and whether people would vote on the photograph or for the election statement. It was asked if the photographs could be made optional.

At 8:13 p.m., Jacqueline Brellochs joined the meeting.

Sue Marino moved and John Cornell seconded that candidates running for election to the NCA Board must submit a photograph along with their election statement. The motion passed. 6 Yes (LA, JC, MLC, SM, PR, PS); 4 No (JB, RF, KM, MR); 2 Absent (MLP, DT)

Mary Lou Cuddy reminded the Board of items on the Board's "to-do" list. It was agreed that the Board would either address some of the long-term items or drop them from the list at the September 16, 2010 meeting.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that there was no specific correspondence for the Board. She answered some general information requests or referred the requests to the proper committee or Board member. She also reported that some regional clubs have requested a supply of the *Newf and You* pamphlet. It was agreed that the *Newf and You* would be discussed later in the meeting.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Jacqueline Brellochs, 1st Vice President, reported the following from the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) meeting held August 11, 2010. The CTMB received a list of 23 new studies recommended for funding by the Morris Animal Foundation. The CTMB discussed ways to acknowledge and distribute \$10,000.00 received from the estate of Lorraine Groschen. The CTMB agreed that revised rescue documents would be discussed at a separate future meeting of the CTMB when all members can be present.

Also discussed were parameters for establishing a Doppler echocardiogram rebate program to encourage breeders to Doppler their breeding stock. It was asked if the CTMB would consider asking the Breeders Education Committee for their input and whether the CTMB could do so directly or if it had to go through the Board. The CTMB considered requiring open disclosure of results but it was felt that this would discourage

participation in the health clinics. The next meeting of the CTMB will be September 15, 2010.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, was absent but had indicated that she would try to call in late to the meeting. She had submitted a report to the Board earlier. It was agreed to wait on the report to see if she would be able to call in.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, was absent but she had earlier requested that the Board consider the upcoming vote on term limits for the AKC Board of Directors and give her direction as to how the Board would like her to vote on this issue. The Board considered her request and the accompanying editorials that she had submitted for the agenda packet.

At 8:30 p.m., Donna Thibault returned to the meeting.

Meredith Reggie moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board accept the recommendation from Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, that she support the approval of term limits for the AKC Board with a four year break between terms. The motion passed. 10 Yes (LA, JB, JC, MLC, RF, SM, KM, MR, PR, PS); 1 Abstention (DT); 1 Absent (MLP)

Newf and You

The Board was reminded that the *Newf and You* had been approved at the May 2-3, 2010 meeting with some editorial changes. Meredith Reggie and Mary Lou Cuddy stated that they had made those editorial changes to the document and needed the Board to approve this final edit. Their final review of the document had also brought forward some questions regarding changes were made to a section on vaccinations. Discussion on this section was tabled until later in the meeting.

At 8:50 p.m., Barbara Finch and Marylou Zimmerman joined the meeting.

Technical Resources Committee

Barbara Finch, Technical Resources Committee Chair, and Marylou Zimmerman, Technical Resources Committee member, requested additional information from the Board concerning the amount of money that the committee had put in its budget request and the amount that they were given. There was discussion regarding the NCA Database and what steps were needed next to lay the foundation for Phase II. It was stated that site security should be the most important component to address but it will not be expensive in terms of website developer time, estimated to come in at under \$5,000.00.

The remainder of the budgeted amount could be targeted towards making the administration pages easier, faster and more secure for the administrators to use. Or, the funds could be used to develop better searches that the members will actually be able to see and utilize.

The Board stated that, due to financial constraints, the database will need to be a multi-year project with each year seeing another portion being accomplished. It was stated that each portion should be put out to bid with a minimum of two bids being received. The Board requested that the Technical Resources Committee come back with estimated costs and times and rank the scheduling importance of each portion.

It was reported that Deb Bridge had written an excellent explanation for a Board member as to why some of her dogs had not yet appeared in the database and it was requested that this explanation be placed in *Newf Tide*, perhaps in every other issue.

The Technical Resources Committee requested that the Board direct AKC and OFA to send their reports to the email address of the NCA Corresponding Secretary, not the Corresponding Secretary's personal email. This would provide continuous distribution of information in case of a change in Corresponding Secretary.

At 9:07 p.m., Barbara Finch and Marylou Zimmerman left the meeting.

Rescue Education and Awareness Committee

The Rescue Education and Awareness Committee (REACT) requested that the Board approve the *Newf Tide* coupon form as presented.

Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the *Newf Tide* coupon form as presented by the Rescue Education and Awareness Committee. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

REACT also requested that the *Newf Tide* coupon form be placed on the rescue page of the *NCA Website*. There were some questions about links to other sections of the *NCA Website*. Kathy McIver, NCA Committee Liaison, will check and report back to the Board.

Newf and You

The Board resumed consideration of the *Newf and You*. A question was raised whether new photographs were going to be inserted. There was some discussion whether the General Education Committee should submit photographs for the Board's consideration. It was stated that the General Education Committee is working on many projects and Meredith Reggie as *Newf Tide* editor has access to many appropriate photographs. Meredith stated that she would choose some photographs and bring them to the Board's November 19-21, 2010 face-to-face meeting.

The Board re-visited the request from some regional clubs for a supply of the *Newf and You*. After some discussion, it was agreed that the clubs would be sent the current version in order to use up the supply.

There was a brief discussion of having photographs with professional handlers prominently displayed on the *NCA Website*. It was felt that since the pictures are changed frequently, no further action was needed.

Committee Communications

The Board considered a proposed statement on committee communications. The Board thanked Kathy McIver for developing the statement.

Sue Marino moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that the Board approve the committee communications policy as follows: "NCA committees are answerable to the Board of Directors, and only to the Board. Neither individual board members acting on their own nor other committees may assign work to committees. Board members have no special privileges with committees except when acting as a Board or at the direction of the Board. However, formal avenues of communication should not preclude a collegial relationship between committees or Board members and committees. Further, the Board may in specific instances or as a matter of policy approve specific collaborative work between committees. In any event it should be remembered that no committee member, including the chair, may speak for the committee as a whole and no such communication should be taken as having come from the entire committee." The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

At 9:19 p.m., Betty McDonnell joined the meeting.

Judges Education Committee

Betty McDonnell, Judges Education Committee (JEC) member, and the Board considered a request that the Judges Education Committee develop a code of ethics for breed mentors and presenters at judges seminars that will lessen the perception of a conflict of interest. It was stated that the request was made so that a diversity of styles will be presented and that the following items be considered: seminars be hosted by one JEC member and at least two breed mentors; make audio tapes of all seminars and make them available to members; restrict professional handlers from unassisted mentoring of judges and from choosing the dogs that will be used in seminars and preventing mentors from showing to any judge they have mentored within the last 12 months.

It was stated that in the past there may have been some improprieties or perceptions of impropriety. Betty reported that at specialties, it is easy to get breed mentors and dogs for the seminars. Where seminars are being held usually determines which breed mentors to send. It was said that the idea for this request started when professional

handlers were running the judges' seminars. It was suggested that the JEC considered the points made and report back to the Board.

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the discussion item regarding presenters at NCA Judges Education seminars and possible conflicts of interest be referred to the Judges Education Committee for the committee's input with a report due by the Board's November 19-21, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

A discussion regarding a request that breed mentors at judges seminars remind judges that long flews and deep jowls are considered faults under the Newfoundland *Standard*. This is also shown as a fault in the *Illustrated Guide*. It was stated that the DVD and the script used at seminars emphasizes the *Standard*.

There was a brief discussion that requests from judges for mentoring should utilize more and varied members of the Breed Mentors List. Betty stated that the JEC tries to refer to mentors in the area.

Pam Rubio moved and Sue Marino seconded that the discussion item regarding NCA Judges Education seminars and long flews and deep jowls be referred to the Judges Education Committee with a report due by the Board's November 19-21, 2010 meeting. The motion passed. 7 Yes (LA, JB, MLC, RF, SM, PR, DT); 4 No (JC, KM, MR, PS); 1 Absent (MLP)

At 9:49 p.m., Betty McDonnell left the meeting.

***ad hoc* NCA Governing Documents Review Committee**

The Board was reminded that the *ad hoc* NCA Governing Documents Review Committee would be presenting their report at the Board's November 19-21, 2010 face-to-face meeting. The Board considered whether Pat Randall, Chair, should be invited to attend the meeting to present their report and answer questions.

Non AKC/NCA Titles

The Board considered the question of whether non AKC/NCA titles as provided by the owner should be included on Versatile Newfoundland, Working Achievement and draft and water test certificates. It was stated that verification of such titles would be problematic. The database will not record non AKC/NCA title so once the NCA Database starts to generate all the certificates, the non AKC/NCA titles will not be added. It was also stated that the only thing the certificate means is that the title for which it was issued was earned. It is not an official record of all titles earned. The NCA does have a policy on which titles are reported in *Newf Tide*, but there is no policy on which titles can be placed on the certificates.

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board instruct certificate makers for ROM, VN, WA, draft and water title certificates to list all titles as submitted by the owner until the certificates are generated by the NCA Database. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

Oldest Living Newfoundland

The Board discussed the Oldest Living Newfoundland Award and the new policy of recognizing Newfoundlands over 14 years of age. It was pointed out that it could theoretically be possible that a dog is awarded the Oldest Living Newfoundland Award and an even older dog be recognized for being over 14 years. It was suggested that the two awards be combined and the Oldest Living Newfoundland be awarded to the oldest of the Newfoundlands submitted for recognition for being over 14 years. It was suggested that the Awards Chair should review this.

Mareidith Reggie moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that Newfoundlands 14 years of age and older be recognized at each Annual Membership Meeting with the oldest Newfoundland submitted being considered the Oldest Living Newfoundland. This policy will be implemented after a review by the Awards Committee Chair. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

Rescue/Fundraising Booths at National Specialties

The Board reviewed the response from the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee concerning regional clubs' rescue/fundraising booths at National Specialties. It was felt that the committee did not understand what the Board was asking about regional clubs paying for booth space. It was agreed to table the discussion until the next meeting.

Grand Champion Title

Mareidith Reggie requested input from the Board regarding the new Grand Champion title. There was a discussion of the new program and its implications for computing the Top Show Dog, Top Show Bitch and the Top Twenty. There are also questions about how the Grand Champion Select Dog and Bitch would be awarded at our regional and National Specialties since we already award up to 5 Selects in each sex. It was agreed that discussion would be tabled until the next meeting.

2013 National Specialty

In response to a question, it was stated that the Bear Mountain Newfoundland Club is expected to submit a bid for the 2013 National Specialty in time for the Board's November 19-21, 2010 face-to-face meeting.

Executive Session

At 10:33 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

At 11:28 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

While in executive session, the Board considered the August 19, 2010 Applicants List.

While in executive session, the Recording Secretary reported to the Board that the July 15, 2010 Applicants List had been approved.

While in executive session, the Board voted to support the following for the AKC Achievement Awards: Jean Fournier, Conformation; Jill Jones, Companion Events; Linda Stillwell, Performance Events.

While in executive session, the Board voted to remove a committee member from the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee.

While in executive session, the Board considered information regarding the collection of DNA at the 2010 National Specialty. No action was taken.

While in executive session, the Board accepted the resignation of Adrienne Hill as Juniors Committee Chair.

Report of the Treasurer

In the absence of Mary L. Price, Treasurer, it was agreed that her report would be included in the minutes.

The following balances were reported: checking account: \$74,561.41; checking account for 2010 National Specialty: \$8,987.23; savings account: \$65,261.82; invested in CDs: \$102,338.01; and the NCA operations balance total of \$139,823.23 with \$4,310.08 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$ 1,280.53 for a total of \$141,103.76.

***ad hoc* NCA Governing Documents Review Committee**

In answer to a question, it was reported that Pat Randall had asked if the Board would prefer that he attend the meeting instead of calling in. Roger Frey will talk to Pat to determine the best course of action.

AKC Legislation Committee

The Board considered a request from the AKC Legislation Committee that the NCA pay the membership dues for committee members to join their respective state dog

federations. It was reported that they have a budget and would use those funds but wanted the Board's approval to use the funds to join those federations.

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board approve the AKC Legislation Committee's request for funds to join several state dog federations in order to monitor state legislation. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

Adjournment

At 11:35 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MLP)

Submitted by,
Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary