

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

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

Approval of Minutes

The Board considered the minutes of the August 19, 2010 meeting.

Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the minutes of August 19, 2010 meeting be approved as amended. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Report of the President

Roger Frey, President, reported that at the last meeting of the Board a vote was reported as passed on an action that required a majority of the Board or seven votes. He asked that the Board re-address this vote later in the meeting.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Jacqueline Brellochs, 1st Vice President, reported on the September 15, 2010 Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) meeting. The CTMB continued discussion on a Doppler echocardiogram rebate program, which will be finalized with a proposal at the CTMB's October meeting.

At 8:21 p.m., Pam Rubio joined the meeting.

The CTMB expressed concern regarding emails from NCA Board members in response to Mary Lou Roberts' request on behalf of the CTMB for a list of regional club contacts from Regional Clubs Liaison, Pam Rubio. The CTMB plans to contact regional clubs regarding fundraisers for the Health Challenge. The Newfoundland Health Challenge, established in November 1996, cited communication with regional clubs and other committees multiple times in its organizational document. In November 2000, the CTMB adopted the policies and procedures in the *NCA Policy Manual* as they related to research, the Health Challenge and the Scholarship fund. The CTMB believes this current effort is not a policy or procedural change, but re-establishment of the connection with the regional clubs.

It was brought to the NCA Board's attention that the CTMB is not an NCA committee but is its own entity. The CTMB is charged with raising funds for research and rescue. The 1st Vice President's report, as liaison to the CTMB, is a courtesy report to the NCA Board. The CTMB could easily develop its own mailing list, it would save time and effort.

The Board agreed to postpone further discussion until executive session.

Jacqueline reported that the next regular meeting of the CTMB would be October 13, 2010. Two other meetings, on October 11 and October 19, 2010 will be devoted to final revisions for the committee descriptions contained in the *CTMB Policies and Procedures Manual*.

Executive Session

At 8:30 p.m., Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

At 8:39 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the discussion of the Charitable Trust Management Board's request to use the regional club email list be postponed until the November 19-21, 2010 meeting.

It was stated that it was foolhardy to hold up the work of the CTMB. It serves no purpose to jeopardize the excellent working relationship between the CTMB and NCA, Inc.

The motion that the discussion of the Charitable Trust Management Board's request to use the regional club email list be postponed until the November 19-21, 2010 meeting failed. 1 Yes (KM); 10 No (JB, JC, MLC, RF, SM, MLP, MR, PR, PS, DT); 1 Absent (LA)

By consensus, the Board agreed that Pam Rubio, Regional Club Liaison, will send the regional club mailing list to the CTMB.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Kathy McIver, 2nd Vice President, reminded the Board the six-month trial period for the posting of the Board's agenda on the *NCA Website* has concluded. She consulted with Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, and Marylou Zimmerman, NCA Webmaster, on whether or not to continue the postings.

At 8:54 p.m., Jenny Zabloutny joined the meeting.

At 8:58 p.m., Pam Rubio left the meeting.

DNA Clinic

Jenny Zabloutny, Health & Longevity Committee Chair, reported on the status of the DNA samples collected at the 2010 National Specialty. These samples were sent to the Van Andel Canine Cancer Consortium, which paid for the cost of the clinic, and then were to be forwarded to OFA. Van Andel is in the final stages of checking and re-checking the samples and the samples should be sent to OFA within a couple of weeks.

In response to a question, Jenny stated that there will be plenty of DNA left in each sample for use by the OFA. In response to another concern, it was stated all information provided by the owners of dogs tested will be treated confidentially and will be forwarded to OFA. OFA was in agreement with using Van Andel from the beginning and this had the benefit of allowing NCA members to have their dog's DNA collected without a fee. It was stated that better communication with the Board and NCA members would have alleviated some of the concerns expressed by both parties.

The Board thanked Jenny for her work on this project.

At 9:05 p.m., Jenny Zabloutny left the meeting.

Posting of NCA Agendas

The Board returned to the discussion on the posting of agendas on the *NCA Website*. The agendas receive approximately 150 hits per month. A comment was made that the posting makes it easier for committee chairs and members to check the agendas. There was a comment that the same is also true for the Board minutes and bulletin boards. Some concern was expressed that some committee chairs may not check the website and the agenda should be emailed as has been done in the past.

Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the posting of Board agendas on the *NCA Website* be extended indefinitely. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Meredith Reggie moved and Jacqueline Brellochs seconded that in addition to the Board agenda being posted on the *NCA Website*, the Board agenda will be emailed to all committee chairs. The motion passed. 9 Yes (JB, JC, MLC, RF, SM, MLP, MR, PS, DT); 1 No (KM); 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Kathy McIver moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that Bulletin Boards and approved Board minutes be sent to all committee chairs. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the September 16, 2010 agenda packet and the August 19, 2010 minutes. She requested that the Board review the "to-do" list to determine the status of several items listed. The Board reviewed and amended the list.

Mary Lou asked for the Board's input regarding counters for the upcoming Board election. Connections to Quality, Inc., the company that had counted for the NCA the last two years, could not accommodate the NCA this year. She reported on several options, including a regional parliamentary group, a business similar to Connections to Quality, Inc. that they had recommended and using NCA members as had been done in the past. She stated the Connections to Quality would be available in 2012 and that since she herself was not up for re-election this year, there would not be a conflict of interest if the Board chose to use NCA members. The Board instructed Mary Lou to continue to gather additional information, and the matter would be decided at the October 21, 2010 meeting.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, was absent, but had submitted a report in advance to be considered at the meeting. The report summarized three pieces of correspondence that had been received, including the results of a survey by the Saint Bernard parent club on membership benefits. The Board briefly discussed the report with some Board members suggesting that the results would make an informative article for *Newf Tide*.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$78,065.35; checking account for 2010 National Specialty: \$0.00; savings account: \$65,261.82; invested in CDs: \$102,338.01; and the NCA operations balance total of \$245,665.18 with \$4,310.08 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$1,280.53 for a total of \$246,945.71.

Mary informed the Board that the 2010 National Specialty final report will be available soon.

She also reported that membership renewals were included in her report. Mary Lou Cuddy, Membership Chair, stated that the second notices would be in the mail in a few days and that the renewal rate looked to be very high considering the economy.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, was absent but had submitted a report to Mary Lou Cuddy to be given at the meeting.

Mary reported that she had attended the September 13-14, 2010 AKC Delegates Meeting in Newark, New Jersey. The vote to eliminate term limits was defeated soundly. The one-year period between terms will remain in effect. However, an amendment has been submitted for the AKC Board's consideration to extend the period between terms to four years. This amendment may be voted on at the March or June 2010 meeting. If the AKC Board did not approve this amendment, there is an appeals procedure in place for the Delegates to use.

The Group Realignment Committee has been revived and expanded with a promise that the Miniature Schnauzer would not be placed on the Working Group.

A Breeder of Merit program will be unveiled in October 2010. This is a new program that will continue to be developed.

No NCA members were candidates in any of the standing committee elections. Fred Bock is a current member of the All-Breed standing committee and was not up for re-election.

Committee Reports

General Education Committee

Donna Thibault, General Education Committee Chair, requested the Board's input on the renewal of the ad in the *Dog Fancy* magazine. The two-inch ad that is currently running is outdated and the NCA can renew for 14 issues at last year's 12 month price. The Board discussed the size of the ad, costs and effectiveness. A one-inch ad would save the NCA approximately \$1200/year. There was a discussion about the education packet that is available from the NCA for a \$5.00 fee that is featured in the ad.

Meredith Reggie moved and Sue Marino seconded that the General Education Committee place a one inch ad in *Dog Fancy* for one year. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded the \$5.00 charge for the educational packet be removed. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

The Board expressed its appreciation to Joanne Peterson for her years of fulfilling requests for the educational packets. Donna Thibault will contact Joann to inform her that the \$5.00 charge has been dropped.

Donna reported that some committee members conducted a search of the popular Internet puppy advertising websites, comparing number of monthly visitors, basic package and cost, premium package and cost and the ranking when "Newfoundland puppies" was "googled." There was discussion about using the free sites to assess the efficiency of placing ads on these websites.

Donna informed the Board that Marylou Zimmerman had offered her Internet expertise to help develop an appropriate ad.

Sue Marino moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the General Education Committee to place ads on free Internet puppy websites. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Newf Tide Policy Committee

The Board considered the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee's recommendation that regional clubs may submit two regional club columns per year in any quarter.

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board accept the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee recommendation on regional club columns. The new policy will be: "Each regional club may submit two club columns per year ***in any quarter***. Rest of the policy to remain in full force and effect: Columns are limited to 250 words and are intended to promote communication of interesting projects and activities across the country." The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Rescue Education and Awareness Committee

The Board considered a request from the Rescue Education and Awareness Committee (REACT) that a small *ad hoc* committee be appointed to finish the LifeStages project. There was some discussion that the committee could set its own sub-committee.

At 10:20 p.m., Roger Frey left the meeting.

Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board recommend that the Rescue Awareness and Education Committee may use committee members, NCA members or any available resources for the LifeStages program. The motion passed unanimously. 3 Absent (LA, RF, PR)

At 10:28 p.m., Roger Frey joined the meeting.

NCA Policy Manual

Kathy McIver reported that she had sent the 2005-2008 minutes which included policy changes to Sue Putt so that the *NCA Policy Manual* could be updated

DNA Clinic

The Board briefly returned to the conversation about the DNA Clinic held at the 2010 National Specialty. A Board member asked that a notice be put in the *NCA e-notes* to inform members that the DNA samples will be sent to OFA soon, and therefore, they will be receiving their certificates shortly. The Board considered whether it would be better to notify only those members who had submitted samples.

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that a notice be placed in the *NCA e-notes* to inform members that OFA DNA certificates for DNA submitted at the 2010 National Specialty will be arriving soon. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

Executive Session

At 10:39 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (LA, PR)

At 11:35 p.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 Recording Secretary informed the Board that the Applicants List dated August 19, 2010 had been approved.

While in executive session, the Board considered the Applicants List dated September 16, 2010.

While in executive session, the Board considered a vote that had taken place at the August 19, 2010 meeting that was determined to be invalid. The Board re-voted and the motion failed.

While in executive session, the Board agreed to post the Juniors Committee Chair vacancy on the *NCA Website*.

While in executive session, the Board voted to appoint Lisa Lathrop as co-chair of the General Education Committee.

While in executive session, the Board voted to appoint Clyde Dunphy to the Steering Committee.

While in executive session, the Board voted to appoint Marylou Zimmerman to the Steering Committee.

AKC Parent Club Conference

Sue Marino, who attended the AKC Parent Club Conference, informed the Board that she will be submitting an article on the conference to *Newf Tide*. She will collaborate on the article with Pat Randall, who also attended the meeting.

Adjournment

At 11:41 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (LA)