

Newfoundland Club of America
Face-to-Face Meeting
Holiday Inn & Suites – Chicago-O'Hare/Rosemont
Minutes of November 4-6, 2011
(Approved December 15, 2011)

Pat Randall, President, called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. Central time. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), Steve Britton (SB), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PR) and Pam Saunders (PS). Donna Thibault (DT) was absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Member guests were Dona Baker, Clyde Dunphy, Barbara Hearn, David Kledzik and Cissy Sullivan.

Approval of Minutes

The Board considered the minutes of September 15, 2011 and October 20, 2011.

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board approve the September 15, 2011 minutes as amended. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (DT)

At 7:50 p.m., Donna Thibault joined the meeting.

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board approve the October 20, 2011 minutes as published. Without objection, the motion passed.

Report of the President

Pat Randall, President, informed the Board that most of his items will be addressed later in the agenda. He reported that he had replied to Dr. Manda's letter with an explanation of the use of the Geraldine Irwin bequest. He also addressed the possibility of contacting the AKC Museum of the Dog and the show committee for the 2012 National Specialty to arrange for a display of the Newfoundland memorabilia that Dr. Manda has in his possession.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Roger Frey, 1st Vice President, stated that since Clyde Dunphy, Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) Chair, would be addressing the Trust meeting, he would defer his report.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Pam Saunders, 2nd Vice President, reported that the Rescue Prevention Committee will revive the development of the Lifestages program. Donna Zink, Rescue Prevention

Committee Chair, has asked Meredith Reggie and Mary Lou Roberts to serve on a sub-committee whose charge it will be to finish this project.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the September 15, 2011 and October 20, 2011 minutes and the November 4-6, 2011 agenda packet. She informed the Board that two additional petitions for the NCA Board election had been received.

Mary Lou requested that the Board review its To-Do list as several items have been carried over for quite some time.

The Board reviewed previous discussions regarding the TOD/TODD presentations at the National Specialty.

Meredith Reggie moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the TOD/TODD certificates be presented to the dog's owner(s), alphabetically, at the Annual Membership Meeting with two people presenting the certificates - one to read the owners' names and the other to present the certificates. Without objection, the motion passed.

Donna Thibault, General Education Committee member, reported that she had tried several times to contact Lewis & Clark College regarding their use of a Newfoundland as the school logo. She has received no response from the college.

Steve Britton, Regional Clubs Committee Chair, reported that a sub-committee is in the process of developing a proposal relating to increasing the percentage of NCA members in regional clubs. The proposal will be forwarded to the Board after it has been adopted by the full committee.

The Board considered the rotation of National Specialties and funding assistance for host regional clubs.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that the Newfoundland Club of Florida will host the "Meet the Breeds" booth at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship show. The club will submit their proposed budget for the booth soon. Lynne informed the Board that she answered all the general inquiries as needed and that she had also responded to the non-NCA member who wanted to take action against an NCA member.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$61,757.51; checking account for 2011 National Specialty: \$15,389.53; savings

account: \$45,298.60; invested in CDs: \$104,455.86; and the NCA operations balance total of \$226,901.50 with \$4,550.22 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$1,818.91 for a total of \$228,720.41.

Mary reported that trophy donations for the 2012 National Specialty are coming in steadily.

The Board considered the fiscal reports that Mary had provided. She informed the Board that membership renewals are holding steady and donations to the NCA Charitable Trust were up, both in the number of members donating and the amount donated. The Board reviewed fiscal reports for NCA operations, ending June 30, 2011. A final report will be available later pending the completion of projects and the submission of expenses.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported on candidates for the AKC Board of Directors election. William Feeney, Thomas Power and Lynn Worth Smith were nominated by the AKC Nominating Committee. Larry Sorensen and Patricia M. Cruz have submitted petitions and additional petitions are expected as the deadline is November 15, 2011.

Mary informed the Board that the new Reserve Best in Show award will be effective starting July 1, 2012. She passed out handouts and reports from AKC, among which AKC is considering awarding a Search and Rescue title and there will be a change in fees for AKC registrations.

She reported that the Clumber Spaniel club was looking for information about DNA banking and Health & Longevity Committee Chair Jenny Zabloutny wrote an extensive article for them.

Mary stated that she will be attending the December AKC Delegate meeting which will be held in Orlando, Florida in conjunction with the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show.

Mary then requested that the NCA Board start to consider a replacement for her as AKC Delegate to be appointed at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Board. The Board also reviewed an article on AKC Delegate eligibility. The Board discussed the responsibilities of an AKC Delegate to their club and vice versa. Mary agreed with an AKC recommendation that the newly-appointed Delegate serve for at least five years and that former and current Board members be considered. The Board acknowledged how very fortunate the NCA has been to have had Mary as the Delegate all these years.

Executive Session

At 9:08 p.m., without objection, the Board went into executive session.

At 9:15 p.m., without objection, the Board came out of executive session.

While in executive session, the Board approved the Applicants Lists dated September 15, 2011 and November 4-6, 2011.

At 9:20 p.m., Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the meeting be recessed until 8:30 a.m., November 5, 2011. Without objection, the motion passed.

NCA Face-to-Face Meeting, continued November 5, 2011

At 8:32 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

Committee Reports

Judges Education Committee

The Board reviewed a proposed article on Newfoundland temperament written by the Judges Education Committee. The article is to be published in the AKC Judges' newsletter, *The Standard* and in *Newf Tide*. The committee's meeting and vote on the approval of the article was discussed. It was suggested that wording from the NCA's *Illustrated Guide* be incorporated into the article and that the article accentuate the positive. The Board thanked the committee for its work.

Donna Thibault moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board refer a proposed article on Newfoundland temperament back to the Judges Education Committee for final editing and will be due back to the Board by the January 5, 2012 Board agenda deadline. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, SB, JC, MLC, RF, KM, MLP, PKR, MR, PSR, DT); 1 Abstention (PS)

Working Dog Committee

The Board considered a report on possible changes to the Water Rescue Dog Excellent test regulations. The committee reported that the survey results were thoroughly considered and discussed and afterwards, the committee determined that the exercises should remain virtually the same. The committee will work on clarifications of some regulations and minor changes to the exercises for safety reasons.

The Board considered some suggestions to make the Working Test Regulations posted on the *NCA Website* more user-friendly.

Maredith Reggie moved and Kathy McIver seconded that clarifications or changes to the Working Dog test regulations that are posted on the *NCA Website* will be underlined or highlighted for approximately one year after implementation. Page numbers will also be added to all test regulations.

Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the motion be amended to state that clarifications or changes to the Working Dog test regulations will have added footnotes with the date of the change and will not be underlined or highlighted. Without objection, the motion passed.

The amended motion that clarifications or changes to the Working Dog test regulations will have added footnotes with the date of the change and page numbers will be added to all test regulations passed without objection.

North Central Newfoundland Club

Cissy Sullivan and Dona Baker, members of the North Central Newfoundland Club, welcomed the Board to Chicago and presented small welcome gifts. The Board expressed its appreciation of the club's hospitality.

Juniors Committee

Cissy Sullivan, Juniors Committee Chair, reported on the committee's progress. "Team Juniors" is working to increase participation by Junior members in all aspects of the Newfoundland world.

The committee requested that the Board approve a "Juniors Fund". The committee will undertake fund-raising efforts and accept donations to fund additional programs targeting Junior members.

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board approve the request to establish a Juniors Fund to benefit programs for NCA junior members as outlined by the Juniors Committee, to be funded in part by fund-raising by the committee and junior members and by donations to the fund. Without objection, the motion passed.

The committee requested permission to use the NCA logo on certificates and in the new "passport" program for the juniors.

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board allow the Juniors Committee to use the NCA logo on award certificates, the new Junior Passport program and on any other additional promotional material. Without objection, the motion passed.

Cissy outlined the juniors' schedule at the 2012 National Specialty. The "passport" program will have juniors attending various events with NCA members signing the passport. There will be a handling seminar, special ring favors for the junior, welcome meeting, scavenger hunt, pizza party and craft night. Cissy reported that the New-Pen-Del Newfoundland Club will sponsor the pizza party. An article will be appearing in *Newf Tide*.

The Board was informed that the committee will need to order new medallions. There was some discussion of developing a Juniors' logo.

Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board donate \$500.00 as seed money for the Juniors Fund. Without objection, the motion passed.

Publicity Committee

The Board discussed the placement of an advertisement in *Dog World*. There was some question as to which wording was used. It was stated that the Publicity Committee needs to be staffed so that questions like this are not raised. It was confirmed that the proper wording was used in the advertisement.

Charitable Trust Management Board

At 10:31 a.m., without objection, the Board recessed for an NCA Charitable Trust meeting.

Meeting of NCA, Inc. Reconvened

At 12:30 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

NCA Policy Manual

Pam Saunders reported to the Board on the progress of the *NCA Policy Manual* revision. She explained the problems encountered with differing versions of the manual and motions and minutes that give incomplete information. There was some discussion regarding starting with current policy and move forward. It was stated that it was a huge project and almost impossible for one person to undertake. The Board was reminded that the NCA Governing Documents Committee needs a current and approved policy manual for their work. There was discussion about a revision of the *NCA Policy Manual* will open all policies for review and possible revision.

Pam Saunders moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board appoint the following to an *ad hoc* committee of the Board to update and revise the *NCA Policy Manual*: Pam Saunders, Chair; Mary Lou Cuddy, Roger Frey, Kathy McIver, Mary L. Price, Meredith Reggie and Donna Thibault. Without objection, the motion passed.

General Education Committee

The Board returned to a brief discussion of proposed new *Dog World* advertisement. It was agreed to send the ad back to the General Education Committee with the suggestions mentioned in the discussion.

Breeder of Merit Designation on *Breeders List*

It was reported that the AKC Breeder of Merit designations have been removed from the *Breeders List*.

Unfinished Business

Recording of Teleconferences

The Board discussed posting the Board teleconferences recordings. The recordings had been posted until Pat Randall left the Board. He edited the recordings to remove executive session segments. Pat handed out the instructions for the editing. It is a very time-consuming process and determining that every executive session has been removed is stressful.

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board appoint Lynne Anderson-Powell to edit the executive session portions of Board teleconference recordings and post the recordings to the *NCA Website*. Without objection, the motion passed.

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

Pat Randall, *ad hoc* NCA Governing Documents Review Committee Chair, updated the Board on the committee's work. Following the previous discussion of the *NCA Policy Manual*, Pat stated that policies need to be reviewed for conflicts and inconsistencies with the *NCA Bylaws*. But given the difficulties in bringing the *Policy Manual* up to date, the committee will move forward and concentrate their efforts on the comparison of the current and proposed *NCA Bylaws* against the Connecticut statutes. The Board held a brief discussion concerning the parliamentary procedure to be included in the *NCA Bylaws*. Pat reported that the committee will attempt to have a report by the January 19, 2012 meeting.

Responses to Non-NCA Member Complaints

The Board considered some suggested wording that the Corresponding Secretary may use when replying to complaints about NCA members made by non-NCA members as it is important to respond to these complaints in a timely manner. It was suggested that the wording be softened and the oft-mistaken idea that the NCA is a "licensing body" for breeders must be addressed with the complainant. Without objection, Lynne Anderson-Powell, Kathy McIver and Steve Britton will develop the wording to be approved at the December 15, 2011 meeting.

Breeders-I Electronic List

The Board discussed an email received from the Chair of the Electronic Publishing Policy Committee concerning the Breeders-I electronic list. It was stated that the NCA has a responsibility for the list and what is published on it. Possible moderation of the list was considered. It was asked if the committee could develop policy as to the listing of names and derogatory or inflammatory statements made on the list. It was stated that

a disclaimer stating that opinions expressed on the list do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. is needed.

Kathy McIver moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board request the Electronic Publications Policy Committee to develop criteria and a disclaimer for the Breeders-I discussion list indicating that the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. is not responsible for discriminatory or inflammatory statements published on the discussion list. The report would be due back to the Board by the January 5, 2012 Board agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

Facebook Puppy Information Page

The Board briefly considered a request to develop a Newfoundland Puppy Information Page on Facebook. Some Board members felt that this could tie in as a resource for the Newf Ambassador program and the Breeders Education Committee, along with the Corresponding Secretary.

Roger Frey moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board refer a request to consider developing a Newfoundland puppy information page on Facebook to the Newf Ambassador Committee and the Breeders Education Committee with reports due back to the Board by the February 2, 2012 Board agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

Register of Merit Dogs Appearing in the *Annual of Titlists*

The Board discussed the lack of a response from the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee to the Board's request for input about Register of Merit dogs appearing the *Annual of Titlists*.

Steve Britton moved and Donna Thibault seconded that Board amend a previous motion to send a question regarding the Register of Merit Newfoundlands appearing the in the *Annual of Titlists* to the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee with a response now due back to the Board by the January 5, 2012 Board agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

Rotation of National Specialties

The Board considered the lack of regional clubs coming forward to host National Specialties. Members would like to see the National Specialty rotated around to different areas of the country. There was a brief discussion of the Purina Farms facility in Missouri as an option. The National Specialty has become more of an event than just a dog show. Escalating start-up costs for hosting a National Specialty may be intimidating to regional clubs. It was suggested that the requirements for National Specialty sites be re-considered. Regional clubs are also having difficulties in finding enough knowledgeable and willing members to host a National Specialty. The efforts of the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee to assist the regional clubs were considered.

The Board considered financial reports from the last seven National Specialties. It was said that the regional clubs should see these reports and where money can be made or saved. There was also a discussion on the uniform trophies and the limited edition plate sales.

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board give a regional club hosting a national specialty \$10,000.00 as a seed loan at the time of approval upon the regional club's request.

Steve Britton moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board refer the motion regarding the \$10,000.00 seed loan to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee for discussion and possible criteria for oversight with the report and other possible recommendations by the February 2, 2012 Board agenda deadline. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, SB, JC, MLC, RF, KM, MLP, PKR, MR, PSR, PS); 1 No (DT)

Pam Rubio moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board refer to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee for review the uniform trophies and methods of funding with the report and possible recommendations by the February 2, 2012 Board agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

The Board discussed budgets for National Specialties and the suggestions that National Specialty plans and budgets be presented to the Board for review.

Executive Session

At 3:52 p.m., Steve Britton moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed. 7 Yes (LA, SB, MLC, KM, MLP, MR, DT); 5 No (JC, RF, PKR, PSR, PS)

At 4:16 p.m., Donna Thibault moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

Donna Thibault moved and Pam Rubio seconded that for future NCA-hosted National Specialties, the show chair(s) will provide to the Board for review and approval - a budget, event plan and a monthly financial update starting when that National Specialty is approved. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, JC, MLC, RF, KM, MLP, PKR, MR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 Abstention (SB)

Acknowledgement

The Board discussed the acknowledgment of the professional services donated by Brian Hodges for the review of the Dogfish Software contract. The donation saved the NCA a significant amount of money. It was agreed that a signed thank-you note from the Board and a logo shirt from the Harry Carey restaurant in the meeting hotel would be appreciated.

New Business

Efficient Teleconferences

The Board considered ways to make the monthly teleconferences more efficient. One request was that the Board adjourn or recess at midnight regardless of how much was left on the agenda. Other suggestions were to look into web or video conferencing software. It was suggested that the officers' reports be included in the agenda packet with only updates given during the teleconferences.

Mary Lou Cuddy moved and Pam Rubio seconded that starting with the December 15, 2011 Board meeting, officers' reports will be sent to the Recording Secretary for inclusion in the Board's agenda packet. Without objection, the motion passed.

There was further discussion about video and web conferencing.

Pat Randall moved and Steve Britton seconded that the Board form an *ad hoc* committee to investigate web and video conferencing options for Board meetings with a report due back to the Board by the March 15, 2012 Board meeting. Without objection, the motion passed. The Board appointed an *ad hoc* committee of Board members Lynne Anderson-Powell, Steve Britton and Pat Randall.

Working Dog Committee

The Board considered eight examples of inconsistent working test judging methods. There was some discussion about the working test judges' newsletter, *The Judges Corner*, which had not been published for some time. There was some discussion that gray areas and new regulations would benefit from increased communication between the judges and the committee.

Donna Thibault moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board direct the Working Dog Committee to communicate with working test judges at least twice per year. Topics such as rule changes, judging inconsistencies and problems reported through test evaluations and other inconsistencies should be included. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, SB, JC, MLC, KM, MLP, PKR, MR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 No (RF)

Donna Thibault moved and Roger Frey seconded the Board refer the eight examples of working test judging inconsistencies that were reported to the Board to the Working Dog Committee for clarification and a report will be due back to the Board by the February 2, 2012 Board agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

The Board considered a request that the working test entry fee and alternate entries procedures be clarified.

Maredith Reggie moved and Kathy Mclver seconded the Board refer the request for a clarification of working test entry fee processing to the Working Dog Committee with a report due back to the Board by the March 1, 2012 Board agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

Committee Policies

In response to a request for discussion on committee policy and the advertising of committee positions and vacancies, the Board considered the way committee positions are handled. The Board wants to encourage members to volunteer for committees so openings should be publicized. It was agreed that the Board may appoint any one at any time to a committee but that the advertising should be done when possible. Since this was a discussion item, no further action was taken.

Moment of Silence

The Board held a moment of silence for Lou Palmisano, Dan Cohen and all other NCA members who have passed away recently.

At 5:45 p.m., without objection, the meeting was recessed until 9:15 p.m.

At 10:05 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

Kathy Mclver moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board recess until 8:00 a.m., November 6, 2011. The motion failed. 8 No (LA, SB, JC, MLC, RF, MR, PS, DT); 4 Yes (KM, MLP, PKR, PSR)

Executive Session

At 10:12 p.m., Steve Britton moved and Kathy Mclver seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

At 11:00 p.m., Kathy Mclver moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

While in executive session, the Board appointed the following members to the Performance and Companion Events Committee: Barbara Grob, Brian Hodges and Anna Lorenz.

At 11:00 p.m., Kathy Mclver moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the meeting be recessed until 8:00 a.m., November 6, 2011.

NCA Face-to-Face Meeting, continued November 6, 2011

At 8:10 a.m., the meeting reconvened.

At 8:10 a.m., Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

At 11:24 a.m., Pam Saunders moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

While in executive session, the Board appointed the following members as election ballot counters: Lynne Anderson-Powell, Kathy Cohen, Caren Feinberg, Ralph Holzhauser, Donna Thibault and Barbara Yerks.

While in executive session, the Board appointed the following members to the Nominating Committee: Jo Nussle, Chair; Nancy Aliff, David Hansen, Diane Lavin, Sandee Lovett and alternates Deb Bridge and Linda Roderick.

While in executive session, the Board named Beverly and Ron Eichel as Honorary Members.

While in executive session, the Board appointed Chris Plum as Chair of the Steering Committee.

While in executive session, the Board appointed Sandra Younger as Chair of the AKC Breed Column Committee.

Publicity Committee

The Board reviewed the job description of the Publicity Committee and discussed the staffing of the committee.

Roger Frey moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board approve the Publicity Committee job description as presented and to post the committee openings in the *NCA e-notes*. Without objection, the motion passed.

Meredith Reggie moved and Steve Britton seconded that applicants for the Publicity Committee submit some samples of their work. Without objection, the motion passed.

Meredith Reggie moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board direct the Regional Club Liaison to forward the Publicity Committee openings announcement to the all NCA regional club newsletter editors for inclusion in their newsletters. Without objection, the motion passed.

Board Meeting Schedule at the 2012 National Specialty

Due to the addition of a Regional Specialty at the 2012 National Specialty, some Board members requested that the Board's meeting schedule be discussed. After some discussion, the Board agreed to do all house-keeping matters and the approval of

minutes at the regularly scheduled April 19, 2012 teleconference session and then adjourn the session. The meeting would reconvene and continue on Sunday, April 29, 2012 at 3 p.m. and would carry over to Monday, April 30, 2012 at approximately 4:30 p.m, and Tuesday morning, May 1, 2012. The Annual Membership Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Board would also be held on Tuesday, May 1, 2012.

Adjournment

The Board thanked Mary L. Price for obtaining such excellent meeting facilities.

At 11:48 a.m., Donna Thibault moved and John Cornell seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Without objection, the motion passed.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
Recording Secretary