

Newfoundland Club of America
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of December 15, 2011
(Approved February 16, 2012)

Pat Randall, President, called the meeting to order at 8:05 p.m. Eastern 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), Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Meredith Reggie (MR) was absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was absent.

Approval of Minutes

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the November 4-6, 2011 meeting. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

Report of the President

Pat Randall, President, thanked the Board in advance for working towards making the meetings more efficient. It will be a priority for the next several months. He also informed the Board of a report from the Great Pyrenees Club of America that the AKC may start charging clubs for the results data. Pat also reported on a letter from a non-NCA member against an NCA breeder. The letter will be discussed in executive session later in the meeting.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Roger Frey, 1st Vice President, reported on the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) meeting held on December 7, 2011. The highlights as reported were the application process for Junior Scholarships will be revamped to make it easier to understand. The CTMB is in the process of putting into policy the practice that the NCA Rescue Chair may make grants to Regional Clubs up to \$1,000.00 for medical care for rescued Newfoundlands. If the request is for more than \$1,000.00, the request will be reviewed by the CTMB for approval. The CTMB, with NCA Trustee approval, will open an account with Scott Trade.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Pam Saunders, 2nd Vice President, informed the Board that her report will be in the committee reports later in the meeting.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the December 15, 2011 agenda packet and the minutes of the November 4-6, 2011 face-to-face

meeting. She also informed the Board that the NCA election packets had been prepared, printed and were mailed the week of December 12, 2011.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that she had responded to general inquiries and forwarded correspondence to the appropriate committees. There was some discussion of some, possibly old, prints that a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals organization in upstate New York may have. It was agreed that once Lynne has more information about the prints, she will contact Janice Hight for assistance in evaluating their value.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$55,674.82; checking account for National Specialty: \$15,389.53; savings account: \$45,300.53; invested in CDs: \$104,455.86; and the NCA operations balance total of \$220,820.74 with \$4,550.22 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Juniors Fund account balance is \$1,000.00. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$2,543.91 for a total of \$224,364.65.

There was a discussion regarding the budget request submitted by the Newfoundland Club of Florida for expenses pertaining to the Meet the Breeds to be held at the AKC/Eukanuba Championship Show in Orlando, Florida in December 2011.

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board approve the budget request of a maximum of \$970.00 from the Newfoundland Club of Florida for the expenses pertaining to the Meet the Breeds booth at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

In response to a question, Mary L. Price reported that \$1,500.00 out of the budgeted \$5,000.00 has been paid out for the Doppler rebate program by the Trust.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, was absent due to attending the AKC Delegate meeting in Orlando, Florida. She had submitted a written report in advance of the meeting. In it, she reported that she had attended the Parent Club Committee which had as its chief topic the proposed amendment regarding the awarding of a three-point major win to the Reserve Winners at parent club designated national specialties where there are sufficient dogs are entered to make five-point majors for the Winners. Also discussed was the Group Realignment Committee proposal. Both of the these items are scheduled for a vote at the March 2012 AKC Delegates Meeting.

She attended The Forum which offered the candidates for the AKC Board election an opportunity for brief “campaign” speeches. She reported that candidate James Efron had withdrawn from the election, leaving seven nominees.

The only vote taken at the official Delegates meeting was the defeat of a proposed amendment to eliminate the prohibition of persons connected with dog food, dog remedy or kennel supply companies from becoming AKC judges. It was announced that there are now 7,109 persons registered in the Breeder of Merit program; a 21% increase in registrations; 2,000 dogs have achieved the Grand Champion title; there have 1,000 AKC agility events and 43,000 people attended the two-day Meet the Breeds showcase in New York City.

Mary gave special mention to the members of the Newfoundland Club of Florida, along with their Newfs, who put together an excellent display booth and an great array of printed materials for the public.

Mary also enclosed in her written report a summary of the entry at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship show and the proposed amendment to the Dog Show Rules regarding the awarding of a three-point major win to the Reserve Winners at parent club designated national specialties where there are sufficient dogs are entered to make five-point majors for the Winners.

The Board held a brief discussion about the AKC proposal for group re-alignment. It was agreed that the topic would be placed on the January 19, 2012 agenda.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Pam Saunders, Committee Liaison, reported that all of the committee members have accepted their appointments.

Juniors Committee

The Board discussed past procedures of the Juniors Committee in awarding certificates for Juniors participation and the awarding of the Top Juniors awards. There had been some misunderstandings of NCA Junior membership requirements.

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the three Junior applicants under consideration for NCA Junior membership will be eligible for the 2011 Junior awards. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

Breeders List

The Board considered a proposal from the *Breeders List* Committee regarding breeders who do not renew their listing in a timely manner. The committee proposed that a two-

year grace period be offered during which a breeder could renew at any time by completing the renewal application and submitting \$25.00 fee. Breeders would have to submit a new application with the required documents and the \$50.00 new application fee after the two-year grace period.

The Board reviewed a prior discussion about late renewals for the *Breeders List*. It was stated the current policy is sufficient and does not need to be changed.

Rescue Prevention Committee

The Rescue Prevention Committee requested the Board's approval for slight layout and formatting changes of the online form for the *Newf Tide* coupon program. It is hoped that the coupon request online form will direct more traffic to the *NCA Website*.

John Cornell moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the Rescue Prevention Committee's proposed online *Newf Tide* coupon information for new AKC registrants. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

General Education Committee

The Board considered a new ad proposed by the General Education Committee to replace the current ad being used in different publications. The current ad refers the reader to the *NCA Website* for more information about the breed. The proposed ad could be construed as negative and not conducive to a positive image of the breed. It was also stated that the proposed ad is too large for the 1 inch column ad it would replace. It was agreed that the committee liaison would take the Board's comments back to the committee.

Electronic Publications Policy Committee

The Electronic Publications Policy Committee (EPPC) sent a review of the current policy regarding email lists for the Board's consideration. The NCA's liability with regards to the email lists (such as the ncabreeders-I list) is a gray area. It was suggested that the chair of the EPPC attend the January 19, 2012 teleconference for a continued discussion of this subject.

Pat Randall moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board invite Marylou Zimmerman to the January 19, 2012 teleconference after the approval of the minutes to discuss disclosure statements on NCA-affiliated discussion lists. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

Health & Longevity Committee

The Board reviewed the information items submitted by the committee and the article on the AKC/CHF Parent Club Health Conference written by Jennifer Zablony who

attended the conference. The Board thanked Jennifer for writing the report which will appear in *Newf Tide*.

Regional Club Liaison

The Board reviewed proposed changes to the High Country Newfoundland Club's Constitution and Bylaws and made several suggestions regarding the changes. It was agreed that Pam Rubio, Regional Club Liaison, would take these suggestions back to the club.

Working Dog Committee

Pam Saunders, Committee Liaison, informed the Board that the Working Dog Committee is working on the revision of the Water Rescue Dog Excellent regulations. The exercises will essentially be remaining the same but the wording will be clarified.

Executive Session

At 9:24 p.m., John Cornell moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

At 10:17 p.m., John Cornell moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

While in executive session, the Board agreed to send two letters of complaint received against NCA breeders to the Arbitration Committee.

While in executive session, the Board appointed David Helming and Ken Price to the Steering Committee.

While in executive session, the Board appointed Hope Taylor as Chair of the Publicity Committee.

While in executive session, the Board discussed the issuance of W-2 and 1099 forms. The Board agreed to postpone a related motion regarding this subject until the January meeting.

Non-NCA Member Complaints

It was reported that the Board committee assigned to developing wording to address non-NCA member complaints continues to work. The discussion on complaints and the Arbitration Committee held earlier in executive session will assist in the development of the statement. The committee will bring their suggestions to a later meeting.

Election Ballots

The Board considered some suggestions regarding the handling of the NCA election ballots. It was stated that these suggestions are proactive and will clarify the procedure for the Recording Secretary.

Steve Britton moved and Roger Frey seconded that after the annual Board election ballots have been certified by the three inspectors (or a ballot-counting firm), the ballots, election lists and tally sheets shall be placed in the custody of the Recording Secretary. The Recording Secretary shall keep them under seal pending an ordered recount. If by the time for adjournment of the Annual Membership Meeting a recount has not been ordered, the Recording Secretary is automatically authorized to destroy the election lists, tally sheets and ballots. However, if by the time for adjournment of the Annual Membership Meeting a recounting of ballots has been ordered, the election lists, tally sheets and ballots shall remain in the sealed custody of the Recording Secretary until such time that recounting of ballots is completed, and their destruction is ordered by a majority vote of the entire membership of the Board of Directors. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

Committee Assignments

The Board reviewed the committee assignment process. The Committee Liaison has for the last several years informed committee members that standing committees are re-appointed every year. Committee personnel may or may not change.

Steve Britton moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board ratify the response written by Pat Randall, President, and sent to Mary Lou Roberts concerning committee appointment policies. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

Steering Committee Appointments

The Board discussed the Steering Committee and if the committee saw a need for additional members.

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board ask the Steering Committee if the committee would like to post at this time a request for additional committee members. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

Adjournment

At 10:43 p.m., Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MR)

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary