

NCA Board of Directors
Face-to-Face Meeting
Bavarian Inn Lodge
Frankenmuth, Michigan
Minutes of May 1-3, 2011
(Approved July 21, 2011)

Roger Frey, President, called the meeting to order at 6:11 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 McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PSR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Jacqueline Brellochs (JB) was absent. Steve Britton (SB) and Pat Randall (PKR), Board members-elect were present.

Approval of Minutes

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board approve the March 17, 2011 minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Report of the President

Roger Frey, President, presented no report at this time.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Report deferred until later in the meeting.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Kathy McIver, 2nd Vice President, requested that the Board revisit committee teleconferences and the frequency of such teleconferences. She stated that while some committees require at least monthly teleconferences, other committees may need to meet less often and others may need to meet just yearly. There was discussion whether to allow the committees to set their own schedules. Concern was expressed that some committees would not meet at all if there were no guidelines.

Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that all committees be required to hold committee teleconference meetings as needed to properly conduct business with a minimum of one meeting per year. There must be a quorum of said committee. All committee actions must result from a teleconference or face-to-face meeting with a quorum of said committee. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the March 17, 2011 minutes and the May 1-3, 2011 agenda packet.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that it had been a quiet month. She received information from AKC concerning the 2011 Meet the Breeds exhibition at the Javits Center in New York City. There was discussion whether to ask the Bear Mountain Newfoundland Club to coordinate the Newfoundland booth again. It was stated that they had done such a good job the previous year.

Lynne reported on some correspondence from the Georgia State Fairgrounds promoting their site for national and regional specialties. She was asked to forward the information to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee.

There was a brief discussion regarding the Meet the Breeds Newfoundland booth at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show. The show will be held in Orlando, Florida in 2011. It was reported that the Newfoundland Club of Florida had coordinated the booth when the show was there some years ago.

The Board directed Lynne Anderson-Powell to contact both clubs to ascertain their willingness to coordinate the respective booths.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$11,326.92; checking account for 2011 National Specialty: \$42,494.93; savings account: \$65,284.62; invested in CDs: \$103,421.69; and the NCA operations balance total of \$222,528.16 with \$4,550.22 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$537.75 for a total of \$223,065.91.

Mary reported on additional information concerning the cost of the uniform trophies versus the funds brought in by the limited edition plate sales, which support the uniform trophies. The Board expressed its appreciation to Pam Rubio for her outstanding work in finding donors for all of the 2011 National Specialty trophies. Mary also reported that despite advertising and soliciting by the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee, there was no artwork submitted for the limited edition plates this year. The Specialty Show Coordinating Committee elected to use the show's logo for the artwork this year. The Board was informed that the rising costs of the decals for transfer to the plates are becoming a serious concern and the income from the limited edition plates is not covering those costs.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, requested the Board's direction as to how she should vote on the issue of AKC Board term limits. Mary outlined the history of AKC Board term limits and stated that the one-year term limit currently in effect did not accomplish its original intention. There was a brief discussion concerning a four-year term limit versus the current one-year.

Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board direct Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, to vote in favor of four-year term limits for the AKC Board of Directors. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Mary reported that the AKC Humane Fund material in the Board's agenda packet was information for the new Board members and also to update the Board.

She also reported that the AKC Breeder of Merit program is a work in progress and currently there is a push to make breed-appropriate health-testing mandatory for the program.

Committee Reports

Breeders List

Kathy McIver, Committee Liaison, reported that the concerns expressed by the *Breeders List* Committee have been addressed by the earlier motion regarding committee teleconferences.

Electronic Publications Policy Committee

The Board considered a recommendation from the Electronic Publications Policy Committee (EPPC) regarding paid advertising in the *NCA e-notes*. Marylou Zimmerman, EPPC Chair, explained the reasons of the committee for the proposal and the changes that have been made to it. She reported that no reservations will be accepted for *NCA e-notes* ads until payment has been received. There was discussion about including a statement that the NCA does not endorse the products advertised.

Kathy McIver moved and Donna Thibault seconded that Board accept the proposal from the Electronic Publications Policy Committee as follows:

Commercial/Vendor Advertising will be accepted for the NCA Electronic Newsletter (*e-Notes*).

Ad size will be 100 pixels high by 185 pixels wide and may contain a company name, tag line, one image or logo (up to 75px x 100px) and a link.

Advertising Rates:

NCA Member - \$25

Non NCA Member - \$50

Regional Club - \$12.50 (fundraiser, raffle, etc.)

A 10% discount is offered for vendors pre-ordering 6 or more months in a calendar year.

All ads will appear in the base of the right column and will be separated from non paid space by a horizontal bar.

A maximum of 4 ads will be accepted per issue on a first come-first serve basis. If an issue is full, the vendor will be offered the next available slot, or the advertising fee will be refunded. The advertising deadline for each issue is the 15th of the month. Ad space in any given issue may be reserved up to six months prior to the deadline date. Payment must be received in order to reserve space. Multiple ad spaces in the same issue will be available only if all

spaces are not reserved by the advertising deadline. The NCA may reject any advertisement for inappropriate content. Advertisements for dogs or puppies for sale will not be accepted.

Advertisements may be paid by check or charge. Checks must accompany ads and must be made out to the Newfoundland Club of America. Checks from Canadian and international vendors must be in U.S. dollars, drawn on a U.S. bank. Ads received without payment will be returned.

A webpage will be available for online advertising submission, and a link will be provided in the footer of each issue of the NCA Electronic Newsletter (*e-Notes*).

The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

General Education Committee

Donna Thibault, General Education Committee (Gen Ed) Chair, presented the revised proposed NCA listing in the Purina Dog Library for approval. She informed the Board that most of the information included came directly from the *Newf and You*, with only minor editing.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board accept the proposed NCA listing in the Purina Dog Library revisions as amended. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

There was a discussion as to whether the Juniors Committee should become part of, or a sub-committee of, Gen Ed. It was stated that additional attention should be given, not only to juniors who compete in Junior Showmanship and conformation, but to those juniors who are actively participating in performance and working events. It was stated that it should be a goal of the NCA to make junior members feel that they are a very important part of the NCA.

Donna stated that Gen Ed is coming together and is forming a focus. It was agreed that Gen Ed would consider having the Juniors Committee as a sub-committee and to report back at the Board's next meeting.

There was additional discussion concerning the Rescue Awareness and Education Committee and the occasional overlap with Gen Ed.

Marylou Zimmerman requested that additional articles on husbandry are needed for the *NCA Website*. She stated that the highest number of "clicks" on the *NCA Website* were for the ear cleaning and grooming for obedience articles.

NCA Governing Documents Review Committee

Pat Randall, NCA Governing Documents Review Committee Chair, reported that Pam Saunders has done a great job with extracting needed information from the *NCA Policy Manual*. There have been numerous concerns that many minutes are not specific as to policy implementation or changes. The committee would like to continue their work as they are making progress.

Membership Committee

Mary Lou Cuddy, Membership Chair, reported on bids she had received for the printing of the NCA decals.

Sue Marino moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board approve Balch Signs to provide NCA decals at the price of \$.43 each per 1000 ordered. Updated artwork will be presented to the Board before printing the decals. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

***Newf Tide* Policy Committee**

The Board considered recommendations made by the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee (NTPC).

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee that Newfoundlands that requalify for a title may submit a photograph to the *Annual of Titlists* and to the New Titles section in *Newf Tide*. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee that the NCA's agreement with the editor of the *Annual of Titlists* be extended for the production of the 2010 *Annual of Titlists*. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

The Board considered the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee to change the *Newf Tide* binding to perfect binding. It was reported that stapling is not efficient for the larger issues. Perfect binding would also allow for color pages to be inserted into *Newf Tide* rather than only the covers being in color. Perfect binding will not allow for the three-hole punch; however, the date will be able to be printed on the spine and the magazine will also lie flat.

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee starting with the 3rd Quarter 2011 issue of *Newf Tide*, at an approximate cost of \$375 per issue, that the magazine be perfect bound. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Donna Thibault moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee that a full page color ad category be established at a cost of \$240 per full page ad subject to the existing policies governing ad submission. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Pam Saunders moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee that starting with the 3rd Quarter 2011 issue of *Newf Tide*, all "NCA business pages" in the magazine be printed on 70 pound paper. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

Executive Session

At 7:48 p.m., Meredith Reggie recused herself from the meeting.

At 7:48 p.m., Donna Thibault moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (JB, MR)

At 7:49 p.m., Donna Thibault moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passes unanimously. 2 Absent (JB, MR)

While in executive session, the Board approved the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee that the NCA's agreement with the editor of *Newf Tide* be extended for three (3) years. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

At 7:51 p.m., Meredith Reggie re-joined the meeting.

Working Dog Committee

Sue Marino, Working Dog (WDC) Chair, presented the proposed Water Rescue Dog Excellent (WRDX) changes. Accompanying these changes was a summarization of previously received comments and rationales for the proposed changes. She reported that the WDC is not looking for Board approval at this meeting. There will be an opportunity for NCA members to discuss and comment on the proposed changes at a meeting tomorrow. NCA members will be encouraged to try the proposed changes during informal run-throughs over the summer and ample opportunities will be given for comments back to the committee. The WDC will take those comments, make any necessary revisions and then will come to the Board for approval.

NCA Policy Manual

Pam Saunders reviewed her work on the *NCA Policy Manual* for the Board. She explained how the manual will be organized. She will be developing a list of questions for the Board on policy implementation or changes that are not clear or are missing from the minutes and/or the manual.

Executive Session

At 8:19 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

At 9:26 p.m., Roger Frey was called out of the meeting.

At 9:28 p.m., Roger Frey returned to the meeting.

At 9:28 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

While in executive session, the Board approved the Applicants Lists dated March 17, 2011 and May 1, 2011.

While in executive session, the Board awarded the Member of the Year to Sue Miller.

While in executive session, the Board awarded Honorary Memberships to Roger and Barbara Frey.

Annual Membership Meeting Procedure

Donna Thibault briefly explained to the Board the procedure for the Awards presentations at the Annual Membership Meeting. The award presenter will call each member receiving an award to the stage where a second presenter will hand them their award. The Board emphasized keeping the presentations moving to keep the meeting from getting too lengthy.

NCA Loans/Grants to Regional Clubs Hosting Nationals

The Board returned to a discussion from the March 17, 2011 teleconference regarding loans/grants to regional clubs that are hosting National Specialties. It was stated that clubs may need upwards of \$25,000.00 to cover deposits and other upfront costs. The Board discussed the policy whereas profits from NCA-hosted National Specialties were to be split between several different areas, one of which was to create a fund for providing these loans/grants. Since the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee sent the question of loans/grants back to the Board, some Board members felt that the committee and the Board needed to sit down together for a discussion. There was clarification over the mistaken notion that the NCA Board had advanced funds to a regional club in the recent past.

At 9:54 p.m., the meeting was recessed until Monday, May 2, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.

NCA Face-to-Face Meeting, continued May 2, 2011

At 8:38 a.m., the meeting was reconvened. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PSR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Jacqueline Brellochs (JB) was absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Steve Britton (SB) and Pat Randall (PKR), Board members-elect were present.

Present were Nancy Aliff, Grievance Hearing Chair, Brad Heard, Christina Heard-Koffman, Jim Bricknell (via teleconference) and Bob Waddell (via teleconference).

Nancy Aliff, Grievance Hearing Chair, determined that neither party had any objections to the hearing procedures that had been communicated previously to all parties. She reminded everyone that only sitting Board members will vote and if a Board member does not intend to vote, they must recuse themselves. Lynne Anderson-Powell stated that she would recuse herself from this hearing.

There was further discussion of procedures and definitions.

Executive Session

At 9:08 a.m., Sue Marino moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (JB)

At 9:54 a.m., Jacqueline Brellochs joined the meeting.

At approximately 11:30 a.m., John Cornell moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board heard the matter of Bricknell & McFadden v. Heard and found merit to the charge against Christine Heard and no merit to the charge against Brad Heard. Mrs. Heard is suspended from the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. for a period to six (6) months beginning May 2, 2011.

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board direct the Treasurer to refund \$50 of the \$100 grievance fee to the complainant in the matter of Bricknell & McFadden v. Heard. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board then conducted a second hearing. Present were Nancy Aliff, Grievance Hearing Chair, Kelly Gerrits, Chris Lyden, Ingrid Lyden, Renee Marquardt, Adam Karp (via teleconference), Holly Kramer (via teleconference), Elizabeth Baker (via teleconference), Nancy Lambert (via teleconference), Jennifer Lambert (via teleconference), Jonathan Anderson (via teleconference), Sabrina Novarra (via teleconference) and John Dewing (via teleconference).

Nancy Aliff, Grievance Hearing Chair, determined that neither party had any objections to the hearing procedures that had been previously communicated to all parties. She reminded everyone that only sitting Board members will vote and if a Board member does not intend to vote, they must recuse themselves. Pam Rubio stated that she would recuse herself from this hearing.

At 1:12 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 6:14 p.m., Donna Thibault moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board heard the matter of Lambert v. Gerrits. The complaint consisted of six charges. The Board found merit to one charge and no merit to the remaining charges. No penalty was imposed. Ms. Gerrits remains a member in good standing of the Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.

At 6:15 p.m., the meeting was recessed.

At 9:05 p.m., the meeting was reconvened.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Jacqueline Brellochs, 1st Vice President, reported that the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) teleconference was held April 11, 2011. Clyde Dunphy, Chairman, reported that Susan Kohut, Development Manager for Morris Animal

Foundation, was interested in attending the National Specialty and arrangements for her to attend have been made. It is expected she will attend the NCA Charitable Trust meeting and the Annual Membership Meeting and will be present at the Newfoundland Health Challenge silent auction to take comments and answer questions.

The Morris Animal Foundation sent the CTMB an invitation to attend its Annual Sponsorship Meeting, June 22-25, 2011. Roger Powell tentatively agreed to represent the CTMB and be there for the detailed explanations of their peer review process. AKC Canine Health Foundation's National Parent Club Health Meeting, August 12—14, 2011, will be in St. Louis, Missouri, and Clyde Dunphy will represent the CTMB.

Jacqueline informed the Board that the next CTMB teleconference will be June 6, 2011.

Unfinished Business

NCA Website Statement

The Board agreed to wait until the Technical Resources Committee reports to the Board later in this meeting to address the issue of a statement to be added to the NCA Database that some Newfoundlands with OFA health listings may not be listed.

New Business

Proposed Changes to the Annual Meeting of the Board

The Board reviewed a proposal for possible revision of the *NCA Bylaws* which would move the Board's spring face-to-face meeting from the week of the National Specialty and change the Board election to a date closer to the face-to-face meeting to lessen the time between the election of new Board members and their assumption of duties. It was stated when the February 1st date was set for the ballot deadline, the Board met in New York City the day before the Westminster Kennel Club show held in February; both AKC and Robert's Rules strongly recommend a minimum lapse between election and duties.

It was stated that the drawbacks to the current scheduling include the cost and effort for Board members to arrive at each National Specialty early, restriction of the Board's participation in activities during the show week, and difficulties in tending to one's Newfoundlands during long meetings and accessibility of Board members to NCA members.

It was stated that a second independent face-to-face meeting would cost the NCA \$10,000 - \$20,000 while meeting at the National costs the NCA about \$2500. It was said that candidates for the Board should be cognizant of and willing to accept the sacrifices for the NCA.

It was agreed that this should be sent to the NCA Governing Documents Review Committee for their consideration.

Proposed Changes to the NCA Grievance Procedures

The Board also considered a proposal to the *NCA Bylaws* that the Board would consider the merits as presented to determine if there is enough "evidence to convict" rather than considering only whether the charges, if proven, would be detrimental to the breed or the NCA. The Board discussed how some other parent clubs handle their grievance procedures and whether grievances should go through a mediation or arbitration stage before a hearing is held.

Jacqueline Brellochs moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board refer to the *ad hoc* Governing Documents Review Committee for consideration the suggestions that the time between the Board election and the annual meetings be decreased and the establishment of an investigative committee as part of the grievance hearing process. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, JB, JC, MLC, RF, SM, KM, MLP, PR, PS, DT); 1 No (MR)

At 9:29 p.m., Mary Lou Roberts, Chris Plum and Cathy Dunphy joined the meeting via teleconference.

Steering Committee

Mary Lou Roberts, Steering Committee Chair, presented the Steering Committee's rationale and recommendation for increasing NCA membership. The committee did not support the development of a tiered membership. The committee did support recruiting members willing to share with those new members the knowledge that will help them to become the next generation of Newfoundland breeders and fanciers. The committee suggests that three communities be courted into NCA membership: previous NCA members, regional club members who are not already NCA members and Newfoundland puppy buyers or well-established dog owners who are recommended by long-time NCA members.

It was stated that NCA members are breeding less and are getting older and that new breeders are not coming up through the NCA ranks. Some non-NCA breeders have little regard for the *Breed Standard*. There was discussion about some parent clubs having a reputation of being "elitist" and whether there is enough perceived value for someone to join the NCA. It was stated that current NCA breeders should be encouraging puppy buyers to join both a regional club and the NCA and that NCA should be doing more to give breeders the tools to do that.

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board refer the following recommendations from the Steering Committee to the Regional Club Committee with a report due back to the Board by August 18, 2011:

- Identify through regional club listings those regional club members who are not NCA members but who are active and/or long-time members at the regional level. Pull together a group of people who will talk to these members and encourage them to join the NCA.
- Have a regional club/NCA member available at Fun Days and Membership meetings to talk about the NCA, its programs, the Charitable Trust, and the membership process. For Annual Membership meetings, ask for a five-minute spot on the agenda. For Fun Days, set up a card table with NCA information and

some copies of Newf Tide. For both, have membership forms and other educational and informative materials available.

- Encourage Newfoundland owners who love Newfoundlands to avail themselves of the opportunity to participate in and work for the parent club whose responsibility it is to preserve and protect this breed, since the NCA is the only U.S. organization in existence with this purpose.

The motion passed unanimously.

Mary Lou Cuddy moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board request the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee to develop a procedure for nametags identifying NCA and Board members at National Specialties. The motion passed unanimously.

Pam Rubio moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board establish the goal that the regional clubs work towards having 50% of their membership be NCA members. The motion passed unanimously.

Newfoundland Ambassador Program

Mary Lou Roberts, Newfoundland Ambassador Program Chair, reported that input from the committees that will be affected by or involved with the Newf Ambassador Program is needed. The committee also needs to know under what committee this program will reside. There was discussion if this program would reside under the General Education Committee. Mary Lou reported that Chris Plum is willing to chair a sub-committee to handle this program.

It was emphasized that this program is not meant to usurp any regional club but to cover areas where there are no regional clubs. If regional clubs would like to be associated with this program, they would be welcomed.

Sue Marino moved and Mary Lou Cuddy seconded that the Board adopt the recommendations presented by the *ad hoc* Newf Ambassador Committee. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, JB, JC, MLC, RF, SM, MLP, MR, PR, PS, DT; 1 No (KM)

Sue Marino moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board refer the Newf Ambassador program to the General Education Committee for the committee's opinion on making the Newf Ambassador program a sub-committee of the General Education Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

At approximately 10:30 p.m., Sue Marino moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 11:02 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board approved the payment for 2 days room charges and a gift of a Dannyquest statue to Nancy Aliff for her expertise and guidance in the matter of the two grievance hearings.

While in executive session, the Board approved the attendance of Jenny Zabloutny at the Purina Parent Club Health Conference.

At 11:03 p.m., the meeting was recessed until Tuesday, May 3, 2011 at 8:30 a.m.

NCA Face-to-Face Meeting, continued May 3, 2011

At 8:36 a.m., the meeting was reconvened. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), 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 Rubio (PSR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Steve Britton (SB) and Pat Randall (PKR), Board members-elect were present.

Grievance Hearing Refunds

Donna Thibault moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board direct the Treasurer to refund the \$100 grievance fee to the complainant in the matter of Lambert v. Gerrits. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session

At 8:41 a.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 9:02 a.m., Sue Marino moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board agreed to support the decision of the Old West Newfoundland Club in regards to a rescue situation.

Specialty Show Coordinating Committee

It was reported to the Board that Mary Jane Spackman is now the show chair for the 2012 National Specialty.

The Board was informed that a bid will be coming from the Newfoundland Club of New England to host the 2014 National Specialty at the Crowne Plaza in Warrick, Rhode Island. Donna Thibault will be the show chair. Donna reported that the initial hotel contract is in her possession. The show will be either the first or second week of May. She reported that there are shows one hour away where there might be supported entries. These shows would fall either at the beginning or the ending of the National Specialty depending on which week is chosen. The Crowne Plaza will guarantee rooms at the rate of \$120/night.

It was reported that the Colonial Newfoundland Club is actively looking at sites in anticipation of hosting a National Specialty in 2015.

The Board discussed the judging program for the current National Specialty as it was printed without the 50 – 60 dogs break in the scheduled times. This is a breach of policy. There was discussion about using the loudspeaker to call the classes to the ring as well as the pros and cons of listing the times in the judging schedule.

There was a brief discussion if the New-Pen-Del club needed a loan for upfront costs for the 2012 National Specialty. It was stated that the club did not need the loan at the present time.

Executive Session

At 9:27 a.m., Pam Saunders moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 9:42 a.m., Donna Thibault moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board agreed to send a letter to the Austin, Texas Animal Control and Shelter in regards to a Newfoundland that has been deemed aggressive and is in possession of P.A.W.S. of Austin if the Newfoundland is not surrendered to the NCA Rescue or Old West Newfoundland Club Rescue.

At 9:44 a.m., Barbara Finch joined the meeting.

Technical Resources Committee

Barbara Finch, Technical Resources Chair, reported that Phase III of the NCA Database had been put out to bid to three companies. One company did not respond, one bid was expected to come in within a few hours and one bid had been received from Dogfish Software. Barbara recommended that the Board accept the Dogfish Software bid.

There was a discussion that there are working titles still missing from the NCA Database. An NCA member who had agreed to supply the missing information has not yet made that information available to the committee.

Executive Session

At 9:50 a.m., Pam Saunders moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 10:14 a.m., Kathy McIver moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board accepted a bid from Dogfish Software for Phase III of the NCA Database in the amount of \$26,880.00. One-half of the amount has

been budgeted and approved for this fiscal year, the remaining half will be budgeted for the next fiscal year.

The Board resumed the discussion about a statement that will appear on the NCA Database stating that not all Newfoundlands with health listings are included. Barbara Finch informed the Board that the statement will appear on the home page of the NCA Database. The statement may also be placed in *Newf Tide* and in *NCA e-notes*.

There was a brief discussion regarding using PayPal for NCA renewals. It was said that PayPal is not appropriate for the NCA needs and that there are no useable programs currently available. The Board was advised to wait for Dogfish Software to develop a program with the NCA's needs in mind.

The Board thanked the committee for all its hard work.

Adjournment

At 10:33 a.m., John Cornell moved and Sue Marino seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary