

NCA America Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of June 16, 2011
(Approved July 21, 2011)

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), Sue Marino (SM), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Roger Frey (RF) was absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present.

Approval of Minutes

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that the minutes of May 1-3, 2011, May 3, 2011 Annual Membership meeting and May 3, 2011 Annual Meeting of the Board are not ready for approval at this time.

Report of the President

Pat Randall, President, acknowledged that the criticisms regarding the cancellation of the May 19, 2011 teleconference were well-taken. It was agreed that the Board would move forward to accomplish its work.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Roger Frey, 1st Vice President, submitted the following report to be presented in his absence from this meeting: "I attended my first meeting of the NCA Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) on Wednesday, June 8, 2011. The Trust re-elected its officers and they remain the same as last year. One new business item of interest was the possibility of the CTMB making a grant to those in need for support for veterinary expenses or possibly other expenses in extreme cases. This item was referred to Mary Jane Spackman, Diane Lynch and Mary L. Price for further input".

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Pam Saunders, 2nd Vice President, reported that she had many communications with the committees and she apologized to the committees for not getting this meeting's agenda to them in a timely fashion. She stated that the rest of her report would fall under the committee reports.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that the Bear Mountain Newfoundland Club agreed to coordinate the Newfoundland booth at the AKC's Meet

the Breeds in New York City. Beth Grispin will chair and the club will formulate a theme and a budget for consideration at the Board's next teleconference.

Lynne reported that there had been no reply from the Newfoundland Club of Florida regarding the AKC/Eukanuba Meet the Breeds. She will contact them again. It was stated that "host" clubs are encouraged to invite neighboring regional clubs to participate.

Lynne brought to the Board's attention a last-minute complaint from a non-NCA member. It was agreed to consider the complaint later in executive session.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the June 16, 2011 agenda packet and that the minutes for the meetings at the National Specialty were not yet ready for approval.

Mary Lou reported on some correspondence regarding the Welcome Reception and Annual Membership Meeting for the 2012 National Specialty. It was agreed that this would be addressed under new business if time allowed.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$13,958.98; checking account for 2011 National Specialty: \$20,093.63; savings account: \$65,290.07; invested in CDs: \$103,421.69; and the NCA operations balance total of \$202,764.37 with \$4,550.22 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$475.86 for a total of \$203,240.23.

Mary reported that the 2011 National Specialty final report might be ready for the July 21, 2011 teleconference. Pam Rubio was congratulated for recruiting donors for all the 2011 National Specialty trophies. It was recommended that clubs hosting future National Specialties attempt to cover all uniform trophy expenses with donations.

Mary gave a brief update of the preliminary budget figures. She estimated that the year-end cash balance will be approximately \$182,000.00 and it will be over the budget for the current fiscal year by approximately \$64,000.00. The difference is attributable to several projects not completed in the current fiscal year, including the *Register of Merit* book not being published this year. There was an unexpected expense of \$3,100.00 for the court reporter for the two grievances that the Board heard.

Mary reported that some committees were submitting their budget requests late. The Board will consider the proposed budget at the July 21, 2011 teleconference.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported that she had just returned from the AKC Delegates Meeting in Raleigh, North Carolina. She attended the Standing Committees meeting on Sunday, the Delegates Forum and the Delegates Meeting on Monday. She informed the Board that the Dr. Terry Warren, Chief Executive Officer of the AKC Canine Health Foundation (AKC/CHF), and Dr. Christine Haackenson, Chief Scientific Officer, spoke to the Delegates Forum. She also reported that Lee Arnold has been elected Chairman of the AKC/CHF Board.

Mary reminded that Board that Clyde Dunphy and Jenny Zablotsky would be attending the AKC Canine Health Foundation Parent Club Health Conference. Roger Powell will be representing the CTMB at the Morris Animal Foundation's annual meeting.

Mary informed the Board that there are now over 6,500 AKC Breeder of Merit participants. At the Parent Club Committee meeting, there was some discussion of developing a Parent Club of Merit program. Mary felt that the NCA would have no problem qualifying for such program.

Mary reported on some ideas that AKC is considering implementing. They would recognize the Canine Good Citizen as an award, award six group placements, develop a Reserve Best in Show award, and award points to dogs going reserve to a major win.

At the Delegates Meeting, a new aggressive marketing program to give the AKC brand greater prominence was announced. A new therapy dog title starting in June 2011 has been announced which will require training, certification and documented hours of service. It was reported that dog show entries are up, especially in performance events and there have been over 58,000 additional entries of specials since the implementation of the new Grand Championship title. However, registrations have continued their decline. The demise of the *AKC Gazette* was the subject of much discussion at the meeting.

Mary informed the Board that the proposal for four-year term limits for AKC Board Directors failed.

Committee Reports

Technical Resources Committee

The Board agreed that due to the late submission of a Technical Resources Committee's report on Phase IV of the NCA Database, a decision could not be made at this meeting. Many Board members had not had the time to read the report before the start of the meeting. There was also some concern expressed that there was no report of the recommendations from the committee meeting that was held at the National Specialty.

General Education Committee

Donna Thibault, General Education Committee (Gen Ed) Chair, reported that the committee had voted against the Newf Ambassador program as a subcommittee of Gen Ed. The committee supported the program but felt that Gen Ed was not the appropriate place for it. It was reported that the *ad hoc* Newf Ambassador Committee would have a response at the Board's July 21, 2011 meeting. It was stated that it was important the new program be placed in the right spot. There was some discussion of including the program under the Regional Clubs Committee, but due to the regional clubs appointing their representatives who may not be NCA members it was felt that this committee may not be the proper place either. It was suggested that perhaps a new committee should be set up with members who are committed to the program's success. The Board agreed to send the Gen Ed report to the Steering and *ad hoc* Newf Ambassador Committees.

The Board briefly considered an article on evaluating breeders' websites written by Marylou Zimmerman for the *NCA Website* and Gen Ed.

Meredith Reggie moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board set aside the "Evaluating Breeders Website" article until later in the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (RF)

At 9:00 p.m., Barbara Finch and Marylou Zimmerman joined the meeting.

Technical Resources Committee

Barbara Finch, Technical Resources Committee (TRC) Chair, summarized the report concerning Phase IV of the NCA Database that was emailed to the Board shortly before the start of the meeting. Phase IV would include membership-related information. The TRC had a committee meeting with Mary L. Price, NCA Treasurer, and Mary Lou Cuddy, Membership Chair, to discuss the details in putting the membership database in the NCA Database. This would allow such things as online membership applications and renewals, a members-only area, and tracking working test judges and breed mentors, among other functions.

Phase III will be completed by August 2011. There was discussion that Phase IV would need to be split over several years. This would allow the \$30,000 - \$40,000 cost of Phase IV to be spread out. Phase III funds were approved for one-half payment this fiscal year and the remaining for next year. Phase IV could start in 2013 although the TEC was asked to submit the start-up costs for Phase IV for the next budget for possible inclusion.

The Board discussed the features suggested for Phase IV. It was suggested that it would be more cost-effective to build in the programs needed for all the features at the beginning of the process and not to add them in later as that would cause costs to rise. The TRC requested permission to talk to other committees that could be utilizing Phase IV features for their input. Barbara and Marylou stated that they would be happy to speak to the Board at the July, 21, 2011 teleconference for further discussion.

A Board member expressed her concern that the TRC report did not address reported problems with the health clearances, health designations, TOD/TODD, ROM and VN issues. Barbara replied that the committee felt that the completion of Phase III would resolve all those issues.

At 9:18 p.m., Barbara Finch left the meeting.

General Education Committee

Pam Rubio moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board resume discussion of the "Evaluating Breeders' Website" article. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (RF)

It was explained that Marylou Zimmerman wrote this article for the *NCA Website* targeting novice puppy buyers. It was sent to Gen Ed for review, which resulted in some suggestions being incorporated. The Board made several additional suggestions and gave the article a very favorable review. The article will be approved at the July 21, teleconference after the edits are reviewed. The Board thanked Marylou Zimmerman for her efforts.

At 9:31 p.m., Marylou Zimmerman left the meeting.

Executive Session

At 9:31 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board go into executive session. Hearing no objection, the Board went into executive session.

At 11:04 p.m., Mary W. Price left the meeting.

At 12:14 a.m., Steve Britton left the meeting.

At 12:17 a.m., Steve Britton joined the meeting.

At 12:37 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (RF)

While in executive session, the Board approved using the current artwork for the NCA decals.

While in executive session, the Board changed the name of the Rescue Education and Awareness Committee to the Rescue Prevention Committee.

While in executive session, the Board approved an AKC Breed Column Committee.

While in executive session, the Board made the following committee appointments:

Rescue Prevention Committee: Donna Zink, Chair; Lynne Anderson-Powell; Roger Frey

Juniors Committee: Cissy Sullivan, Chair; Adrienne Hill; Charma Hill; Sheila Luca; Sue Marino; Robin Seaman; Patti Testa; Donna Thibault

Junior Scholarship Committee: Lynne Hamilton, Chair; Cathy Hartke

Steering Committee: Mary Lou Roberts, Chair; Roger Frey; Bill Matlock; Kathy McIver; Roger Powell, Chris Plum, Mary Lou Zimmerman

Technical Resources Committee: Barbara Finch, Chair; Lynne Anderson-Powell; Dan Carr; Dejah Petsch; Debbie Bridge; Bill Matlock; Mary Zimmerman

Versatile Newfoundland Committee: Bethany Karger, Chair; Bruce Karger

International Liaison Committee: Roger Frey, Chair; Sonia Nicholson

AKC Breed Column Committee: Karen Steinrock, Chair

Specialty Show Coordinating Committee: Robin Seaman, Chair; Amy Lane; Steve Britton; John Cornell; Nancy Duggan (Properties); Barbara Finch (Specialty Show Guide); Kevin Gallagher; Cindy Goodwin; Peggy Helming; Diane Lavin; Sandee Lovett; Kathy Paxton; Meredith Reggie

Judges Education Committee: Denise Castonguay, Chair; Lynne Anderson-Powell; Jim Bricknell; Barbara Finch; Roger Frey; Kathy Griffin; Kim Griffith; Peggy Helming; Sue Jones; Ingrid Lyden; Jean McAdams; Betty McDonnell; Robin Seaman; Deb Wigal; Margaret Willmott

General Education Committee: Lisa Lathrop, Chair; Susan Aspeotes; Debbie Dennison; Sharon Gilbert; Elizabeth Heath; Ron Horn; Mary Alice Maloney; Theodore Meeker; Joanne Peterson; Hope Taylor; Donna Thibault; Melissa Torres

Health & Longevity Committee: Jenny Zabloutny, Chair; Gabrielle Cohen; Denise Hatakeyama; Andre Lapeyre; Diane Lynch; Tamzin Rosenwasser; Pam Rubio; Mary Jane Spackman; Bruce Willoughby

AKC Legislative Liaison Committee: Kathy Grim, Chair; Janice Anderson; Amy Davis; Debbie Dennison; Denise Hatakeyama

Arbitration Committee: Ken Wildman, Chair; Nancy Aliff; Suzi Bidwell; Carla Gengler

Awards: Ingrid Lyden, Chair

Breeders Education Committee: Kathy McIver, Chair; Janice Anderson; Lynne Anderson-Powell; Karin Bock; John Cornell; Sue Jones; Jean McAdams; Pat Randall; Pam Rubio

Breeder Referral Committee: Naomi Young Meyer, Chair

Breeders List Committee: Johanna Matsuda, Chair; Lynne Nuss; Patti Testa

Companion Newf Committee: Barbara Frey, Chair; Wendy Calkins; Carolyn Kuhn; Chris Rakyta

“Distinguished Member” Committee: Sue Miller, Chair; Naomi Young Meyer

Electronic Publication Policy Committee: Marylou Zimmerman, Chair; Aura Dean; Judi Randall; Ken Wildman

Historian & Archives Committee: Mary Jane Spackman, Chair

Membership Committee: Mary Lou Cuddy, Chair

Newf Tide Policy Committee: Aura Dean, Chair; Patti Emmerling; Meredith Reggie (*ex-officio*); Beth Sell; Julie Poulin Siefert; Jeanette Voss; Ken Wildman

Nominating Committee: Joyce Butler, Chair; Carla Gengler; Betty McDonnell; Mary Lou Roberts; Stacy Roderick; Sue Marino (alternate); Jo Nussle (alternate)

Recognition Committee: Linda Roderick, Chair; Joe Reinisch

Regional Club Committee: Steve Britton, Chair

TOD/TODD Committee: Joan Locker-Thuring, Chair; Joyce Arivella

Working Achievement Committee: Brian Hodges, Chair; Joyce Arivella

Working Dog Committee: Sue Marino, Chair; Tom Brant; Denise Castonguay; Barbara Frey; Laura Gallagher; Dwight Gorsuch; Virginia Kelly; Cindi Kursner; Patti Pigeon; Roger Powell; Pam Saunders

NCA Governing Documents Review Committee: Pat Randall, Chair; Kevin Gallagher; David Helming; Pam Saunders

Specialty Show Coordinating Committee

Steve Britton moved and Pam Rubio seconded to refer the following communications to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee: A June 7, 2011, email from Patti McDowell regarding Award of Merit medallions at National and regional specialties; a request from

Joan Greenwald for presenting title-completion ribbons for obedience and tally participants and offering Beginning Novice obedience classes at National Specialties. The committee will report back to the Board by the August regular meeting deadline. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (RF)

Regional Clubs Committee

It was agreed that the consideration of the Regional Clubs Committee's report and budget requests would be tabled until the July 21, 2011 teleconference.

Incorporation Grant Request

The Board considered an incorporation grant request from the South Central Newfoundland Club.

Kathy McIver moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board approve the incorporation grant request from the South Central Newfoundland Club. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (RF)

Adjournment

At 12:51 a.m., Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Hearing no objection, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary