

NCA Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of July 21, 2011
(Approved August 25, 2011)

Pat Randall, President, called the meeting to order at 8:04 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 Mclver (KM), Pat Randall (PKR), Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary L. Price (MLP) and Meredith Reggie (MR) were absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present.

Approval of Minutes

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy Mclver seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the May 1-3, 2011 face-to-face meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (MLP, MR)

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy Mclver seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the May 3, 2011 Annual Meeting of the Board as presented. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (MLP, MR)

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy Mclver seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the June 16, 2011 teleconference as presented. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (MLP, MR)

At 8:10 p.m., Meredith Reggie joined the meeting to ask that she be called when the Board addressed the Versatile Newfoundland items and for the executive session.

At 8:11 p.m., Meredith Reggie left the meeting.

Steve Britton moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board adopt the minutes of the May 3, 2011 Annual Membership Meeting as amended. The motion passed. 9 Yes (LA, SB, JC, MLC, KM, PKR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 No (RF); 2 Absent (MLP, MR)

Report of the President

Pat Randall, President, had no report at this time.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Roger Frey, 1st Vice President, reported that he was unable to attend the July 6, 2011 Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) meeting but was able to give a short synopsis. The CTMB and OFA are working together on a Newfoundland Health Survey

that will debut online in four to six weeks. In his Chairman's report, Clyde Dunphy stated that he had received the agenda for the AKC Parent Club conference and he will be attending.

Roger reported that the Treasurer's Report included a discussion about investments and the future possibility of petitioning the Trustee for more flexibility in ways to invest the Endowment Fund currently limited to CDs.

Roger Powell reported that he had attended the Morris Animal Foundation Annual Meeting. He attended the Science Advisory Board and Marketing meetings, the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors, and he acquired a better understanding of the Morris Animal Foundation's mission and proceedings. It is the largest non-government source of animal research funding and it is also the largest funder of canine health research projects in the United States that do not have a connection to human health. The NCA was recognized at the Annual Dinner and thanked for their support.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the following minutes: the May 1-3, 2011 face-to-face meeting, the May 3, 2011 Annual Meeting of the Board, the June 16, 2011 teleconference and the May 3, 2011 Annual Membership Meeting. She prepared and distributed the July 21, 2011 agenda packet.

Mary Lou asked the Board if it wished to participate in a conference meeting survey that had arrived in the mail. The Board declined to participate. She also informed the Board of a request from a member as to the status of the Board meeting recordings being available. The recordings had not been posted for quite some time.

The Board briefly discussed the recordings. Pat Randall had taken care of it previously but when he went off the Board, no one was appointed to take it over. Pat explained that preparing the recordings took some technical expertise. It was suggested that this topic be tabled until the next meeting.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Pam Saunders, 2nd Vice President, had no report at this time. Her items appear under committee reports.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported on several items that she had received. The Board considered a request for the NCA to participate in a social media portal. The NCA would receive a donation for participating. The Board agreed to refer this offer to the Technical Resource Committee for their input.

Lynne informed the Board that she had forwarded the information regarding the AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards. It was agreed that the Board would consider the nominees for the awards at its next meeting.

Lynne presented a request to post the "Rosie" article that appeared in the 2nd Quarter 2011 issue of the *Newf Tide* on a Facebook page. The Board discussed providing a link to the story that could appear on the Facebook page.

Roger Frey moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board refer the request for permission to post the "Rosie" article in the 2nd Quarter 2011 issue of *Newf Tide* on a Facebook page to the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee for input. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (MLP, MR)

The Board considered a request to make a donation for trophies at the AKC National Obedience Trial. The NCA already supports the High Scoring Newfoundland award. The Board declined to make any additional donation.

The Board considered an invitation to join Waglinked.com.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board refer the request from Waglinked.com to the Technical Resources Committee for input with the response due by the September 15, 2011 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (MLP, MR)

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported on the following items.

The AKC is considering offering a Reserve Best in Show along with 6 group placements. It was said that the AKC is leaning towards an FCI-style show. The Board expressed its reservations about such changes.

It was reported that AKC Companion Animal Recovery Program has awarded more than \$340,000.00 in grants to K-9 Search and Rescue teams. Mary encouraged the Board to make a donation at some point as the NCA does have members who participate in Search and Rescue with their Newfs.

Mary brought the Board's attention to some new AKC fliers which promote the good things that the AKC and AKC clubs accomplish.

Mary shared information about the flooding and subsequent damage that had occurred at Fort Mandan which necessitated the removal of the Seaman statue for its safety. The Lewis and Clark Fort Mandan Foundation is looking for donations to help restore

Fort Mandan to its previous condition. The Board tabled the request until later in the meeting.

Mary reminded the Board of the AKC quarterly and annual statistics that had been previously forwarded. AKC will also compile specially designed competition reports for a fee. It was suggested that NCA might investigate those costs.

Committee Reports

At 8:35 p.m., Mary L. Price joined the meeting.

AKC Breed Column Committee

The Board discussed the resignation of Karen Steinrock from the committee and the effect of the *AKC Gazette* going exclusively to a digital format will have on the breed columns. The Board was informed that the July column is set but a column will be needed for the October issue. The Board discussed a proposed idea to have NCA members submit columns, perhaps in the form of a contest. Hearing no objection, the Board agreed to table this discussion until the next meeting.

Health & Longevity Committee

The Board was informed that the report included in the agenda packet was an FYI to the Board and no further action was needed.

Judges Education Committee

It was reported that the article on temperament for the AKC Judges Newsletter is in progress. A first draft has been sent out to committee members for review and comment.

Newf Ambassador Committee

The Board considered options for the Newf Ambassador Committee. There was discussion whether to leave the committee as an *ad hoc* committee, place it under another committee as a sub-committee or make it a standing committee. Some Board members felt that it belonged as a sub-committee of the General Education Committee but the General Education Committee voted that their committee was not the right place for it. It was stated that the members who were recommended by the *ad hoc* Newf Ambassador Committee to staff the committee are well-qualified with years of experience in all facets of the breed and they are eager to get to work.

Roger Frey moved and Steve Britton seconded that the Board accept the recommendations of the *ad hoc* Newf Ambassador Committee to make that committee

a standing committee and appoint the following: Chris Plum, Chair, Catherine Dunphy, Sandy Gabel, Peggy Lange, Joan Locker-Thuring and Kathy Mitchell. The motion passed. 8 Yes (LA, SB, MLC, RF, MLP, PSR, PS, DT); 3 No (JC, KM, PKR); 1 Absent (MR)

Publicity Committee

The Board discussed the ads that the NCA places each year and how this new committee would be responsible for them, relieving the General Education Committee of that duty. It was stated that the Publicity Committee should help to develop the NCA "brand". It was suggested that a small *ad hoc* committee of Board members develop a job description, the charge for the committee and staffing recommendations.

Pat Randall moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board appoint Lynne Anderson-Powell and Donna Thibault to an *ad hoc* committee to develop a job description and staffing suggestions for the recently-formed Publicity Committee. A report will be due to the Board by the August, 25, 2011 teleconference. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

Regional Clubs Committee

The Board considered the Regional Clubs Committee report. The Board briefly discussed the committee's recommendation that the NCA brochure "Newfoundland Club of America: Who We Are and What We Do" be revised and updated. It was agreed that this would be a good task for the new Publicity Committee and should be referred to that committee when it is staffed.

The Regional Clubs Committee requested clarification from the Board regarding their assignment to consider ways to increase the percentage of NCA members in regional clubs. The committee asked if that was to include the whole club membership (as some clubs have both associate and general members) or just general or voting members.

The committee also requested a list of NCA benefits, such as health testing rebates and awards.

There was some discussion that the original charge to the Regional Clubs Committee was to develop ways to increase NCA membership in the regional clubs as per the recommendation of the Steering Committee to increase NCA membership. Some Board members felt that these questions should be referred back to the Steering Committee for their input.

Pam Saunders moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board refer the following requests from the Regional Clubs Committee (RCC) back to the Steering Committee for clarification: define the goal of 50% NCA membership in regional clubs as all members

or the general members in a club and the RCC requests a list of NCA membership benefits. The motion passed. 10 Yes (LA, JC, MLC, RD, KM, MLP, PKR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 Abstention (SB); 1 Absent (MR)

Rescue Prevention Committee

The Board discussed the need to update the job description and the charge for this committee after its name change from Rescue Education and Awareness Committee. It was agreed to add this discussion to the August 25, 2011 meeting agenda.

Versatile Newfoundland Committee

The Board reviewed recommendations made by the Versatile Newfoundland Club for tracking new Versatile Newfoundland titlists. The Board discussed the NCA Database and its role in identifying new Versatile Newfoundland titlists.

New Business

Tufts University Genetic Conference

The Board discussed whether to send a representative to the Tufts University Genetic Conference to be held in September 2011. To receive the early discount, a decision to send a representative had to be made immediately.

Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board offer the first invitation to attend the Tufts Genetic Health Conference to Jenny Zablodny, Health & Longevity Committee Chair. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

National Specialty Welcome Reception

The Board considered a recommendation from the New-Pen-Del Newfoundland Club that the Welcome Reception at the 2013 National Specialty return to the Ice Cream Social format that was popular some years ago. This event would allow members to eat dinner, attend the Ice Cream Social and then move directly into the Annual Membership Meeting.

Pam Saunders moved and Donna Thibault seconded to sponsor an Ice Cream Social at the Welcome Reception at the 2012 National Specialty in lieu of providing desserts at the Annual Membership Meeting. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

At 9:49 p.m., Robin Seaman joined the meeting.

Specialty Show Coordinating Committee

Robin Seaman, Specialty Show Coordinating Committee Chair, reported that the Colonial Newfoundland Club had been able to work out the difficulties with the facility at Rocky Gap, Maryland and asked for the Board's approval for the Colonial Newfoundland Club to switch the year for hosting the National Specialty with the Newfoundland Club of New England. The Colonial Newfoundland Club would now host the 2014 National Specialty in Rocky Gap, Maryland and the Newfoundland Club of New England would host the 2015 National Specialty in Warwick, Rhode Island.

Steve Britton moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board suspend all rules and policies which interfere with the Board approving the Colonial Newfoundland Club to host the 2014 National Specialty to be held at Rocky Gap, Maryland. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

Pam Saunders moved and Steve Britton seconded that the Board extend the Newfoundland Club of New England's date for hosting the National Specialty at Warwick, Rhode Island to 2015. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

Robin reported that the 2012 National Specialty hosted by New-Pen-Del Club is moving along in the planning process.

At 9:50 p.m., Robin Seaman left the meeting.

Fall Face-to-Face Meeting

The Board considered dates and places for the Board's fall face-to-face meeting. The Board agreed that the meeting would be November 4-6, 2011. It was suggested that since Meredith Reggie was absent from the meeting that she be consulted about the date before the Board voted on the date. Cleveland, St. Louis, Orlando and Chicago were mentioned as hub airports. It was agreed that the site would be decided at the August 25, 2011 teleconference.

At 10:00 p.m., Barbara Finch and Marylou Zimmerman joined the meeting.

Technical Resources Committee

Barbara Finch, Technical Resources Committee (TRC) Chair, informed the Board that the contract with Dogfish Software for Phase III of the NCA Database needs to be signed. The Board will discuss the contract in executive session at this meeting. It was reported that Phase III will be finished in about three weeks.

The Board discussed the proposed Phase IV. Marylou Zimmerman, Technical Resources Committee member, stated that Phase IV could start when approved. There was discussion about whether Phase IV could be ready in time to handle to 2012 dues renewal cycle online. This option could give the members some "bang for their buck".

The TRC will be gathering information from NCA committees as to how the NCA Database could be designed to work for them. It was stated that it was easier to build in functions from the beginning rather than adding them after implementation.

There was discussion concerning the projected cost of \$40,000-\$50,000 of Phase IV. The high cost is the result of the high level of security and encryption that will be needed. Some Board members questioned why PayPal or a similar entity could not be used instead. The main problem is that these entities could not be directly linked into the NCA Database.

Bidding Phase IV was discussed. Barbara reported that three bids were requested for Phase III but only one company responded. Phase IV costs could be spread over two years or possibly more. There was a question as to whether there were query programs already in existence that the NCA could use instead.

The end of Phase III will allow others to now input information (subject to verification) and to print reports. Earlier, Phase III data input and error correction was restricted. Phase III will solve those problems.

Phase IV would have the capability of generating a revenue stream as the NCA Database would be capable of handling online renewals, donations and possibly an online store with NCA logo merchandise. It was agreed that Phase IV needs further study and discussion.

The Board and the TRC discussed an error that was made on a certificate awarded at the Annual Membership meeting. Barbara reported that she had told the owner that the certificate would be replaced when the 2012 certificates were printed. There was a discussion as to the best way to handle the situation. It was agreed that the Awards Chair would also be consulted about the situation.

There was some discussion of the proposed wording for the database disclaimer as to the database content. It was stated that it is not clear to many members and others using the NCA Database that only NCA and AKC-titled dogs or dogs that appear in their pedigrees are listed in the NCA Database. Dogs that are listed with the OFA are not included unless they have a title. This is due to the information supplied to OFA about a particular Newfoundland may or may not be identical to its AKC information. It is hoped that after Phase III is finished that Newfoundlands listed with OFA and who do not have titles may be included in the NCA Database after copies of certificates and AKC registration have been supplied.

At 11:04 p.m., Barbara Finch and Marylou Zimmerman left the meeting.

The Board resumed discussion of the incorrect certificate and its replacement.

Roger Frey moved and Pam Saunders seconded that if an error appears on a Register of Merit, Versatile Newf, Working Achievement, etc. certificate due to an NCA mistake, a replacement will be provided in a timely fashion. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

Fall Face-to-Face Meeting

It was reported that Meredith Reggie had been contacted and she agreed with the proposed date for the fall face-to-face meeting.

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board hold its fall face-to-face meeting on November 4-6, 2011 with the site to be determined at a later date. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

Executive Session

At 11:17 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

At 12:13 a.m., Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

While in executive session, the Board agreed to send the Dogfish Software contract to the NCA attorney for legal review and upon a favorable review, the President may instruct the Treasurer to send a check in the amount of \$13,000.00 to Dogfish Software for work to date.

While in executive session, the Board appointed the following members to serve on an *ad hoc* committee to perform a cost/benefit analysis of Phase IV of the NCA Database: Bill Matlock, Chair; Lynne Anderson-Powell and Kevin Gallagher.

While in executive session, the Board approved the Applicants List dated June 16, 2011.

***Ad hoc* Phase IV Committee**

Kathy McIver moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board appoint an *ad hoc* committee with the purpose of performing a cost/benefit analysis of Phase IV of the NCA Database. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$3,035.27; checking account for 2011 National Specialty: \$14,200.43; savings account: \$45,292.76; invested in CDs: \$104,455.86; and the NCA operations balance total of \$166,984.32 with \$4,550.22 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$579.41 for a total of \$167,563.73.

Mary informed the Board that the 2011 National Specialty financial report was almost ready. She believed that there would be a good update at the August meeting and the final report would be available for the September meeting.

The Board considered the 2012 proposed budget. The Board considered various projected expenditures and ways to trim the expenses. The areas receiving the most scrutiny were the General Education Committee and its advertising expenses and the Technical Resources Committee, the NCA Database and grants for Breeders Education Committee forums and Health & Longevity Committee clinics. The proposed budget was amended to preserve the reserve fund.

Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the 2012 budget as amended. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

The Board thanked Mary for her excellent work in preparing the budget and her clear explanations.

Executive Session

At 12:42 a.m., Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

At 12:46 a.m., Kathy McIver moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

Fort Mandan

The Board considered a donation to the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation. Fort Mandan had experienced significant flooding this spring/summer and the statue of Seaman had to be moved to protect it from damage.

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board donate \$1,000.00 to the Lewis & Clark Fort Mandan Foundation for its emergency relief fund for costs to protect the Seaman statue in response to the recent severe flooding. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

National Animal Interest Alliance

The Board considered a recommendation that a representative from the Breeder Education and Legislation Liaison Committees be sent to the National Animal Interest Alliance conference, Purebred Dogs: The Next Endangered Species? The conference will be held on November 12-13, 2011 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board postpone appointing a representative to attend the NAIA Conference to the August 25, 2011 teleconference. The motion passed unanimously. 1 Absent (MR)

International Breeder Judges

The Board considered the vote of the membership at the May 3, 2011 Annual Membership Meeting to place international Newfoundland breeder judges who are NCA members on the National Specialty Show approved judges list. It was stated that whenever the membership voted on an issue that the Board had ratified each vote, except for one. Verification of judges' credentials was discussed. AKC would have to approve a judge before the judging panel could be approved. AKC also has reciprocity with FCI-approved international judges.

At 1:01 a.m., Pam Rubio left the meeting.

Roger Frey called the question. The motion passed unanimously. 2 Absent (MR, PSR)

Roger Frey moved and Mary Lou Cuddy seconded that the Board direct the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee to add NCA members who are international Newfoundland breeder judges to the current National Specialty Show approved judges list, as approved by the membership at the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting. The motion passed. 6 Yes (LA, SB, MLC, RF, MLP, DT); 3 No (JC, KM, PKR); 1 Abstention (PS); 2 Absent (MR, PSR)

Adjournment

At 1:10 a.m., Pam Saunders moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary