

NCA Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of August 25, 2011
(Approved September 15, 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), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present.

Approval of Minutes

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board approve the July 21, 2011 minutes as amended. The minutes were approved without objection.

Report of the President

Pat Randall, President, reported on a member's request for information about the committee appointment policy. He will respond that the committee appointment policy is being revised and that he does not believe the current policy was compromised in that committees are appointed yearly. He will formulate his response and the Board will have the opportunity to comment.

Pat reported that he had spoken with the NCA attorney, Lisa Davis, regarding the Dogfish Software contract. She had given him a referral but that attorney was not accepting new clients. Other attorneys that were contacted would not be able to review the contract for at least a month. Pat contacted Brian Hodges, an NCA member, who has some expertise in the area and he was very willing to review the contract.

Kathy Mclver moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board request that Brian Hodges review the Dogfish Software Corporation contract for Phase III of the NCA Database and the Board's comments pertaining to the contract. The motion passed unanimously.

Pat thanked the Board for the unanimous consent on the Letter to the Editor he wrote in response to the two Newfoundlands attacking a dog in Connecticut. The letter was well-received by the community. He will forward the report on the Dogfish Software contract when completed and will hope for the same excellent response from the Board.

There was a brief discussion about a motion on the agenda to finish teleconferences by midnight. It was stated that the work needs to get done. Some suggestions were that the Board needs to be more aggressive, some discussions could be held before a meeting by email and a second meeting might be needed to clear the agenda.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Roger Frey, 1st Vice President, reported that he had attended the August 17, 2011 Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) meeting. Clyde Dunphy, CTMB Chair, reported that he had attended the Parent Club Health Conference and met with Dr. Kathryn Muir, a veterinarian who is involved with the sub-aortic stenosis study at North Carolina State University which the NCA and the American Rottweiler Club are sponsoring. There is a proposal to possibly add Newfoundlands to that study.

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 Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the July 21, 2011 minutes and the August 25, 2011 agenda packet.

Mary Lou requested the Board's input on the procedure for counting the NCA Board election ballots since she is a candidate for re-election. The Board discussed the requirements set forth in the NCA *Constitution and Bylaws*, the current policy and its expense versus counting the ballots in-house. It was stated that in years past when the Recording Secretary was a candidate, the Recording Secretary would recuse himself from the counting and would not participate.

Pam Saunders moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the ballot counting for the upcoming NCA Board of Directors election be done in-house with the Recording Secretary not in attendance. The motion passed. 10 Yes (LA, SB, JC, RF, KM, MLP, PKR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 No (MR); 1 Abstention (MLC)

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that general inquiries had been answered but that one inquiry would be addressed in executive session.

Lynne reported that she had not yet received a response from the Newfoundland Club of Florida to the Board's request that the club host the "Meet the Breeds" booth at the AKC/Eukanuba in December. A response is needed by September in order for plans to be made. There was a brief discussion regarding alternatives if the Newfoundland Club of Florida would decline the request.

Lynne reported that the Bear Mountain Newfoundland Club has accepted the Board's request to host the 2011 "Meet the Breeds" at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City. The club has not yet submitted their budget request.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$27,035.71; checking account for 2011 National Specialty: \$13,674.53; savings account: \$45,294.82; invested in CDs: \$104,455.86; and the NCA operations balance total of \$190,460.92 with \$4,550.22 in reserve for "Distinguished Member" expenses. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$579.41 for a total of \$191,040.33.

Mary reported that Amy Lane and Sandee Lovett would be meeting next week to wrap up the 2011 National Specialty financial report.

Mary informed the Board that she and Mary Lou Cuddy, Membership Chair, are processing the membership renewals. The second notice for renewals will go out shortly.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported that due to traveling, she was not prepared to give a lengthy report. She will be attending the AKC Delegates on September 13, 2011 in Newark, New Jersey.

Mary briefly reviewed the proposed change that may be voted on at this upcoming meeting to award a Reserve Best in Show. It was agreed that it was mainly a "feel good" thing although it would serve to recognize a dog that may have been in close contention for Best in Show.

There was some discussion about the proposed change to allow six placements in each group competition. Concern was expressed that at small shows some groups do not have many breeds participating and that it could be possible that almost every dog in that group would be given a placement. It was suggested that a certain number of breeds be in competition in each specific group to allow for the extra two placements.

Mary informed the Board that the first Newfoundland has qualified for the new Coursing Ability (CA) title which is open to all breeds.

Committee Reports

Versatile Newfoundland Committee

The Board briefly discussed the proposed policy for determining Versatile Newfoundland recipients. It was stated that when Phase III of the NCA Database is completed in about six weeks, the Versatile Newfoundland Committee should have the ability to easily generate reports. It was agreed that further discussion will be held when the Technical Resources Committee calls into the teleconference.

Judges Education Committee

It was reported that the Newfoundland temperament article being developed for the AKC judges' newsletter, "The Standard", was in its second draft and was out to the committee for comments.

***Newf Tide* Policy Committee**

The Board considered the request of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee to set the price of a full page color ad in *Newf Tide* at \$260 per page which will include one picture with each additional picture being \$10.

Pam Saunders moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board accept the recommendation of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee that effective September 1, 2011 a full page color ad in *Newf Tide* will be \$260, which includes one picture with each additional picture being \$10. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, SB, JC, MLC, RF, KM, MLP, PKR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 Abstention (MR)

At 9:00 p.m., Barbara Finch, Technical Resources Committee Chair, joined the meeting.

Versatile Newfoundland Committee

The Board considered the suggestions made by the Versatile Newfoundland Committee and the information presented by the Technical Resources Committee. It was stated that the Versatile Newfoundland title is presently the only title that requires a member to submit materials prior to the awarding of the title. As soon as Phase III of the NCA Database is completed, these submissions should no longer be needed.

There was discussion about AKC titles being added to the NCA Database. All titles that the AKC recognizes and includes on their reports will be added to the database. The present delay in Versatile Newfoundlands being identified relates to the processing time involved with working titles being reported to the Working Dog Committee. It can take up to three months to get the verification. Working test chairs have 30 days to submit their reports and there is another 30 days for the Working Dog Committee contact to process those reports and send them to the Technical Resource Committee to be entered in the database. In response to a question, it was stated that submitting working test reports directly to the database has been discussed but that capability has not been included in Phase III.

Pam Rubio moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board approve the use of the Versatile Newfoundland title by NCA members as soon as the title is earned and to accept the Technical Resources Committee's recommended policy as follows:

Effective 09/01/2011, the process for Versatile Newfoundland (VN) candidates will be as follows:

The timeliness of information regarding NCA working titles is the responsibility of the NCA Working Dog Committee; the Technical Resource Committee can only

report results of water and draft tests as they are received from the Working Dog Committee.

The Database committee will provide the Versatile Newfoundland Committee a report one time a month of all Newfoundlands who have qualified for a VN degree according to the database in the past month. Report to reach the VN Chairman no later than the 15th of the following month. Once Phase 3 is completed, the VN Chairman will be instructed how to run her own reports and no more monthly reports will be furnished to the VN committee by the Database committee. The September report, sent to the VN Chairman by October 15th, will include all dogs who have qualified for a VN degree since 01/01/2011, providing the water and draft test reports are made current by the Working Dog Committee.

The Database Committee will provide a list of annual VN recipients one time a year. This report will be sent to the VN Chairman no later than February 28th of the year following the calendar year for which the VN recognition was earned. This report will also be sent to Newf Tide.

The VN Chairman will only issue a congratulatory letter, a patch and a pin to the owner of a dog once that title is listed on the database report as finishing their VN. The complete name of the dog (all titles) should be included in the congratulatory letter. The letter will ask the owner to make any corrections. Reminder: the database does not include any title not confirmed by the AKC or the NCA. The owner of the Newf will be instructed to send the Technical Resource Committee Chairman a copy of any missing title(s), confirmed by the AKC or NCA, so that the title can be entered in the database.

After the February annual list has been received by the VN Chairman, a notice will be put in E-Notes listing the VN dogs and asking that any owner who feels a dog has been omitted to please contact the VN Chairman. This notice may run along with the same notice for ROM Newfs.

The motion passed unanimously.

Health & Longevity Committee

The Board considered a request from the Health & Longevity Committee that the CTMB approve a grant from the NCA Charitable Trust to fund the OFA/CHIC fees for the DNA clinic at the 2012 National Specialty.

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board direct the Charitable Trust Management Board Liaison to present the request from the Health & Longevity Committee for a grant from the NCA Charitable Trust to fund the OFA/CHIC fees for the DNA clinic at the 2012 National to the Charitable Trust Management Board. The motion passed unanimously.

At 9:30 p.m., Robin Seaman, Specialty Show Coordinating Committee Chair, joined the meeting.

Specialty Show Coordinating Committee

Robin informed the Board that the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee had met to discuss the Board's request that the committee automatically add international NCA members who are breeder-judges to the Specialty Show Judges List. The NCA membership had approved procedure with a motion at the 2011 Annual Membership Meeting.

The committee had a policy already in place that addressed the judges list selection and the committee was disappointed that their input had not been requested. The current policy allows NCA members to submit international breeder-judges who are NCA members but the judge must be in the top 15 percent of the vote to be placed on the list.

It was stated that the NCA membership and the majority of the Board had earlier voted that these judges should be automatically placed on the judges list as are breeder judges who live in the United States.

The committee and some Board members had concerns with the verification of the judges' skills and training. It was said that only the AKC and The Kennel Club (Great Britain) have extensive and formal requirements before their judges are licensed.

Kathy McIver moved and John Cornell seconded that based on the recommendation of the Specialty Show Committee, the motion relating to NCA International Member Breeder- Judges being automatically added to the preferred Specialty Show Judges List and adopted by the NCA BOD at their July 21, 2011 meeting, be rescinded. The motion passed. 7 Yes (LA, JC, KM, PKR, MR, PSR, PS); 5 No (SB, MLC, RF, MLP, DT)

Robin informed the Board that the judges for the 2013 National Specialty to be held in Frankenmuth, Michigan are Steve McAdams (Sweepstakes – dogs, Best in Puppy Sweeps, Best in Veteran Sweeps); Carol Bergman (Sweepstakes – bitches); Meredith Reggie (dogs); Dana Cline (bitches); William Shelton (Intersex).

The Board thanked Robin and Barbara for their input.

At 10:00 p.m., Barbara Finch and Robin Seaman left the meeting.

General Education Committee

The Board reviewed the final edit of the "Evaluating Breeders Websites" article as presented by the General Education Committee. The Board thanked the committee and Marylou Zimmerman for an outstanding article.

Pam Saunders moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board approve the final edit of the "Evaluating Breeders' Websites" article from the General Education Committee as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

Publicity Committee

As requested by the NCA Board, Donna Thibault and Lynne Anderson-Powell reported on the preliminary developments of the Publicity Committee. The committee should consist of approximately three members who have training and experience in public relations and/or marketing. The committee would be responsible for placing catalog ads for major shows, assist in the development and design of promotional materials and ads, and would assist with the branding of the NCA name. There was some discussion whether the *AKC Gazette* breed columns would be included in this committee or if they would be a separate committee. The decision was made without objection to table the *AKC Gazette* breed column discussion.

At 10:20 p.m., Donna Zink, Rescue Prevention Committee Chair, joined the meeting.

Rescue Prevention Committee

Donna reviewed a report on the *Newf Tide* coupon program. There is an average of 3 requests per week with seven subscribers attributed to the program. An interesting figure is that the most requests for *Newf Tide* are from states with the highest number of dogs turned in to rescue. Donna informed the Board that information such as this is valuable in determining where resources could be allocated. She is compiling a database with the information gleaned from the program.

Donna estimates that the program will cost approximately \$1500.00 per year and she would ask the Board to make this a standing budget item for the committee. The Board was informed that the committee has received \$4,890.00 since 2006 from donations collected from the renewal notices.

Roger Frey moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the *Newf Tide* coupon program as a permanent program of the Rescue Prevention Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion regarding the development of this report as an article for the AKC Parent Club newsletter and for the AKC Delegate newsletter, *Perspectives*. Using the report for the upcoming *AKC Gazette* breed column was also considered.

Pam Saunders moved and Mary L. Price seconded that Donna Zink and Meredith Reggie develop the *Newf Tide* coupon program report that was presented to the Board as an article for the next *AKC Gazette* breed column. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a brief discussion concerning the charge for the committee given its recent name change from Rescue Education and Awareness Committee.

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board request the Rescue Prevention Committee to develop a revised charge for the committee. The motion passed unanimously.

At 10:41 p.m., Donna Zink left the meeting.

Executive Session

At 10:44 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

At 12:57 a.m., Pam Saunders moved and Steve Britton seconded that the Board come out of executive session. The motion passed unanimously.

While in executive session, the Board took the following actions:

The Board agreed to allow the Breeders Education Committee to advertise for additional committee members on the *NCA Website* and in the *NCA e-notes*.

The Board requested that the Legislative Liaison Committee develop wording for advertising for new members for that committee and to bring that wording back to the Board. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board appointed Lisa Lathrop to the Rescue Prevention Committee.

The Board re-appointed Mary Jane Spackman to the Steering Committee.

The Board appointed the following to the Juniors Committee: Dona Baker, Tara Bertrand, Janet Cain, David Kledzik and Linda Larsen.

The Board approved the Applicants List dated July 21, 2011.

The Board directed Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, to vote as follows for the AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards: Marion Bradshaw, Conformation and Patricia Scully, Companion Events.

Working Dog Committee

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board approve the survey on an advanced draft title as presented by the Working Dog Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

Ice Cream Social at the 2012 National Specialty

After a review of estimated costs, the Board re-affirmed its earlier decision to host the ice cream social at the Welcome Reception at the 2012 National Specialty.

Fall Face-to-Face Meeting

The Board considered a proposal to hold its Fall face-to-face meeting at the Holiday Inn in Rosemont, Illinois.

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board hold its fall face-to-face meeting November 4-6, 2011 at the Holiday Inn in Rosemont, Illinois. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

At 1:06 a.m., Pam Rubio moved and Roger Frey seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary