

NCA Board of Directors
Teleconference and Face-to-Face Meeting
Minutes of April 19 and April 29-May 1, 2012
(Approved May 24, 2012)

Pat Randall, President, called the teleconference meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. Eastern time. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), Steve Britton (SB), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Kathy McIver (KM), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR,) Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary L. Price (MLP) was absent. Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Board-elect member Sandy Gabel was present.

Approval of Minutes

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the minutes of March 22, 2012 as amended. Without objection, the motion passed. 1
Absent (MLP)

Report of the President

Pat Randall, President, reported on a letter he received from the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) regarding their Breeders Advisory & Resource Council. This letter has generated multiple concerns on various email lists. Without objection, the consensus of the Board was to let AKC develop a response. Pat also reported on a letter from a non-member looking for information to replace a Gaines Good Sportsmanship medallion. Since the award no longer exists, it was suggested that she contact Gaines directly with her request.

Pat informed the Board that he had hired Mary Ellen Bittner as parliamentarian for the Annual Membership Meeting. She had served in that capacity at the 2006 National Specialty in Rocky Gap, MD.

Pat stated that he has additional information to add to his report about collaborative meeting software and that he will present it at the upcoming face-to-face meeting.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Roger Frey, 1st Vice President, stated that he had no report at this time.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Pam Saunders, 2nd Vice President, stated that her report would come under committee reports.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the April 19, 2012 agenda and the minutes of the March 22, 2012 meeting. She reminded the Board of the email from Mary Jane Spackman, 2012 National Specialty Chair, regarding difficulties with the host hotel and management. She informed the Board that its meeting at the 2012 National Specialty would be held in the hotel's Board room starting at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 29, 2012.

Mary Lou reported that several discussion items were submitted for the Annual Membership Meeting. There was a conversation of whether the Annual Membership Meeting is an appropriate place to bring up breed health concerns or whether discussion items should be limited to NCA policy or Board business. Some Board members felt that it was a way to bring attention to emerging health concerns and that those concerns would be included in the minutes of the meeting. There was discussion of the time limit a member may speak to a motion during the Annual Membership Meeting. The ten-minute limitation per speaker was briefly discussed. It was stated that a special rule of order could be adopted to make it less. The Board was reminded that a time limit has not been a problem in the past and it was then agreed to leave the ten-minute limit in place.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Corresponding Secretary, reported that she had answered all general inquiries. She reported that after some initial difficulty, she did receive the April 2012 AKC Titles file from AKC and it was forwarded to the appropriate committees. Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported that the AKC is working on their computer system and there may be some glitches.

She reported that a complaint that had been forwarded to the Arbitration Committee.

Lynne informed the Board of a request from an author to quote portions of the *Newfoundland Breed Standard* in a new book. After discussion, the Board requested that it be allowed to review the chapter before giving the author publishing permission. The Board has an obligation to approve the publication use of the *Breed Standard* and that full credit and appropriate citation be given to the NCA as the copyright holder.

Report of the Treasurer

In the absence of Mary L. Price, Treasurer, the Treasurer's report was postponed until the face-to-face meeting.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported on multiple AKC communications. A letter from Dennis Sprung, AKC President, called attention to the changes made in the 2012 championship point schedule which take effect on May 16, 2012. There are 15 divisions

instead of 13 and the point schedule is now figured on the previous year's statistics with data from independent and designated specialties deleted.

Mary reported that the AKC Delegates meeting in December 2012 will be held three days before the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show. The show will be December 15-16, 2012 and will be an open show with championship and Grand Championship points awarded. The Top 25 in each breed will be invited along with Bred-by Exhibitor champions.

Mary informed the Board that the AKC Chairman, Alan Kalter, recently gave a very upbeat report outlining new AKC initiatives.

Mary reported that the AKC has revised its Care and Conditions policy and she will bring hard copies to the face-to-face meeting.

Executive Session

At 8:58 p.m., Meredith Reggie moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (MLP)

At 9:15 p.m., Pam Rubio left the meeting.

At 9:30 p.m., Kathy McIver moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 2 Absent (MLP, PSR)

While in executive session, the Board discussed several committee vacancies and the AKC Lifetime Achievement Award nominations.

Committee Reports

***ad hoc* NCA Pins Committee**

Steve Britton, *ad hoc* NCA Pin Committee Chair, reported on a company and costs for producing the pins. It was suggested that the committee explore other options and companies. Steve informed the Board that he hopes to have samples for the Board to consider by the face-to-face meeting.

Adjournment

Pam Saunders moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that when this meeting adjourns, it stands adjourned to meet at 3 p.m., Sunday, April 29, 2012, at the Hotel Carlisle and Embers Convention Center in Carlisle, PA. Without objection, the motion passed. 2 Absent (MLP, PSR)

As there was no further business brought before the board at this time, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

**NCA Board of Directors
Face-to-Face Meeting
Hotel Carlisle and the Embers Convention Center
Carlisle, Pennsylvania
April 29, 2012**

At 3:11 p.m., Pat Randall, President, called the meeting to order. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), Steve Britton (SB), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR,) Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Board-elect member Sandy Gabel was present. Member guests were Clyde Dunphy, Marylou Zimmerman, Bill Matlock, Barbara Finch, Kevin Gallagher and Deborah Bridge.

Pat Randall, President, reminded the Board and guests that the officers' reports and the *ad hoc* NCA Pin Committee report were given at the April 19, 2012 teleconference.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$23,303.47; checking account for 2013 National Specialty: \$10,488.30; savings account: \$45,308.04; and invested in CDs: \$105,706.84. The Juniors Fund account balance is \$1,000.00. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$292.19. The NCA operations balance total is \$186,098.84.

NCA Board Meeting Schedule

The Board discussed the meeting schedule. It was agreed that the Board would invite the *ad hoc* NCA Database Phase IV Review Committee to present their report at 5:00 p.m. and then the Board would work through dinner and the evening. The Board will reconvene Monday, April 30, 2012 at 5:00 p.m., or after the conclusion of the regional specialty and would work through dinner and the evening. On Tuesday, May 1, 2012, the Board will convene at 8:30 a.m. and work until 1:00 p.m. The Welcome Reception and Ice Cream Social will start at 6:00 with Board members scooping the ice cream and the Annual Membership Meeting will start at 8:00 p.m. The Annual Meeting of the Board will follow the Annual Membership Meeting.

Committee Reports

***ad hoc* NCA Pins Committee**

Steve Britton, *ad hoc* NCA Pin Committee Chair, reported that the committee was working on getting samples from several companies, some of which had not arrived in time for this meeting. Prices are ranging from \$1.50 to \$5.00 per pin in quantities of 2,000. Steve informed the Board that he was waiting for additional information from the

other committee member. It was agreed to postpone further discussion until later in the meeting.

Publicity Committee

The Board considered an article written by the Publicity Committee for use by the Regional Club Committee to increase NCA membership. There was discussion regarding some information contained in the article that was not correct.

Executive Session

At 3:35 p.m., Meredith Reggie moved and Roger Frey seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

At 4:09 p.m., Meredith Reggie moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

Publicity Committee

The Board continued discussion of the article and the need for the Board to give clearer instructions to committees. It was also suggested that job descriptions could be improved. It was suggested that committees submit preliminary drafts to the Board to be sure that both the committee and the Board were in agreement. It was felt that reviewing and working with a draft would be a more efficient use of time.

The Board considered the committee's wording for the ad in *Canine Review*. It was pointed out that the ad was limited to 500 characters, not 500 words. Without objection, the Board sent a request to the committee for revisions to the ad.

It was reported that the 2012 National Specialty Show Committee was very pleased with the help from the Publicity Committee in advertising the show.

***Newf Tide* Policy Committee**

The Board considered the proposed advertising rates for member vendors to advertise in *Newf Tide*. It was reported that the changes will equalize the percentages between the members' prices and the member vendor's prices.

There was a question as to whether member vendors could advertise on the inside covers. It was suggested that \$375 should be charged. It was suggested that the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee should consider this. The changes will bring in full color ads from our member vendors.

Steve Britton moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board approve the request of the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee to adopt the following *Newf Tide* advertising rates:
Member Rates: Inside Covers: \$300; Full page in color: \$260; Full page in black/white:

\$160; Half page: \$ 90; Quarter page: \$ 50; **Member Vendor Rates:** Full page in color: \$325; Full page in black/white: \$200; Half page: \$112.50; Quarter page: \$ 62.50; and, that the question involving member-vendor advertisements and the inside cover of *Newf Tide*, be referred to the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee for recommendation. Without objection, the motion passed.

Working Dog Committee

The Board considered the request from the Working Dog Committee (WDC) to remove the mention of application fees from the Working Test Regulations.

Roger Frey moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the working test application fee be removed from the Working Test Regulations. Without objection, the motion passed.

The Board discussed the Water Rescue Dog Excellent handbook that was sent to the Board under separate cover. Some Board members had not received the handbook.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board table the discussion of the Water Rescue Dog Excellent handbook until a later meeting. Without objection, the motion passed.

There was a brief discussion of the WDC's newsletter, *The Judges Standard*. It was stated that the Board should have copies of the newsletter before starting discussion. An attempt will be made to have copies available later in the meeting. It was stated that it was important to consider some issues contained in the newsletter before the start of water test season.

Electronic Publications Policy Committee

It was reported that the information from the committee that was included in the agenda packet was for the Board's information and required no action. The report included information about the number of hits on various pages of the NCA Website.

General Education Committee

The Board discussed the ads that had been used in the past for Dog Fancy and the annual Dogs USA. There was consideration of sending the ads to the Publicity Committee for review and to ask for its opinion whether the ads are worthwhile or outdated.

Donna Thibault moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board send the Dog Fancy and Dogs USA ads to the Publicity Committee for review and analysis.

There was further discussion concerning the ads. It was stated that the Publicity Committee should be advising the Board where and when to advertise to get the most for the NCA's money as these ads are expensive. Formerly the ads included ordering

instructions for the \$5.00 information packets that were sent before information was published on the *NCA Website*.

The motion and second that the Board send the Dog Fancy and Dogs USA ads to the Publicity Committee for review and analysis was withdrawn.

Donna Thibault moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the NCA not renew the print advertising in any of the Bowtie Publications. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, SB, JC, MLC, KM, MLP, PKR, MR, PKR, PS, DT); 1 No (RF)

***ad hoc* NCA Database Phase IV Committee**

Bill Matlock, *ad hoc* NCA Database Phase IV Committee Chair, presented the committee's report on Phase IV's proposed features, functions and benefit analysis. The committee had surveyed a random sampling of other parent clubs to determine the role(s) that databases play in their club's organization and functions. The range included clubs who did not have a working database to clubs whose database(s) were an integral part of the club. Budgets ranged from \$500 to \$9,000 a year.

The committee discussed having a technology master plan which articulates major projects. Besides the financial considerations, the committee reminded the Board that it is not always about the money. The NCA is a volunteer organization which relies heavily on those volunteers. Operational improvements would enhance the ability of the club to grow; save volunteers' time and efforts; improve membership value; improve breed education and would benefit such committees as Working Dog, Rescue, Membership and publications.

Phase IV is being envisioned to integrate members and members' information along with the dog data. This would include membership applications and renewals, generation of *Newf Tide* mailing labels and other such queries, committee assignments, tracking and recording of working tests and working test judges and other NCA administrative items. The major portion of the anticipated costs of Phase IV is due to the development of the security needed to protect members' information.

The committee reviewed the possibility of "off the shelf" programs that could be used or modified for the NCA's needs versus built-to-order custom programs and other options. However, it may be difficult to find such programs that can be modified to integrate into the NCA Database as it is being envisioned.

It was stated that using the NCA Database for the 2013-2014 membership renewal cycle was not likely. It was also stated that e-commerce is growing rapidly and that data security is paramount for membership applications and renewals and for *Newf Novelties* if it were to be revived.

The committee concluded its report with a summary that the Board needs a better definition of Phase IV before proceeding. The NCA's database is considered to be in the

middle of the technological curve compared to other parent clubs. The NCA costs may be higher. No other parent club has an integrated database such as is being discussed. All parent clubs are confronted with the same technological questions. It was recommended that “off the shelf” solutions be investigated. There is a definite movement to social media for information, breed education, fighting puppy mills and animal rights groups. It was recommended that the functions of this ad hoc committee be made a permanent sub-committee of the Technical Resources Committee and become standard business practice for the NCA.

The Board thanked the committee for its excellent report and hard work.

The Board agreed to postpone further discussion until after the Technical Resources Committee’s report later in the meeting.

Juniors Committee

The Board was reminded that they are requested to attend the Junior’s pizza party Wednesday evening to meet the Juniors and observe their projects.

Electronic Publications Policy Committee

The Board reviewed the correspondence from Lisa Davis, NCA attorney, regarding the liability of the NCA in regards to statements made by members on NCA social media sites. The NCA is not responsible for content posted by members and is not liable for statements made by members but Ms. Davis agreed that a disclaimer would be appropriate.

There was some discussion concerning the fact that some of the legal questions that have arisen in recent years are not necessarily in the areas of expertise of this law firm. It was reported that an NCA member will be sending some input on locating another law firm whose areas of expertise may be more appropriate for the NCA.

It was agreed that the disclaimer will appear in the footer of every email and on all electronic lists. There will also be a link from the electronic lists to the *NCA Website* and the Electronic Publications Policy Committee’s policy/guidelines on communications.

Pam Saunders moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board instruct the Electronic Publications Policy Committee to post the disclaimers regarding Newfoundland Club of America, Inc. on the electronic lists. Without objection, the motion passed.

Executive Session

At 6:04 p.m., Roger Frey moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

At 7:05 p.m., John Cornell moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

While in executive session, the Board awarded the Member of the Year Award to Deborah Bridge.

While in executive session, the Board approved the Applicants List dated March 22, 2012.

While in executive session, the Board approved the Applicants List dated April 19, 2012 and April 29-May 1, 2012.

While in executive session, the Board nominated the following for the AKC Lifetime Achievement Awards: Carl Liepmann, Conformation, and Suzanne Hemminger, Companion Events.

At 7:06 p.m., the Board recessed for dinner.

At 7:52 p.m., the Board reconvened.

Collaborative Meeting Software

The Board reviewed the information gathered by Pat Randall, Steve Britton and Lynne Anderson-Powell regarding collaborative meeting software. It was thought that such software may help the Board with more efficient meetings. It was reported that there was a wide range of pricing. Most software is developed for group collaborative meetings but some do have free teleconferencing available. It was stated that Board meetings are open to all members but it is difficult to attend on a teleconference due to phone line degradation, executive sessions and billing concerns. Several companies and their strengths and weaknesses were reviewed. It was suggested that the Board test the startmeeting.com software at the next teleconference. It was also suggested that a few members of the Board have a trial meeting to determine ease of use for all members of the Board. There was a brief discussion of the sub-accounts for committee use that are set up on the Accuconference site.

Cyber-Bullying Position Statement

The Board reviewed the proposed statement on cyber-bullying. The statement was developed in response to complaints of members and non-members being bullied and black-balled and the inflammatory statements made on some of the NCA social media sites.

John Cornell moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board approve the following cyber-bullying position statement as presented and that it be posted in every *Newf Tide* issue, the *NCA Website* and the *NCA e-notes* and any other appropriate social networks.

Your NCA Board of Directors recognizes the value and prevalence of social networking systems, such as Facebook®, email lists, and blogs. All too frequently, however, the rise of this entirely new class of communication has been accompanied by what has come to be viewed as cyber-bullying. Cyber-bullies post negative comments and half or fabricated truths, often in a sarcastic manner, about individuals who cannot defend themselves.

Members of the Newfoundland Club of America should consider social networking communication as public and, as such, understand that their comments reflect on themselves and the NCA. Members should consider carefully what and how they write and are encouraged to stress positive aspects of education rather than negative or sarcastic comments about owners, breeders, and/or Newfoundland fanciers.

Without objection, the motion passed.

NCA Policy Manual

Pam Saunders, 2nd Vice President, reviewed the lack of response from those Board members who had agreed to review the changes in the formatting and clarifications of the *NCA Policy Manual*. It was agreed that those Board members will submit their comments within three weeks and in time for the next Board meeting.

Adjournment

Donna Thibault moved and John Cornell seconded that when this meeting adjourns, it stands adjourned to meet at 5 p.m., Monday, April 30, 2012, at the Hotel Carlisle and Embers Convention Center in Carlisle, PA. Without objection, the motion passed.

As there was no further business brought before the board at this time and without objection, the meeting was declared adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

NCA Face-to-Face Meeting, continued April 30, 2012

At 6:18 p.m., Pat Randall, President, called the meeting to order. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), Steve Britton (SB), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR,) Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Board-elect member Sandy Gabel was present. Member guest Clyde Dunphy was present.

At 6:18 p.m., the Board recessed for a meeting of the Charitable Trust.

At 7:56 p.m., the Board reconvened.

Unfinished Business

Recording and Posting of Board Teleconferences

Lynne Anderson-Powell apologized for the delay in her report. The Board reviewed the need to enable members to attend or have access to Board meetings or the recordings of the meetings. It was reported that using some of the new collaborative meeting software would make it possible for members to attend the meetings in real time and would eliminate the need for the recordings.

New Business

Recognizing Newfoundlands Reaching Their 13th Birthday

Kathy McIver moved and Roger Frey seconded that Newfoundlands who have reached their 13th birthday should be recognized by the NCA.

The Board considered a letter from Ingrid Lyden, Awards Committee Chair, asking that this be separated from the Oldest Living Newfoundland Award. It was stated that the motion did not necessarily mean that a certificate would be awarded and just a listing in *Newf Tide* or *NCA e-notes* would be sufficient. Kathy McIver volunteered to compile names of the Newfoundlands reaching their 13th birthday and submit it to *NCA e-notes* for publication.

Kathy McIver moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the motion be amended to have a birthday box in the *NCA e-notes* where NCA members may announce their dogs turning 13 years or older. The announcement will include the registered and “call” names. Without objection, the motion passed.

Finance/Project Advisory Committee

The Board considered a recommendation that a Finance/Project Advisory Committee be established to assist the Board and the NCA Treasurer. The Board reviewed the history and the job description of the previous Finance Committee which was discharged a few years ago. It was stated that the NCA has grown larger since then and that long-term supervision of contracts and projects is taking more of the Board’s time. It was also stated that, at times, the previous Finance Committee’s duties increased the Treasurer’s workload. It was stated that this committee should function independently from the Treasurer and should act more as a comptroller with operational oversight. It was suggested to re-appoint the *ad hoc* NCA Database Phase IV Committee to develop some recommendations for the Board to consider.

Pam Saunders moved and Mary L. Price seconded that the Board appoint 3-5 members to an *ad hoc* Financial and Oversight Development Committee to develop recommendations for the Board to consider. Without objection, the motion passed.

Crufts Certificates

The Board considered the Crufts certificates that are given to the top winners of the National Specialty and the concern over Crufts' new policy of veterinary exams administered to some breed winners at Crufts' last show. It was stated that this is a result of actions by the animal rights groups and the NCA should not deny its members a chance to compete. Members also have the right not to attend. It was agreed to let AKC speak for the parent clubs. Dennis Sprung, AKC President, is on record that veterinary exams, such as is done at Crufts, will never be sanctioned by the AKC. It was agreed that the NCA will take no action on this.

"To-Do" List

The Board discussed the informal "To-Do" list that tracks Board and committee items. There was concern expressed that some items have never been addressed and are just being carried along. It was suggested that all items be included under unfinished business on each agenda.

Meredith Reggie moved and Steve Britton seconded that the Board's "To Do List" be published under unfinished business. Without objection, the motion passed.

Steering Committee Name Change

The Board considered a suggestion to change the name of the Steering Committee to the Long Range Planning Committee to more accurately reflect its mission.

Meredith Reggie moved that the name of the Steering Committee be changed to the Long Range Planning Committee to more accurately reflect its mission. The motion was not considered as it did not receive a second.

Committee Policies

The Board considered a request to review the current committee policies. It was said that while the policies are often well-intentioned, occasionally they have caused problems with implementation. There are complications when a committee sees committee applicants and votes to recommend them for appointment and the Board appoints a different person. There was a discussion regarding committee appointments and how to find the best member for the position. The development of a committee member application form was brought forward. The Board discussed the information that could be developed from such an application.

Meredith Reggie moved and Donna Thibault seconded that Pam Saunders develop a committee member application form with Kathy McIver's assistance. Without objection, the motion passed.

AKC Investigation of Non-Member Breeder

The Board considered some information brought forward by some NCA members regarding a non-member breeder located in Wisconsin. It was stated that there are grave concerns with the health and soundness of the dogs and the reliability of the pedigrees. Additional information regarding this situation is being developed and organized. There was a discussion regarding what information AKC would require to initiate an investigation and who should submit that information.

Steve Britton moved and Pam Saunders seconded that, as the result of information brought to the Board, the Board direct the Corresponding Secretary to contact AKC to determine what information AKC would require to initiate an investigation of a non-member who is producing Newfoundlands. Without objection, the motion passed.

Health & Longevity Committee

The Board considered a change to the NCA Health Position Statement that was approved at the March 22, 2012 meeting. It was requested that "sub-aortic stenosis" be replaced with "cardiac conditions" so as to encompass all cardiac conditions.

Meredith Reggie moved and Pam Saunders seconded that the Board approve changing "sub-aortic stenosis" to "cardiac conditions" in the Health & Longevity statement approved at the March 22, 2012 meeting. Without objection, the motion passed.

Listing on Titles on NCA Certificates and Rosettes

The Board considered a request to revisit policy regarding the listing of titles on NCA certificates and rosettes. Currently, NCA members can request that non-AKC and NCA titles be listed on working test award certificates and rosettes. Policy for *Newf Tide* and the *Annual of Titlists* states that only AKC, CKC and NCA titles can be listed in those publications. The issue is the verification of non-AKC, CKC and NCA titles. It was agreed to postpone further discussion until the May 24, 2012 meeting.

Working Dog Committee

In response to a Board member's concerns, the Board briefly considered the latest edition of *The Judge's Corner*, a newsletter for working test judges by the Working Dog Committee. Several areas of concern were identified and briefly discussed. It was suggested that areas of concern be highlighted and brought to the Board's next meeting on May 24, 2012.

AKC Care & Conditions Policy Changes

Mary W. Price distributed copies of the revised AKC Care & Conditions Policy. The copies were for the Board's information and no action was needed.

AKC Meet the Breeds

It was reported that the AKC Meet the Breeds will be October 20-21, 2012 at the Jacob Javits Center in New York City. The deadline to file the appropriate paperwork is August 1, 2012. There will also be a Meet the Breeds at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship show in December in Florida. It was recommended that the coordinating regional clubs keep close tabs on the paperwork as there was an issue with the previous Meet the Breeds in Florida with the AKC not being prepared for the NCA to participate with a Newfoundland booth.

Working Dog Committee

There was a brief return to the discussion of concerns with items in *The Judges Corner*. It was stated that any changes to the water test regulations will have to wait as the water test season has started and some Board members have not seen the newsletter. The topic will be placed on the agenda for the May 24, 2012 teleconference.

ad hoc NCA Pins Committee

The Board considered additional information that was provided by the committee regarding the pins from another company. There was a discussion that when the idea for pins was first raised it was for a lapel pin and has now evolved into "trading pins" and should there be two styles of pins. There was consideration of the process to get pins to the current members after the dues renewals are in. New members would be given the pins in their welcome packet. It was agreed to table discussion to later in the meeting.

Adjournment

Pam Saunders moved and Donna Thibault seconded that when this meeting adjourns, it stands adjourned to meet at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at the Hotel Carlisle and Embers Convention Center in Carlisle, PA. Without objection, the motion passed.

As there was no further business brought before the board at this time and without objection, the meeting was declared adjourned at 11:11 p.m.

NCA Face-to-Face Meeting, continued May 1, 2012

At 9:55 a.m., Pat Randall, President, called the meeting to order. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), Steve Britton (SB), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Kathy McIver (KM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat

Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR,) Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price (MWP), AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Board-elect member Sandy Gabel was present. Member guests were Marylou Zimmerman, Bill Matlock, Barbara Finch and Deborah Bridge.

Executive Session

At 9:56 a.m., Donna Thibault moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

At 11:10 a.m., Donna Thibault and Kathy McIver seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

While in executive session, the Board reviewed committee appointments. Committee appointments will be finalized at the May 24, 2012 teleconference.

Technical Resources Committee

Barbara Finch, Technical Resources (TRC) Committee, thanked her committee for all their efforts and hard work on the NCA Database. Barbara reported that Dogfish Software is in the process of completing Phase III which will enable the committee to more easily and safely update and correct the data. This should be completed by the end of May 2012. It was stated that the NCA database has “good bones” but security holes exist and Phase III will take care of most of the problems.

Barbara shared the good news with the Board that four boxes of material have been received from the former Database Chair. These boxes should include the missing working test information that has not been available for entering into the database. Barbara stated that all the materials would be scanned as .pdf files and saved to the database for storage and the hard copies will go to Mary Jane Spackman for the historical records.

Barbara reported that the committee is considering as a new project the saving and storage of committee data. The committee will do research on the back-up and storage of committee data. The committee will come back to the Board with recommendations.

Pam Saunders moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board permit the Technical Resources Committee to research companies and costs for the storage of committee records. Without objection, the motion passed.

It was said that a record retention policy will need to be developed.

Barbara thanked the ad hoc NCA Database Phase IV Review Committee for their information. The TRC needs to contact each NCA committee to determine their wants and needs and the committee would like the Board's approval.

Meredith Reggie moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board permit the Technical Resources Committee to contact each NCA committee to determine each individual committee's needs in relation to Phase IV of the NCA Database. The Committee Liaison, Regional Club Liaison and the Regional Club Committee will be included in the discussions.

During the discussion of developing a list of needs, the Board was reminded that Phase IV may not be able to accommodate everything at once. It was suggested that common needs be addressed first and then the database can be built out with more specific items at a later time.

There was a discussion about the "off the shelf" software and Dogfish custom software. It was reported that all options are on the table and are dependent on the needs of the NCA. Phase IV will be put out to bid. In response to a question, a ballpark timeline is not possible yet as all the tasks have not been identified.

The committee requested that the Board send a strong message to all the committees that the TRC will be calling and the committees need to develop a list of their needs and wants and respond promptly to the committee. It was suggested that Pam Rubio as Regional Club Liaison, Regional Clubs Committee, the regional clubs and secretaries for working tests be contacted as the database could be used to help assemble working test catalogs among other things.

Without objection, the motion that the Board permit the Technical Resources Committee to contact each NCA committee to determine each individual committee's needs in relation to Phase IV of the NCA Database passed.

As a side note, the committee encouraged the Working Dog Committee to send hard copies of AKC registrations or certified pedigrees to the TRC. Also, at this time, dogs with only OFA certifications and no titles are not listed in the database due to possible inaccuracies in the dog's information on the OFA application.

There was a discussion about verification of information. The TRC has considered listing dogs with only OFA certifications upon receipt of a copy of the dog's AKC registration or certified pedigree. This information regarding adding dogs should be on the opening page of the database. Verification using AKC files and the AKC Stud Book and ways of generating additional information on siblings was discussed. The TRC is considering contacting AKC regarding a custom report on dogs that pre-date the information gathered in Flip Young's original database.

The TRC would like to add additional committee members or volunteers to help enter data. The committee will come back with recommendations.

There was a discussion related to an earlier discussion regarding titles on NCA certificates and rosettes. Since titles need to be verifiable, only AKC and NCA titles are used in the database. This is policy as set by the Board. Phase IV has a notes field

where other titles and accomplishments could be listed upon receipt of proof by the TRC. There was some discussion about the Canadian titles. The Board and TRC were reminded that the Versatile Newfoundland requirements state either AKC or CKC obedience titles are acceptable, so CKC titles have to be included. Owners must submit a copy of the CKC title for it to be listed.

Barbara reported that the database correctly reported the new Versatile Newfoundland and Register of Merit dogs this year. The TRC requested that the Board approve a change in that the Versatile Newfoundland Committee report to TRC or the Awards Committee as a subcommittee in charge of certificates and rosettes. The TRC sent the notification letter to the recipients.

Meredith Reggie moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Versatile Newfoundland Committee report to the Technical Resources Committee as a subcommittee and will be responsible for notification letters, rosettes and certificates.

There was discussion of sending all the responsibility for the Versatile Newfoundland and Register of Merit notification letter, rosettes and certificate to the Recognition Committee.

Without objection, the motion was withdrawn.

Meredith Reggie moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the duties of the present Versatile Newfoundland Committee for identification and notification of new Versatile Newfoundland titles will be assumed by the Technical Resource Committee.

Some Board members felt that the Versatile Newfoundland Committee Chairs should be contacted about the change in the committee's charge. There is no rush to pass these changes at this meeting.

Steve Britton moved and Roger Frey seconded that the motion regarding the Technical Resources Committee assuming some duties presently performed by the Versatile Newfoundland Committee, be postponed indefinitely. Without objection, the motion passed.

The Technical Resources Committee were advised by the board that if and when they wished to have its proposal regarding the consolidation of duties presented again, it could be renewed at any future Board of Director's meeting.

It was stated that when Phase III is completed, NCA awards that are earned by the compilation of titles will be tabulated by the Technical Resources Committee. These awards include but are not limited to: Versatile Newfoundland, Register of Merit, Working Achievement and TOD/TODD.

The Board thanked the Technical Resources Committee for all their hard work and their comprehensive report.

Executive Session

At 12:52 p.m., Donna Thibault moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

At 1:15 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

While in executive session, the Board considered minimum requirements for Working Dog Committee applicants.

Pam Rubio moved and Kathy McIver seconded that the Working Dog Committee propose suggested minimum criteria for Working Dog Committee applicants by the June 21, 2012 Board meeting. Without objection, the motion passed.

Adjournment

At 1:29 p.m., Pam Saunders moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Without objection, the motion passed.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary