

NCA Board of Directors  
Teleconference Meeting  
Minutes of September 19, 2013  
(Approved November 1, 2013)

Pam Saunders, President, called the meeting to order at 8:04 p.m. Eastern time. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Sandy Gabel (SG), Steve McAdams (SM), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Rubio (PR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). David Helming, AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present.

### **Report of the AKC Delegate**

David Helming, AKC Delegate-elect, reported that he attended the September 10, 2013 Delegates Meeting in Newark, New Jersey. He brought the following items to the Board's attention:

- Alan Kalter (AKC Board Chairman) reported on a new AKC program coming out in the media to promote purebred dogs and responsible breeders. He indicated that there will be a major emphasis on this initiative to counteract the millions of dollars being spent by animal rights groups against purebred dogs/breeders. He stated that this program will use all types of media to get the word out and will be targeted to families with children from ages 8 – 12, empty nesters and federal and local legislators.
- Dennis Sprung (AKC President & CEO) thanked the member clubs for their support of the AKC Humane Fund and described some of the annual fundraisers used to generate resources for the fund. He indicated that funds are available to clubs that have rescue activities – clubs need to apply for an AKC Humane Rescue Grant if they are interested.
- Peter Farnsworth (AKC Chief Financial Officer) reported on the trends of the 2013 AKC finances August year-to-date compared to the same period in 2012 with a series of graphs. He indicated that Core Revenues were up \$2 Million, Operating Expenses were down \$2.2 Million and Investment Gains were up \$1.6 Million. These 3 factors resulted in Net Income being up \$5.8 Million year-to-date over 2012. He did state that Registrations were down 4% but this was less than the anticipated 7%. Overall he felt the AKC's current financial status was positive and moving in the right direction.
- The elections to the Delegate Committees were completed.
- The Delegate Body approved an amendment to Chapter 4, Section 2, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Approval of Judges' Panels and Premium Lists which eliminates the different time frames for sending premium lists out.
- The Secretary read proposed changes to Chapter 3, Section 22, of the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Dog Show Classifications which will provide for a Bred By Exhibitor Class for each sex of each Miscellaneous Class breed consistent with the requirements as defined in section 8. This will be voted upon at the December meeting.

- Tom Sharp, AKC CAR CEO, reported that, since CAR's founding in 1995, 5 million pets have been enrolled and 400,000 happy reunions have occurred between pets and their owners. He indicated that 2013 revenues are up 10%. He announced that CAR has been re-named to "AKC Reunite – The way home for lost pets".
- Pat Laurens updated the Delegate Body on the joint effort between AKC Reunite and the Delegate committee working on AKC Disaster Relief Trailers and a formal presentation followed. The AKC, AKC Reunite and AKC clubs are coming together to raise funds to donate AKC Pet Disaster Relief trailers to emergency management organizations. Each trailer costs about \$22,000. The trailers are stocked with essential nonperishable necessities to create a safe temporary home-base for animals displaced because of a disaster. AKC clubs are encouraged to contact their emergency management group to determine if a trailer is needed in their area and, if so, to register the group with AKC Reunite and start raising funds – clubs are encouraged to partner with other clubs in their area. If a club donates \$ 1,000 or more, the Club's logo will appear on a trailer.
- Sue Goldberg requested that the September 2014 Delegate meeting, presently scheduled for Sunday - Monday, be rescheduled to Monday-Tuesday so Delegates can participate in the nearby Westchester Kennel Club show held on that Sunday.
- Barbara Mann requested that the AKC Board re-consider cancelling the AKC program which gives advice on "How to train your Dog" over the phone.
- A Delegate requested the AKC Board reconsider having the AKC Invitational show televised as it has in the past along with the live streaming video presentation. Mr. Sprung indicated that the number of Streaming Video viewers far exceeds the number the TV viewers. He advised that this final decision was made by Proctor & Gamble, the parent company of Eukanuba.
- The next Delegate meeting will be December 13, 2013 in Orlando, Florida.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the August 15, 2013 meeting.

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the August 15, 2013 Board meeting as amended. Without objection, the motion passed.

### **Report of the President**

Pam Saunders, President, reviewed the Nominating Committee's submitted slate with the Board. It was reported that at the time that the slate was due, the committee secured five candidates. The notice was published with the five candidates in order to comply with the deadline stated in the Bylaws. She thanked Board members for their timely comments and vote to resolve this matter.

### **Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Pat Randall, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, informed the Board that he had no Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) report at this time as the CTMB had not met.

He reported that the changes being made to allow committees to meet using StartMeeting™ and Wiggio™ were close to completion. These changes will result in significant savings for the NCA.

### **Report of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

Lynne Anderson-Powell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, informed the Board that the Breeder Education and Health & Longevity Committees have been added to the agenda and the Database Operations Committee and the Recognition Committee will call in during this meeting.

### **Report of the Recording Secretary**

Mary Lou Cuddy, NCA Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the minutes of the August 15, 2013 meeting and the agenda packet for the September 19, 2013 meeting. She also reported the results of the last applicants' vote.

She asked the Board to begin to consider the upcoming NCA election process and the process the Board would like to use.

She also reported that a grievance had been filed.

### **Report of the Corresponding Secretary**

Pam Rubio, Corresponding Secretary, reported that correspondence was forwarded to the appropriate committees. She forwarded to Mary Jane Spackman, NCA Historian, correspondence from an antiques dealer who offered to give a vintage Christmas card signed by Harold MacPherson to the NCA. She also shared with the Board correspondence regarding social media and the President's message in *Newf Tide*.

### **Report of the Treasurer**

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$21,370.75; checking account for 2013 National Specialty: \$31,695.55; savings account: \$98,160.72 and invested in CDs: \$96,543.02. The Juniors Fund account balance is \$2,573.14. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$6,253.74 for a total of \$256,596.92 for NCA operations.

Mary reported that the preliminary report from the 2013 NCA National Specialty show will be ready soon. She is waiting for two more bills to be submitted.

Mary informed the Board that Sue Miller, “Distinguished Member” Committee Chair, received an inquiry from The Kennel Club (England) art exhibition concerning the availability of posters or note cards created when the “Distinguished Member of the Humane Society” was displayed in the United States. The Board discussed the quantities of posters and note cards remaining and the least expensive way to deliver those items to England. It was suggested that since Roger Frey would be traveling to Europe for a judging assignment, that he could transport the items and delivery would be arranged from there.

Mary L. Price moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board authorize Sue Miller, Chair of the “Distinguished Member” committee, to provide 20 posters and 20 packets of notecards to The Kennel Club for sale during the Newfoundland exhibition at The Kennel Club’s Art Gallery. Without objection, the motion passed.

### **Committee Reports**

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Committee Liaison, reported to the Board that she was asking all committees for a minimum of quarterly updates. The Board agreed that it would be helpful in monitoring committee activity.

### **Steering Committee**

The Board considered a proposal from the Steering Committee to develop a poll regarding NCA membership.

Roger Frey moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board approve the proposal from the Steering Committee to run a single topic marketing poll on NCA membership on the NCA Facebook page, the *NCA Website* and in the *NCA e-notes*. The committee will submit the final poll format to the Board for approval before the poll is launched. Without objection, the motion passed.

### **Electronic Publications Committee**

The Board considered a proposal from the Electronic Publications Committee to develop a video contest, similar to the annual photo contest.

By unanimous consent, the Board approved the development by the Electronic Publications Committee of criteria for a video contest.

### **Specialty Show Coordinating Committee**

The Board considered the proposed International NCA Breeder Judges form as presented by the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee. It was stated that the committee will advertise that this form is available.

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve, as amended, the International NCA breeder judges' form submitted by the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee. Without objection, the motion passed.

At 9:00 p.m., Joan Locker-Thuring, Recognition Committee Chair, and Deb Bridge, Database Operations Chair, joined the meeting.

### **Database Operations and Recognition Committee**

Deb Bridge informed the Board that data entry is current. The committee is working on the missing records from 1997-2005. She reported that all AKC titles from 1980 to present have been entered.

The Database Operations Committee requested guidance on the criteria of health testing results and the level of expertise of the veterinarians performing the tests.

By unanimous consent, the Board requested that the Health & Longevity and Breeder Education Committees develop a list of health tests and the level of the evaluator's expertise on all health tests results entered into the NCA Database.

It was agreed that the listing order of health test results would follow the *Newf Tide* guidelines: hips, elbows, heart and cystinuria.

Deb reported some minor problems with the functionality of the database and that she is working with Dogfish Software to remedy those problems.

To answer some questions from Joan Locker-Thuring regarding notification reports and errors on titles, there was discussion about the holes in the data that still need to be filled and the development of timely reports to appropriate committees.

The Board thanked both Deb and Joan for their committees' diligence and hard work on behalf of the NCA.

### **Policy Manual**

Pam Saunders, *NCA Policy Manual* Review Committee, presented the revised chapter on the AKC Parent Club Health Conference. Subsequent discussion emphasized that articles for *Newf Tide* need to be submitted by the attendees after each conference. By unanimous consent, the Board approved the revision.

The Board then considered the chapter on the *Annual of Titlists*.

By unanimous consent, the Board referred the proposed *NCA Policy Manual* chapter on the *Annual of Titlists* to the *Newf Tide* Policy Committee for their input. A report will be due at the November 1-3, 2013 meeting of the Board.

## **Regional Club Committee**

By unanimous consent, the review of the Genesee Region Newfoundland Club's proposed changes to their Constitution and Bylaws was tabled to the November 1-3, 2013 meeting of the Board.

## **NCA Volunteers**

Lynne Anderson-Powell reported that there had been several responses to the recent requests for volunteers, however three are not current NCA members. One, in particular, would be quite valuable on the Technical Advisory Committee. The consensus advised that all three of the non-member volunteers be encouraged to join the NCA as quickly as possible and then assign them to the appropriate committees.

## **Breeder Education Committee**

The Breeder Education Committee is clearly concerned with new or developing health problems within the breed. It was stated that it was very fortunate that the cystinuria problem was identified so early in Newfoundlands and that a DNA test was quickly developed. The committee would like to develop a simple health surveillance protocol that would be completely anonymous where new or severe problems could be reported and tracked.

The Breeder Education Committee and the Health & Longevity Committee have been working together to understand the implications of the new sub-aortic stenosis DNA marker test. The two committees have developed a proposal to collect information comparing the results of the DNA test and clinical and Doppler results on dogs that have been tested and evaluated. There was an extended discussion on the study performed by Dr. Stern and the estimating of the degree of penetrance. It was suggested that this would be an independent look at the problem and could yield some answers to the many questions that still exist about this test.

The data would be collected anonymously by an outside party and preliminary results would be available after three months. The Board directed the committees to come back with data collection specifics for final approval.

John Cornell moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board accept the Health & Longevity and Breeder Education Committees' proposal as presented to collect and systematically collate data on sub-aortic stenosis mutation test results and clinical and Doppler results on dogs that have been tested with data collection specifics still to be approved. Without objection, the motion passed.

## **Executive Session**

John Cornell moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

Pam Rubio 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 the September Applicants List
- Reviewed letters received regarding the President's message in the Second Quarter 2013 issue of *Newf Tide*.

## **Unfinished Business**

The Board reviewed the following items of unfinished business:

- Judges Education Committee and a recommendation regarding a sponsorship for the American Dog Judges Association. Lynne Anderson-Powell will follow up with the committee.
- Publicity Committee and the development of an article on the value of NCA membership. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda until the committee submits an article for review.
- Specialty Show Coordinating Committee and a recommendation regarding the concept of uniform trophies and methods of fundraising. Lynne Anderson-Powell will follow up with the committee.

The Board discussed the two agenda items assigned to the Technical Resources Advisory Committee: an appraisal of both Zooza™ and Club Express™ as additions to the current database.

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board delete two agenda items that had been referred to the Technical Resources Advisory Committee. The motion passed. 9 Yes (LA, JC, MLC, RF, SG, SM, MLP, PSR, PS); 3 No (PKR, MR, DT)

## **Ratification of NCA Membership Vote**

Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board ratify and implement the vote of the NCA membership cast at the 2013 NCA Annual Membership meeting, regarding the National Specialty approved judges list. Without objection, the motion passed.

## **New Business**

### **Late Committee Reports**

The Board discussed committee reports that are received after the Board's meeting agenda is published. Lynne Anderson-Powell will remind committees that to receive consideration of their committee business, it is highly suggested that all efforts be made to submit their reports in time to be published in the agenda packet. Time-sensitive

matters should be submitted at a minimum of three days ahead of the meeting and seven days is very much appreciated.

### **Canadian Kennel Club Titles**

There was a brief discussion of the location of a listing of Canadian titles for the development of guidelines for use by the *Newf Tide* editor. A Board member will forward a list to the editor.

### **NCA Membership Applications**

There was a brief discussion of the length of the membership application process. It was stated that the membership application process is governed by the NCA Bylaws and cannot be changed without changing the Bylaws. The process is done as quickly as possible.

### **October Board Meeting**

There was a brief discussion of the October 17, 2013 meeting and the face-to-face meeting scheduled for November 1-3, 2013.

Pam Rubio moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board cancel the scheduled October teleconference as the face-to-face meeting is scheduled for November 1-3, two weeks later. The motion passed. 8 Yes (LA, MLC, RF, SM, MLP, MR, PSR, DT); 3 No (JC, SG, PKR); 1 Abstain (PS)

The agenda deadline for the November 1-3, 2013 will be October 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Sharon, Connecticut Fire Department Presentation**

It was reported that the recognition plaque had been presented to the Sharon, Connecticut Fire Department for the heroic actions taken during the fire at the kennel of Evelyn DeReus. An article will be included in the Third Quarter 2013 issue of *Newf Tide*.

### **Adjournment**

At 11:37 p.m., Pam Rubio moved and Sandy Gabel seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Without objection, the motion passed.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy  
NCA Recording Secretary