

NCA Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of July 18, 2013
(Approved August 15, 2013)

Pam Saunders, President, called the meeting to order at 8:13 p.m. Eastern time following a meeting of the Newfoundland Club of America Charitable Trust. 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), and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price, AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present.

Report of the AKC Delegate

Mary W. Price, AKC Delegate, reported that the AKC Secretary's Page of the online July *AKC Gazette*, has published David Helming for the first time as the NCA's AKC Delegate. He will be published again in the August *AKC Gazette* and should receive his credentials within five days of the AKC Board's meeting. This will enable him to attend the September AKC Delegates meeting in Newark, New Jersey.

Mary reported that 32 self-nominations for AKC Standing committee have been submitted and to Mary's knowledge, no NCA members have applied.

AKC and the Virginia Veterinarian Association are publicly protesting euthanasia rates approaching 99 per cent at shelters run by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). This protest was picked up and publicized by the Wall Street Journal.

Mary also reported that the AKC is encouraging all clubs to present Responsible Dog Owners Day events around mid-September. It was suggested that regional clubs could advertise water and draft tests and invite the public to attend. It was reported that the AKC would supply handouts and other materials.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the June 20, 2013 meeting.

Pam Rubio moved and Steve McAdams seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the June 20, 2013 Board meeting as amended. Without objection, the motion passed.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board postpone the approval of the minutes of the April 18, 28-29, 2013 Board meetings until the August 15, 2013 meeting. Without objection, the motion passed.

Report of the President

Pam Saunders, President, reported that she had received many compliments on her President's report in *Newf Tide* on cyber-bullying, but unfortunately, there are still too many occurrences of cyber-bullying. One NCA applicant was a victim of cyber-harassment but has submitted her application despite it. Pam reiterated that the easiest way to stop cyber-bullying is just not to respond to the person.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Pat Randall, 1st Vice President, reported that NCA member Ken Wildman had passed away. Pat informed the Board that the Charitable Trust Management Board, along with the Research Advisory Committee, had met and discussed the recently announced test for sub-aortic stenosis and the echocardiograms performed at the National. The Breeders Education, Health & Longevity and Research Advisory Committees are working together to develop a response to these items.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Lynne Anderson-Powell, 2nd Vice President, reported on her conversation with Tim Thomas, Director of AKC Judging Operations, regarding the inclusion of NCA international breeder judges on the NCA Approved Judges List. If a list of those international breeder judges and their judging credentials were supplied to Mr. Thomas, he would verify those credentials for the NCA. He stated that if an international member is approved to award championship points/certificates in their home country, then AKC would approve them for judging assignments at AKC shows.

There was additional discussion of the process of assembling the list and if this information should be forwarded to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Mary Lou Cuddy seconded that the Board refer to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee the proposal that the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee contact all NCA international members, ask if they are a breeder judge and do they wish to be included on the *NCA Approved Judges List*. Information on the accrediting organization(s) must be provided to the committee. This information will be provided to the AKC's Judging Operations for pre-approval. When pre-approved, their names may then be placed on the *NCA Approved Judges List*. The Specialty Show Coordinating Committee will reply to the Board by the August 1, 2013 agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, NCA Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the minutes of the June 20, 2013 meeting and the July 18, 2013 agenda packet. She reported that not all Board members had voted on the June 2013 Applicants ballots. There was a majority vote to approve all applicants.

Mary Lou reported on a letter that she received from the AKC Outreach program. After a brief discussion it was agreed that no action was needed at this time.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Pam Rubio, Corresponding Secretary, reported that she had forwarded all correspondence to the appropriate committees. She has received a proposed budget from the Bear Mountain Newfoundland Club for their booth at the September 2013 Meet the Breeds Exposition in New York City.

The Board discussed an invitation to place a listing in the Meet the Breeds "Show Guide", for \$250. The "Show Guide" will be passed out to all visitors at the Meet the Breeds and will also be placed on the Meet the Breeds website for the year.

Roger Frey moved and Steve McAdams seconded that the Board authorize a listing (\$250) in the Meet the Clubs section of the AKC Meet the Breeds Show Guide distributed to the public attending the event. Without objection, the motion passed.

The Board considered some information submitted by a non-member concerning a lifetime study of Golden Retrievers. This person asked if the NCA had considered a similar study. It was reported that the Charitable Trust was aware of the study and will be following it.

Pam reported on correspondence with a non-member who was concerned with the rescue policies of a regional club. Rescue policies have been explained several times to this non-member but she continues to not be satisfied with the information provided to her.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$15,199.55; checking account for 2013 National Specialty: \$39,311.70; savings account: \$48,151.82 and invested in CDs: \$96,543.02. The Juniors Fund account balance is \$2,068.14. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$6,048.19 for a total of \$207,322.42 for NCA operations.

Mary updated the Board on several budget items. The Board then reviewed the proposed 2014 budget. The cash reserve of \$143,000.00 remains a viable figure to carry NCA, Inc. through one fiscal year in the event of the club's dissolution. The proposed budget, as it stands, is in the red for approximately \$34,000.00. It was reported that the 2013 budget will close out approximately \$3,856.00 in the red, so the 2013 budget was fairly close to the projections made last year. It was stated that the 2014 budget is too high. The Board proceeded to review the 2014 proposed budget line by line.

It was agreed that all NCA committees must be strongly encouraged to use the new teleconference service which would save the NCA significant money. The return on investment of the Rescue Prevention Committee's *Newf Tide* coupon program was discussed. The Board considered cuts in several other committees and programs.

Pam Rubio moved and Roger Frey seconded that the Board direct the donations to the Juniors Fund be used for the stipends given for juniors' participation in Westminster, AKC Eukanuba National Championship Show and the AKC National Juniors Obedience Competition. Without objection, the motion passed.

Pam Rubio moved and Roger Frey seconded that the Board approve the 2014 budget as amended. Without objection, the motion passed.

Lynne Anderson-Powell, NCA Committee Liaison, was directed to contact the Rescue Prevention Committee for a detailed breakdown of the *Newf Tide* coupon program, including postage, for the Board's August 15, 2013 meeting.

***ShowSight* articles**

The Board discussed the short deadline given for submission of articles in the *ShowSight* magazine. It was reported that that magazine will reprint the Newfoundland articles that were printed several months ago. It was agreed that the Board go into executive session to discuss the deadlines and the articles.

Executive Session

Meredith Reggie moved and Roger Frey seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

Pam Rubio moved and Roger Frey seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

In executive session, the Board agreed that it will not submit articles to *ShowSight* and the *Canine Chronicle* due to the short lead time. The Board would prefer a three-month lead time to develop appropriate articles.

There was a brief discussion of options to develop and submit articles on a short deadline. No action was taken.

Committee Reports

Breeder Education Committee

The Board reviewed a proposed letter from the Breeder Education Committee to Dr. Stern regarding the sub-aortic stenosis DNA test and echocardiograms at the National.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board approve the letter from the Breeder Education Committee to Dr. Stern regarding the sub-aortic stenosis DNA test and echocardiograms at the National. Without objection, the motion passed.

Working Dog Committee

The Board considered a request from the Working Dog Committee to approve a recommendation that a provisional working test judge may judge both tests in a two-day test, but both days together would count as a single assessment since the provisional judge would be evaluating at the same site with possibly all the same dogs. It was reported that this would help the provisional judges to obtain more assignments.

Steve McAdams moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board accept the Working Dog Committee's recommendation that a provisional working test judge may judge a two-day assignment and it will be considered as only one evaluation. Without objection, the motion passed.

General Education Committee

The Board considered the \$5.00 education packet and the request of the General Education Committee that the program be continued. The committee agreed that requests would be sent to Lisa Lathrop at her post office box. The AKC registration insert would be updated to include that address and the General Education Committee webpage. It was reported that a letter from Joanne Peterson's daughter had been received and she has offered to continue her mother's work on this project. The Board agreed not to make any changes at this time. Lynne Anderson-Powell was directed to contact Lisa and explain the Board's decision.

NCA Policy Manual

The Board reviewed the revised chapter on the American Kennel Club.

Mary Lou Cuddy moved and Steve McAdams seconded that the Board approve the AKC chapter of the *NCA Policy Manual* as presented. Without objection, the motion passed.

The Board reviewed the chapter on the AKC Video. It was agreed that this chapter did not belong with current policies but will be included in the historical section.

The Board reviewed the AKC Delegate Chapter.

Pam Rubio moved and Sandy Gabel seconded that the Board approved the AKC Delegate chapter of the *NCA Policy Manual* as edited. Without objection, the motion passed.

Recognition Committee

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Recognition Committee regarding extra or replacement pins for TOD/TODD and obedience awards.

Meredith Reggie moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the Recognition Committee's proposal for TOD/TODD and obedience replacement pins as follows: Extra or replacement pins for TOD/TODD and obedience awards may be purchased for \$5.00 per pin. Without objection, the motion passed.

Rescue Prevention Committee

The Board reviewed the launch statistics for the *Lifestages* newsletter. It was considered to be a robust launch with many breeders signing on in order to send the newsletters to their puppy buyers.

The Board reviewed a request from the Rescue Prevention Committee that a question to added to the *Lifestages* subscription form.

Roger Frey moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that the Board approve the request of the Rescue Prevention Committee to add the question, "What did you learn after you got your Newf that you wish you had known in advance?" to the *Lifestages* subscription form. Without objection, the motion passed.

Executive Session

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

Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed.

While in executive session, the Board:

Reviewed the July NCA Applicants

Appointed Sue Putt as Chair of the Companion Newf Committee.

Accepted the request of the Legislative Liaison Committee to remove a committee member.

Accepted the resignation of Gaby Cohen from the Health & Longevity Committee.

Discussed committee fundraising and presentations at National Specialties.

Appointed Mary Lou Roberts to the Steering Committee.

Appointed Pat Randall, Chair, Kevin Gallagher, David Helming and Pam Saunders to the *ad hoc* Governing Documents Review Committee.

NCA Governing Documents Review Committee

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board appoint the Governing Documents Review Committee with a new charge to evaluate the *NCA Policy Manual* as it is revised to comply with the *NCA Bylaws* and Connecticut state statutes. The motion passed. 11 Yes (LA, JC, MLC, RF, SG, SM, MLP, PKR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 No (MR)

Sharon, Connecticut Fire Department

The Board briefly considered the proposed plaque to recognize the Sharon, Connecticut Fire Department for their efforts in saving the lives of several Newfoundlands who were in the fire at Evelyn De Reus' kennel. It was agreed that Donna Thibault, Evelyn De Reus and some of the puppies saved by the firemen would visit the fire station to present the plaque and that an article and pictures would be included in the next issue of *Newf Tide*.

Adjournment

At 12:45 a.m., Pam Rubio moved and John Cornell seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Without objection, the motion passed.