

NCA Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of August 15, 2013
(Approved September 19, 2013)

Pam Saunders, President, called the meeting to order at 8:05 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), and Donna Thibault (DT). Mary W. Price, AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was absent.

Report of the AKC Delegate

David Helming, AKC Delegate-elect, reported that he will receive the official notification of his acceptance as the NCA's AKC Delegate after the September 10, 2013 AKC Delegates meeting. He thanked Mary W. Price for her exemplary service to the AKC and the NCA. He encouraged Board members to contact him with questions or any matters in which he could be of assistance.

Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the following meetings: April 18, 28-29, 2013; April 30, 2013 and July 18, 2013.

John Cornell moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the April 18, 28-29, 2013 Board meeting as amended. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (SM)

John Cornell moved and Sandy Gabel seconded that the Board approve for publication the minutes of the April 30, 2013 Annual Membership meeting as amended. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (SM)

John Cornell moved and Donna Thibault seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the July 18, 2013 Board meeting as amended. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (SM)

Report of the President

Pam Saunders, President, reported receiving a letter received concerning a Board member's comments at a recent show.

Executive Session

Pat Randall moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (SM)

Pam Rubio moved and Sandy Gabel seconded that the Board come out executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (SM)

The Board took no action in executive session.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Pat Randall, 1st Vice President, reported that the NCA Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) will meet next week. The CTMB is considering the information gathered regarding Dr. Stern's presentation and the sub-aortic stenosis DNA test and has sent the information to the Research Advisory Committee for their input.

Pat informed the Board that Lynne Anderson-Powell, Mary L. Price and he are in contact with StartMeeting™ and have made substantial progress in arranging for the Board and all NCA committees to use its services. StartMeeting™ has agreed to honor the 3.5¢ per minute rate for all meetings. There was a brief discussion concerning the structure of the committee accounts. It was stated that using StartMeeting™ will save the NCA substantial expense for teleconferencing services and will make it easier for committees to communicate.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Lynne Anderson-Powell, 2nd Vice President, reported that two committees have raised concerns about the committee communication policy. It had been suggested that a representative from the Technical Advisory Committee be appointed to the Steering Committee to facilitate communication. There was additional discussion about the committee communication policy. It was agreed that Lynne would again send the policy and an explanation to the committees.

The Board briefly considered fundraising by NCA committees. It was agreed that the Board needs to develop a policy concerning this issue and to place this on the Board's fall face-to-face meeting agenda for action.

Lynne presented the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee's report on a regional club opening ceremony to be held at National Specialties. The committee supports and encourages the concept but does not feel that it should be a requirement. The committee also reported that it is near completion of the NCA international member breeder judge form and will present it at the Board's September 19, 2013 meeting.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, NCA Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the minutes of the July 18, 2013 meeting and the agenda packet for the August 15, 2013 meeting.

Mary Lou, along with Marylou Zimmerman, NCA Webmaster, asked for input on removing Bulletin Boards from the *NCA Website* after the official minutes for that meeting are posted.

Meredith Reggie moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Bulletin Board from each Board meeting be removed from the *NCA Website* when the official minutes of that meeting are posted. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (SM)

One Board member stated that he would like to see all agendas remain on the *NCA Website* for reference.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Pam Rubio, Corresponding Secretary, reported that correspondence was forwarded to the appropriate committees.

Pam reported that the Old West Newfoundland Club has responded several times to a non-member who has raised some complaints about Newf rescue in the area. The non-member is not willing to accept established policies and procedures.

Report of the Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$3,042.45; 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 \$6,253.74 for a total of \$195,370.87 for NCA operations.

Mary reported that Mary Lou Cuddy, Membership Chair, and she are about halfway through the membership renewal cycle. Credit card use and the amount of donations given are close to the same levels as the same time last year, but it is early in the process.

Mary informed the Board that a preliminary 2013 National Specialty report will be ready for the Board's September meeting with the final report to be presented at the November 1-3, 2013 meeting.

Committee Reports

Health & Longevity Committee

The Board considered a proposed position statement from the Health & Longevity Committee to be placed on the *NCA Website* along with the video link to Dr. Stern's presentation. There was discussion about the presentation and the sub-aortic stenosis DNA test and its use in making breeding decisions. It was reported that Dr. Stern's work was submitted for peer review in June and also, that he has moved to UC Davis.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board allow the Health & Longevity Committee to post the following statement above the video link of Dr. Joshua Stern's sub-aortic stenosis presentation on the *NCA Website*:

The Health and Longevity Committee of the Newfoundland Club of America applauds the research results of Dr. Joshua Stern DVM, DACVIM, of North Carolina State University and his collaborators, and we are excited about this important step in possibly helping to reduce the incidence of subaortic stenosis (SAS) in Newfoundlands. We must note, however, that this research (1) has not yet been peer reviewed in appropriate journals and (2) has not yet been corroborated by other independent studies. The Health and Longevity Committee therefore recommends that current testing protocols continue to be followed: auscultation of puppies before sale, auscultation of all dogs after one year of age, and echo/Doppler of dogs that present with a murmur. Breeders should continue to use the currently recommended protocols for screening of their breeding stock and not any current preliminary genetic studies. Breeders are encouraged to continue to enter their dogs in this and future genetic studies of diseases affecting Newfoundlands.

The motion passed. 9 Yes (LA, JC, MLC, SG, MLP, PKR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 No (RF); 1 Abstention (MR); 1 Absent (SM)

Juniors Committee

The Board considered letters expressing concerns with an action taken by the Board at its last meeting regarding the Juniors donations. It was believed by some that the action would benefit a few juniors and not the majority. There was discussion that the action was taken in an effort to try to help balance the NCA budget.

Pam Rubio moved and Roger Frey seconded that donations to the Juniors Fund be used to supplement the estimated budget for the Juniors Committee. The motion failed.

Pam Rubio moved and Pat Randall seconded that the Board rescind the July 18, 2013 motion regarding donations to the Juniors Fund. Without objection, the motion passed.

Health & Longevity Committee

The Board returned to the Health & Longevity Committee to consider a proposal to remove the cystinuria DNA test as part of the Newfoundland CHIC requirements. The Board considered the possible implications of removing this test.

Pat Randall moved and John Cornell seconded that the NCA retain the cystinuria DNA test as a part of the requirement for the Newfoundland CHIC designation. The motion passed. 1 Abstention (MR)

Legislation Liaison Committee

The Board reviewed the committee's report on pending legislation. It was agreed that the minutes will reflect the Board's appreciation for the committee's hard work and dedication.

There was some discussion over material posted to the *NCA Website* that was not original to the committee but did not include a source.

Pat Randall moved and Meredith Reggie seconded that any material posted to the *NCA Website* will state the source of such material that is not original to the committee. Without objection, the motion passed.

Breeders Education Committee

It was stated that most of the Breeders Education Committee report had been covered earlier in the meeting. There was some discussion whether the proposed article for *Newf Tide* being written by Dr. Stern and Jennifer Zablony, DVM should be shared with the Health & Longevity, Breeders Education and Research Advisory Committees prior to publication.

Nominating Committee

There was a brief discussion about a report received from the Nominating Committee and its difficulty in finding a sixth candidate for the slate.

Executive Session

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Pat Randall 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:

- appointed Mary Jane Spackman and Jennifer Zablony to the Steering Committee.
- accepted Sandra Younger's resignation as the *AKC Gazette* breed columnist.
- approved the request to obtain permission from *Dog News* and author Rose Smart to reprint her article on a Newfoundland art exhibition held in London, England in the October 2013 *AKC Gazette* breed column.
- accepted Dejah Petsch's resignation from the Technical Resource Advisory Committee and appointed her to the Database Operations Committee.

Unfinished Business

The Board reviewed the items listed under unfinished business.

The Board briefly discussed the "Simply Voting" electronic voting information. It was stated that this voting method is probably in violation of the Connecticut statutes, though it would save the NCA a considerable amount of money. It was asked if the information should be reviewed by the NCA Governing Documents Review Committee and the NCA attorney.

Donna Thibault moved and Pam Rubio seconded that the Board refer to the NCA Governing Documents Review Committee the "Simply Voting" electronic voting material for review of its practicality and legality which may include legal advice not to exceed \$500.00 The committee is to report back to the Board by its November face-to-face agenda deadline. Without objection, the motion passed.

Adjournment

At 11:22 p.m., Pam Rubio moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Without objection, the motion passed.

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary