

Newfoundland Club of America, Inc.
Board of Directors
Teleconference Meeting
Minutes of May 15, 2014
(Approved June 19, 2014)

Pam Saunders, President, called the meeting to order at 8:09 p.m. Eastern time. The following directors were present: Lynne Anderson-Powell (LA), John Cornell (JC), Mary Lou Cuddy (MLC), Roger Frey (RF), Sue Marino (SM), Steve McAdams (SMc), Mary L. Price (MLP), Pat Randall (PKR), Meredith Reggie (MR), Pam Saunders (PS) and Donna Thibault (DT). Pam Rubio (PR) was absent. David Helming, AKC delegate, *ex-officio* was present. Also present were Deb Bridge, Donna Zink, and Chris Plum.

Report of the AKC Delegate

David Helming, AKC Delegate, reported that the AKC has ceased the masking of names on judging applications effective July 1, 2014 as this requirement had not been well received by prospective applicants. He indicated that the AKC, effective October 9, 2014, will require that if a club is holding a special attraction (i.e.; Junior Puppy competition) at its show, it must also offer the National Owner-Handled Series (NOHS) competition. Donna Thibault indicated that there would not be Junior Puppy competition at the 2015 National Specialty so there will be no mandatory requirement for NOHS judging for the 2015 National Specialty. David informed the Board that the AKC had added four new titles to the popular AKC Therapy Dog program effective June 1, 2014. Dave reported that Pam Saunder's next President's column in *Newf Tide* will "challenge" the membership to donate to AKC PAC which supports "dog friendly" candidates running for office. He encouraged Board members to lead the way for NCA participation by making a personal donation to this effort. Additional information was requested and Dave advised that he had had correspondence from the AKC Governmental Affairs Department that he would forward to the Board members. He reported that the next Delegate meeting would be held on June 9, 2014 in Newark, New Jersey.

Approval of Minutes

The Board considered the minutes of March 20 & April 6-7, 2014 and the April 8, 2014 Annual Meeting of the Board. The Board also considered for publication the minutes of the April 8, 2014 Annual Membership Meeting.

John Cornell moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the March 20 & April 6-7, 2014 meeting as amended. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

John Cornell moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the minutes of the April 8, 2014 Annual Meeting of the Board as presented. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

John Cornell moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve for publication the minutes of the April 8, 2014 Annual Membership Meeting as amended and pending the receipt of the corrected titles. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

Report of the President

Pam Saunders, President, reported on the mistakes made on rosettes presented at the National Specialty. Lynne Anderson-Powell, Committee Liaison, will give a full report later in the meeting. Pam also requested that the Board review the costs of the Rescue Prevention Committee's *Newf Tide* coupon program.

Pam informed the Board that she had received additional correspondence in regards to a regional club and its procedures.

Report of the 1st Vice President

Pat Randall, 1st Vice President, informed the Board that he was unable to attend the Charitable Trust Management Board (CTMB) meeting but he could report that the CTMB had appointed an ad hoc Newfoundland Foreleg Anomaly Committee with a \$500 budget.

The CTMB held its election and the results are:

Clyde Dunphy - Chairman
David Helming - Vice Chairman
Mary Jane Spackman - Secretary
Mary L. Price - Treasurer

Janice Hight was re-appointed as a Director pending the approval of the Trustee and will serve a three-year term along with Kevin Gallagher, Roger Powell, Pat Randall and Andy Zinsmeyer.

Report of the 2nd Vice President

Lynne Anderson-Powell, 2nd Vice President, will give her report under committee reports.

Report of the Recording Secretary

Mary Lou Cuddy, NCA Recording Secretary, reported that she had prepared the minutes of the March 20 & April 6-7, 2014 meeting, the April 8, 2014 Annual Meeting of the Board and the April 8, 2014 Annual Membership Meeting along with the agenda packet for the May 15, 2014 meeting. She reported the Board had approved the April membership applicants.

Report of the Corresponding Secretary

Pam Rubio, Corresponding Secretary, was absent.

Report of the NCA Treasurer

Mary L. Price, Treasurer, reported the following balances: checking account: \$3,161.40; savings account: \$61,265.91 and invested in CDs: \$108,729.69. The Juniors Fund account balance is \$3,803.64. The Uniform Trophy Fund account balance is \$9,062.11 for a total of \$186,022.75 for NCA operations. Mary informed the Board that she had received the final billing from the Lancaster Host Resort and Conference Center and will finish her review shortly.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee

Mary Lou Cuddy, Membership Chair, requested the Board's direction on the matter of a membership status.

Executive Session

Steve McAdams moved and Pat Randall seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

Sue Marino moved and Steve McAdams seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

While in executive session, the Board confirmed the single membership status of a member.

Mary Lou reviewed the costs of the membership application mailings.

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board refer the membership application fee and the membership dues structure to the Financial Oversight Committee for recommendations back to the Board no later than September 1, 2014. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

The Board had a brief discussion regarding the increase in the international membership postage levy. By unanimous consent, the Board directed Pam Saunders to write an explanation of the increase to be included in the international members' renewal notice.

Recognition Committee

Lynne Anderson-Powell, Committee Liaison, informed the Board that an inadvertent mix-up with the previous year's file caused the problem with the printing on the Working Achievement rosettes that were presented at the 2014 National Specialty.

Lynne reported that there was a misunderstanding of the policy of Canine Good Citizen (CGC) titles as it applied to the Versatile Newfoundland award and that an additional error had been made to one award while the CGC titles were being deleted.

All the rosettes will be reprinted and mailed to the recipients.

The Board continued its discussion of the CGC title and its inclusion on certificates and rosettes.

The Board was informed that two Register of Merit (ROM) awards were missed due to the NCA Database program not accounting for a get's ROM affecting the parents' ROM status. The new recipients have been notified and the rosette and certificate will be presented to them at the 2015 National Specialty. By unanimous consent, the Board agreed that the two ROM recipients will be included with the other 2013 recipients in *Newf Tide* and in the minutes of the April 8, 2014 Annual Membership Meeting with disclosure.

At 9:34 p.m., Donna Zink joined the meeting.

Rescue Prevention Committee

Donna Zink, Rescue Prevention Committee (RPC) Co-Chair, reported that the AKC insert had been updated to reflect the change in the availability of the \$5.00 educational packet and the coupon expiration date.

The Board discussed the costs versus benefits of the *Newf Tide* coupon program. It was agreed that the RPC has developed some outstanding programs and materials. Some Board members questioned whether the intent of the *Newf Tide* coupon program would be better served by the development of a dedicated pamphlet for that program. It was stated that the increase in the number of issues ordered for the program brought the cost per copy down to \$7.45 per copy and not the \$15.00 per copy previously quoted and that the cost of the program had been allocated in the RPC budget.

There was additional discussion of developing a new pamphlet and referring the idea to the committee for review and a recommendation.

Pam Saunders moved and Steve McAdams seconded that the Board refer to the Rescue Prevention Committee the suggestions that were raised in the discussion regarding to the *Newf Tide* coupon program. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

Meredith Reggie suggested checking whether the *Newf Tide* could be sent under the subscription mailing rate which would greatly reduce the postage costs.

At 10:00 p.m., Donna Zink left the meeting.

At 10:03 p.m., Chris Plum joined the meeting.

Steering Committee

Chris Plum, Steering Committee Chair, reported on the NCA Membership survey that the committee had conducted. There were over 500 completed surveys submitted to the committee of which 200-plus were NCA members and 321 (60%) asked to be added the *NCA e-notes* mailing list. Requests for NCA membership information (175) were forwarded to the Membership Chair. Requests for additional information (56) were answered by the committee and six people submitted additional comments which will be incorporated into the final report.

Responses as to the benefit of NCA membership included - being a great resource and education vehicle, keeping up to date with developments in the breed and a way to meet people with similar interests. Negative comments centered on the high cost of dues and the difficulty in finding sponsors along with a perception that the NCA was only for "show" people or that an NCA member had been rude.

The committee will submit a final written report to the Board soon.

The Board discussed a request from the Steering Committee to utilize the Newf Ambassador Committee and the Membership Committee as resources for persons expressing interest in the NCA.

Roger Frey moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the request of the Steering Committee to utilize the Newf Ambassador program, along with the Membership Committee, to provide information to persons who have expressed interest in the NCA. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

Working Dog Committee

Sue Marino, Working Dog Committee Chair, reported on the recommendation from the Working Dog Committee for the reinstatement of working test judges. The Board was reminded that the new working test judges qualifications have provisions for the removal of judges from the judges list and the committee has approved the reinstatement procedures. After one year from the date of removal, the judge will need to reapply, pass the working test judges exam and sign a statement that they will fulfill all their responsibilities. The judge may then be returned to their original judging status. It was stated that an exemption may be made for life crises on a case by case basis. This will become effective July 1, 2014. It was noted that the judges may not accept any assignments while off the judges list.

Donna Thibault moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board approve the Working Dog Committee's recommendation of the procedure to reinstate working test judges who have been suspended. The motion passed. 10 Yes (LA, JC, MLC, RF, SM, SMc, MLP, PKR, PSR, PS, DT); 1 No (MR); 1 Absent (PSR)

It was agreed that a regional club test committee must be made of members who are both members of the regional club and the NCA.

The Board reviewed a letter received from a working test judge regarding the judging of a handicapped dog during a draft test and expressing the judge's admiration for the bond evident between Newfoundland and owner.

Regional Club Liaison

It was agreed that the review of the North Central Newfoundland Club's revised Constitution and Bylaws be postponed until the Board's June meeting.

Executive Session

John Cornell moved and Steve McAdams seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

Steve McAdams moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

While in executive session, the Board took no action.

At 10:30 p.m., Deb Bridge joined the meeting.

Database Operations Committee

Deb Bridge, Database Operations Committee Chair, updated the Board on the committee's status. She reported that the software updates to the NCA Database have been installed and are being implemented. She informed the Board that the company who hosted the NCA Database installed some program updates that disrupted the Versatile Newfoundland and the Register of Merit programs which resulted in the two missed Register of Merits discussed earlier. That hosting company was not cooperative following these problems and the committee is currently moving the database to a new company. The migration of data will be completed within a couple of months.

Deb reported that all the old data from available working test catalogs and other sources has been entered and that there are still gaps in data from the 1990s. There was a discussion about the data possibly being available from the NCA archives stored at the AKC, the high costs of retrieving that data from AKC and whether our AKC Delegate could facilitate that retrieval of data. There was some discussion of alternate sources,

sending out another call for marked catalogs from those years and asking for volunteers to comb through issues of *Newf Tide*.

Deb informed the Board that all National Specialty winners, including Selects, High in Trials and Best Junior Showmanship have all been entered.

The Board thanked Deb and her committee for all their efforts.

At 10:45 p.m., Deb Bridge left the meeting.

Executive Session

Lynne Anderson-Powell moved and Sue Marino seconded that the Board go into executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

Pat Randall moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board come out of executive session. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

While in executive session, the Board:

- Accepted the resignation of Kathy Grim as Chair of the Legislation Committee.
- Appointed the following members to the Juniors Committee: Cissy Sullivan (Co-Chair), Susan Wagner (Co-Chair), Tara Bertrand, David Kledzik, Linda Larsen, Donna Thibault.
- Appointed the following to the *ad hoc* Governing Documents Review Committee: Steve Britton (Chair), Pam Saunders.
- Appointed the following to the *ad hoc* Regional Club Complaint Review Committee: Sue Marino (Chair), Pat Randall, Meredith Reggie with a report due to the Board by the June 19, 2014 meeting.

Financial Oversight Committee

John Cornell moved and Lynne Anderson-Powell seconded that the Board approve the Financial Oversight Committee as a standing committee. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

NCA Policy on Dog Aggression

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to postpone discussion of revision to the NCA Policy on Dog Aggression until the June 19, 2014 meeting.

Electronic Transmission of NCA Notices

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to postpone further discussion of the electronic transmission of NCA notices until the June 19, 2014 meeting.

Specialty Show Coordinating Committee

The Board considered a recommendation that the Top 20/10 event be given a separate restricted fund which would be included in each National Specialty budget.

Steve McAdams moved and John Cornell seconded that the Board refer to the Specialty Show Coordinating Committee the question of funding the Top 20/10 event as part of a separate restricted fund and included in the National Specialty budget as presented at the 2014 Annual Membership Meeting. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

NCA Illustrated Guides

Roger Frey reported that he would be conducting a judges seminar for the New Zealand and Australian Newfoundland judges while in those countries for a judging assignment. He requested 35 copies of the *NCA Illustrated Guide* to distribute during the seminars.

By unanimous consent, the Board agreed to donate 50 *NCA Illustrated Guides* for use in a judges seminar presented by Roger Frey in New Zealand.

At 12:25 p.m., Steve McAdams moved and Sue Marino seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Without objection, the motion passed. 1 Absent (PSR)

Submitted by,

Mary Lou Cuddy
NCA Recording Secretary