



USNMC Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, April 11, 2017
8:30pm Eastern, 7:30pm Central

Members Present: Gonnies Schaffer, Rachel Hosking, Alaina Pierret, Michael McDonald, Carol Armbrust, Cassandra Boczar, Sherry Deans (7:36), Jessica Gibbons, John Grimes, Aaron Lozano (7:51), Will McGill

The meeting was called to order by President Gonnies Schaffer at 8:32EST/7:32CST.

The minutes of the March 14th BOD meeting were presented. A motion was made by Rachel Hosking and seconded by Carol Armbrust to approve the minutes as distributed. No objections; motion carries.

President's Report

Gonnies reported that he has confirmed with the president of Annameat Dog Food Company that they are willing to donate food for prizes at the national specialty. He will confirm the amount and will let Jessica know. He also reported that he received the 1st quarter OFA report and that Alaina included it in the packet.

Secretary Report

Alaina reported that the minutes from the March meeting were emailed on 3/21. She also reported that emails were sent to the membership on 3/22 regarding new member postings on the website and on 4/4 regarding the alternate judge selection. She stated that she mailed the nominating committee's slate to the membership on 3/28.

Treasurer Report

Mike stated that the treasurers' report was included in the meeting packet and asked if there were any questions. Mike stated that Alaina submitted receipts for reimbursement for postage for the certificates and pins and also for the slated. A motion was made by Jessica Gibbons and seconded by Cassandra Boczar to approve the treasurers' report as distributed. No objections; motion carries.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee – Rachel Hosking, Chair

Rachel reported that the names of the 2 new applicants were on the website. It has been more than 10 days and no response from membership regarding the two applicants were received. Second reading of Oscar Illescas, full membership application and Eddie Melendez, subscriber membership application. She asked that a BallotBin to vote. Alaina stated she will set it up.

2017 National Specialty Committee – Jessica Gibbons, Chair

Jessica reported that as of Sunday (4/9) she is working down the list of ranked domestic judges and waiting for an acceptance. She gave a brief update on what is happening with the judge and stated she will update everyone as she hears more. She also stated that trophy sponsors need to be paid by April 24th to make it as a listed sponsor in the premium.

Fundraising Committee – Carol Armbrust, Chair

Carol stated that she will be working with a company to format the logo to a usable size for them for mugs. She wants to wait until a little closer to the show before starting to work on t-shirts, etc.

NeoRescue Liaison Committee – Carol Armbrust, Chair

Carol reported that she spoke to NeoRescue regarding the boards' request for information about last years' donation before deciding on more. She stated that they wish to remain autonomous, they are not willing to disclose how those funds were used. General discussion followed and no action was taken. Further planned action will be determined in the future.

Website Committee – Michael McDonald, Chair

Mike reported that Bill Goetz asked if we could get more bios of members added to the website, currently there is one, Joe Attaway who is no longer a member. Also, Bill has a list of books to add to reference material, does the BOD need to approval these before posting to website. General discussion followed and all agreed to list the updated books.

Communications Committee – Alaina Pierret, Chair

Alaina reported that email communications were sent to the membership as stated in Secretary Report and made a side note that it seems that we are getting a good response from the email polls that have been sent recently. We had 38 responses from the alternate judge selection and 42 for the show site "vote", but only 18 when we asked for a ranking. She asked if we want to continue with the method rather than a newsletter and all agreed to continue with the emails.

By-Laws Committee – Peggy Wolfe, Chair

Nothing new to report; the board has decided to send the revision out for a vote in May with the annual election ballots.

Judges and Public Education Committee – Bill Goetz, Chair

Bill submitted the following report:

JE Committee Meeting Report

March 28, 2017

Attendance: Joe, Susie, Rachel, Bill

Opened with discussion about the news of the judge for nationals' vacancy, and the list of possible replacements put forward by the bod. Discussion on Dr. Allen ensued, listed all that she has done for this club and the breed, along with her age and health. Come to agreement that this may be the last best chance to have her judge a nationals, and it was suggested that Bill sends a letter to the bod stating so.

Old Business

1. Mission statement /Job description, goals and objectives

Discussed the need for this, with there being no one clear job description, or any directives from the bod. The action to be taken, Bill has researched and inquired about this since taking over, will put together the info and present it to committee for suggestions additions etc., by committee members between now and next months' meeting. Goal is to have finished product by end of next meeting.

Judges Education

Judges Mentoring

Updating and Revising the USNMC Commentary portion of the breed standard

Judges Education seminars

Material for JE Seminars

Public Education- with focus on members

Implement new education materials as they become available

Work within the guidelines of the AKC

Preserve and uphold the integrity of the NM breed standard.

*Continue revisions of our Illustrated Standard and Power Point Presentations.
Support "Meet the Breeds" booth at AKC Eukanuba Championship Shows.
Participate in AKC sponsored Education days.
Develop and implement revised USNMC breed flyers to accompany AKC registrations
Set standards and criteria of who is qualified to give the JE presentations-
Create system to train people to become presenters*

Presented this list to the committee this evening, Bill asked for them to review it this month, and decide if it is complete as stands, or if you have suggestions for changes, additions or subtractions. Once this is complete, we will submit to the bod for their approval, and it will become what all future JE committees work by, unless directed differently from the bod.

2. Video

Waiting to hear status of "locked" copy of movement video since we received word that Lorene Cantarella agreed to allow the use of the video for education purposes.

3. Trifold for public handouts at MTB's

Received message from Alaina that she had spoken to several judges just this past week about this idea, and they gave her plenty of advice on how best to design and what all to include. We are hopeful, she will have working example before next meeting....it was also further discussed that a newer member , Adrian (Bueno?) was skilled at computer graphics etc...and he might be open to helping on some projects if asked....Bill will invite him to help, and also send open invite to general membership.

4. Recording/and reports on JE seminars

Discussed the need and the benefits. No solution was found as to how to accomplish this. Nothing new to report here, but was discussed as to how this would be utilized, and why it could be very valuable tool to help train and teach, both presenters and judges.

5. Mastino University

Bill is working with Peggy on this project and promised to have outline of project to be readying it for presentation to bod before next meeting.

New Business

1. Commentaries by members on website:

I was looking over a few things on the club web site....had a thought...Joey, has an editorial about the breed posted there. It is nice. Nothing too controversial. But his is the only one....I am thinking maybe as JE committee it is not out of our realm to invite every past USNMC President to give us their own commentary....instead of focusing on past presidents...why not long-time members? Say over 20 years membership then you have:

Sharon Costello, Charlie Costello, donna welty, janet Hospodar, tom france, peggy wolfe, joe Steinfeld, Valerie Valerio, dom valone

and if you want to "stretch it" you could say all members who joined in the last century, which adds:

rita biddle, cathy DeLuca, mindy aaron mcelyea, santo donati, blaise Scatola, h. Edward tyler
Dr. Allen

Opened this discussion, and all agreed this would be a feel good project, and would add value to the website, along with perhaps preserving some history. Also would give reason to have contact with some not so active members but have been long time members.... Decided to contact all of the list above individually.

3. Book reviews

We had some back and forth discussions about doing a brief synopsis on each book and I believe Rita agreed. Peggy sent a list of her personal choices and rated them by 'wrinkles' which is hilarious and appropriate.

If Peggy agrees, why don't we use some of her list and add a brief description of each book with wrinkle ratings on the website?

Also, we can combine some of Peggy's list with some of the books currently on the website. It makes sense to list the Mastini books first and then pick and choose other readings from both lists. We could definitely use 'learning to show' and breed-type books too.

I don't think we should overload on the number of books we list because then one book blends into the other – maybe start out conservative with 15 books – but all of this is my humble opinion.

Why not have other members submit reviews also?

Ciaran McCloskey wrote a year ago or so about canine structure... thought the reward of submitting something to the club and having it published on their site might inspire a few to participate in other activities too. Or maybe this is bad idea, not sure.

Set next months' meeting for Thursday, April 20th, at 8pm est.

Elections of New Members (second reading reading)

Oscar Illescas – applying for Full Membership

Eddie Melendez – applying for Subscriber Membership

Unfinished Business

- Proposed combined specialty with Cane Corso Club of America
 - Rachel updated everyone on the withdrawal of the invitation by the Cane Corso group for a combined specialty stating that they had a change of leadership that did not want to pursue the show. Her contact stated that he was very disappointed and very sorry but has no choice.
- National Specialty rotation schedule
 - Jessica asked if the rotation schedule is something we want to keep and continue work on. Rachel mentioned that she was told that there will be a working dog specialty in conjunction with the Concord, North Carolina show and there is a possibility that they will be bringing in an Italian judge. General discussion followed and everyone agreed to table until Rachel can find out more information. Alaina proposed a subcommittee to look at sites for permanent sites to include in the rotation. Jessica and Alaina will work on this.
- AKC Member Club – status update
 - Alaina reported that she spoke to Mari-Beth O'Neal from AKC, Karen Burgess and Don James who are co-chairs of the Parent Club Member Committee and was told that our request to join is slated to be on the April agenda. Based on the conversation, Alaina reported that they will request that we increase our membership. She also stated that she and Peggy are working with AKC regarding some changes that have suggested with the by-laws. She will continue to update as she hears more.

New Business

- Creation of new National and Regional Specialty Judge List
 - Jessica and Alaina asked if we could ask the membership for names to create a new list of judges. Jessica proposed that we have separate lists for National and Regional judges and suggested that names less familiar be placed on the regional list until experience can be gauged. General discussion followed and all agreed to send a request for names. It was decided that we will wait until the issue with the 2017 judge is settled before sending an email.

The next scheduled meeting will be held Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 8:30EST/7:30CST.

With no further business, a motion was made by Rachel and seconded by Mike to adjourn. No objections; motion carries. The meeting was adjourned at 9:50pmEST/8:50pmCST.

Respectfully submitted,
Alaina Pierret
USNMC Secretary