



USNMC Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, April 13, 2016
8:30pm Eastern, 7:30pm Central

Members Present: Gonnie Schaffer, Rachel Hosking, Alaina Pierret, Michael McDonald, Carol Armbrust, Sherry Deans, Aaron Lozano, Will McGill, Deborah Priestler, Peggy Wolfe

Members Absent: Bill Goetz

The meeting was called to order by President Gonnie Schaffer at 8:33EST/7:33CST.

The minutes of the March 9th BOD meeting were presented. A motion to approve the minutes as distributed on March 23rd was made by Peggy Wolfe and seconded by Rachel Hosking. No objections; motion carries.

President's Report

Nothing to report.

Secretary Report

Alaina reported that on March 11 she created the Ballot Bin vote for Adrain Bueno, Jesus Valasco, & Lisa Hershberger; the results were 7 in favor – 4 abstain. She also reported that the Nominating Committee sate was mailed to membership on March 22nd. She then stated that she had to resubmit the membership list to AKC due to an upload error and also shared an email received from Mary Albee regarding Championship Breeders Website. After board review, no action was taken regarding the website.

Treasurer Report

Mike presented the financial statement and asked if anyone had any questions. Alaina asked for reimbursement for \$49 for postage to mail the slate to the membership. Everyone agreed that since this was a normal club expense that a motion was not needed and authorized Mike to reimburse the expense. A motion was made by Peggy and seconded by Sherry Deans to approve the treasurers' report. No objections; motion carries.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee – Rachel Hosking, Chair

Marcus Curtis (no sponsors needed), Mariano Morales (sponsors Rachel Hosking and Susan Vann Spruill), Erick Ibarra (sponsors Gonnie Schaffer and Aaron Lozano), and Gretchen Wright (sponsors Carol Armbrust and Bill Goetz). All names were uploaded on the website and an email went out for membership review. It has been two weeks and no feedback from the membership. BOD vote required. Rachel also noted that renewals were received for Noel Goodrich and Mark Reed and that they incorrectly reflected as delinquent on the March report. The total number of renewed membership is now 89 and 8 not renewed.

2016 National Specialty Committee – Sherry Deans, Chair

Sherry stated that she did not have a lot to report and that they are just working out some of the scheduling details. She also reported that they are still waiting to hear back from Dr. Hutchinson about the cost per mile so we can finalize his contract.

As far as grooming/crating area, the normal cost for the space is \$10/day for an 8X8 space with guaranteed electric, If we do not need electric, depending on how much reserved crating space

we need, he may be able to give it to us for free. I need to know how much space to tell him we need. Do we need electric?

They said they can give us a spot on Friday for the Annual meeting, it may only be semi-private though.

We have both sweeps judges now, Cassandra from Il Drago has agreed to judge sweeps on Saturday. We have checked with AKC and she will not be allowed to exhibit her dogs on Saturday but can show on Friday and Sunday.

Rafael Malo Alcrudo will judge the 4-6 month puppy on Friday.

Bill Goetz can you send Jessica a copy of the Awards for 2015 so she can start putting them in her program.

Still have Trophies that need sponsors if anyone would like to donate :)

Fundraising Committee – Carol Armbrust, Chair

Carol stated that she still needs to get with Mike so they can work on moving the EBay store over to Carol.

NeoRescue Liaison Committee – Carol Armbrust, Chair

Coordinating rescues all over the country with NeoRescue, Inc and helping Gretchen Wright

Website Committee – Michael McDonald, Chair

Mike stated that he still needs material to put on the members only site. It is built and has very little information in the section. He also stated that the normal monthly updated were done.

Communications Committee – Alaina Pierret, Chair

Emails sent to members regarding new member applications that were uploaded to the website. Another email went out requesting judges' names as well as a mention about the show proposal submissions. I still have not been able to produce a newsletter or get any work done on a NeoGram.

By-Laws Committee – Peggy Wolfe, Chair

No change from last month; I will shortly be checking with AKC on their status. I know they're typically slow in response, and usually they don't mind it if someone jangles a reminder! Peggy also sent the responses received from the member survey regarding term limits. She reported that they were mostly split with some agreeing we need term limits and others stating they were not needed.

Judges and Public Education Committee – Lena Moles, Chair

Meeting held 4/11;

- Mastino Outline _ Anatomy_ Labeled in Italian – Carlo will translate (Goal to be placed on Website under Education)
- JE Presentation – Information, discussed what was put on website - Lena send a few Emails with Attachments – the 50 pg Presentation ...
- Head Study ... Lena sent a SAMPLE PowerPoint - Carlo has a beginning of a Head Educational, Rachel will make the combination of the two And JE will have a meeting in a few weeks to go over it.
- Jessica asked about JE for - Nationals, what supplies is needed, and presenters.. Stated the JE is set for Friday Morning 10 a.m. -12 noon Recommended - refreshments for Judges ...

- New Meeting in about 3 weeks ...

Elections of New Members

- Adrian Bueno (New, Full)
- Jesus Valasco (New, Full)
- Lisa Hershberger (Lapsed)
- Marcus Curtis (Lapsed)
- Mariano Morales (New, Full)
- Erick Ibarra (New, Full)
- Gretchen Wright (New, Full)

Alaina will create the BallotBin to vote on Marcus, Mariano, Erick and Gretchen; Adrian, Jesus and Lisa were voted in by an affirmative vote.

Unfinished Business

- 2017 Judges List & Show Site Proposals
 - The judges list continued from last month. Alaina shared the list of names that have been received and asked what our next course of action is. Gonnie added two (2) names to the list and after discussion, Alaina was instructed to compile the lists and mail to the members for their ranking.
 - Alaina reported that the request for National Specialty proposals have been sent out multiple times and no response has been received. Peggy stated that Troy Stroud's offer for the Michigan Specialty is a standing offer. After some discussion, it was decided to form a committee to explore different shows sites and report back to the board. Alaina volunteered to take charge of this. Everyone agreed.
- Invitation to Join AKC as a Member Club
 - Peggy was asked during the last meeting to develop and list of pros and cons to joining AKC as a member club. She emailed the list to the board on March 21 and also emailed MaryBeth O'Neill and Don James with a couple of questions. She stated that, as per MaryBeth, the USNMC is the recognized parent club for the breed but since we are not a member club we do not "own" our standard. She went to explain that AKC is the owner of the Neapolitan Mastiff standard but would not make changes to it without conferring with experts in the breed. As a member club, we would own the standard and no changes could be made without our input and permission. Based on multiple reason, Peggy's recommendation is to accept the invitation and join AKC as a member club. Mike made a motion to submit the application to join the AKC as a member club. Seconded by Peggy. Gonnie called for a roll call vote. Affirmative votes were cast by Rachel, Mike, Alaina, Carol, Sherry, Aaron, Will, Debbie, Peggy and Gonnie. No objections; motion carries.

New Business

No new business.

The next scheduled meeting will be held May 11, 2016 at 8:30EST/7:30CST.

With no further business, Debbie Priester made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Aaron Lozano. No objections; motion carries. The meeting was adjourned at 10:03EST/9:03CST.

Respectfully submitted,
Alaina Pierret
USNMC Secretary