

**USNMC BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES  
AUGUST 2, 2007**

**Members in attendance:** Sharon Costello, Ingrid Fortunato, Donna Welty, Irene O'Connor, Anita Goetz ( called in late ), Jennifer Groves, Kendail Gonzales, Nikki Stamper-Smith, Nydia Thornton, Rita Biddle, Shani Stewart Robbins

**Meeting called to order** at 9:16 PM Sunday

**Minutes from July 18, 2007** moved to be accepted with corrections (Contract with Old Dominion NOT signed, spelling of Alessandra's name, Legislation report given) by Nikki Stamper Smith and seconded by Jennifer Groves. Motion passed.

**President's Message:** Please stay on topic. We have a lot to cover tonight.

**Secretary's Report: Correspondence** – letter received by AKC in regards to a specialty that was held last year reminding us that we must file if we are doing this specialty ( CA ) January 2008.

Membership – Have been working on excel membership list

Following list of names have applied or sent emails requesting their status:

Name	State	Sponsor(s)	Membership Type
David Ginkel	CA	Kendail Gonzales	Associate
Jessica Stites	MI	**	Associate
Lori De Simon-Olsen	UT	Cathy White	Associate
Christopher Arts	NY	Cathy White	Associate
C. & B. Bryant	NJ	Sharon Costello	Associate
Mimi Winkler	PA	Sharon Costello	Associate
Shawn Welty	NJ	Sharon Costello	Associate
Sam Luchene	CT	refer to previous info sheet	Associate
Donna Boles	MI	Dale Mc Donald/ Jenn Groves	FULL
Nataly Means Hohlova	TN	R. Gravel/A. Gordy	FULL
Brian E. King	IL	Cathy White	Associate
Barbara Malone	KY	Peg Wolfe	Associate
Richard E. Malone	KY	Peg Wolfe	Associate
Lena Moles	TX	Janet Hospodar**	FULL
Thierry Paratore	CA	Peggy Wolfe	Associate
Catherine Speakman	CA	Peggy Wolfe	Associate
Marsha L. Alexander	CA	C.White/ J.Groves	FULL
Courtney Smith	TX	J.Groves/S. Luedemann	FULL
Scott Thornton	MA	N.Thornton/J.Groves	FULL
Joyce Wolfe	CA	P.Wolfe/J. Hospodar	FULL
Kevin Soileau	TX	Sue Luedemann	Associate
Shantell Hawkins	FL	Nikki Stamper-Smith	Associate

\*\* no/ incomplete paperwork with application

Discussion ensued regarding the amount of time some of the above applicants have been waiting to hear of their status; the by-laws state that the voting on membership applicants must be done by written secret ballot – it is the procedure handbook that states the names of applicants must be

printed for comments. Suggestion was made to send all members a postcard stating all of the above names. Time is of the essence. Rita Biddle moved that as a one time basis the secretary will mail out ballot containing the above names to board members for this group via email and the ballots are to be returned snail mail to the secretary. Jennifer Groves seconded. Motion passed – all ayes

Jennifer Groves stated that Kim Kirkman should be listed as a full member due to mix-up and Ingrid Fortunatio stated that Joseph Talerico had paid his dues, has his cancelled check but he is not listed on membership list. Ingrid was to send to secretary Mr. Talerico's address, information and copy of cancelled check.

**Treasurer's Report:** To date, the treasury total is \$42,375.77. The General Fund is at \$22,145.00, the VIP is at \$9,273.10 and Rescue is at \$10,957.17. Still waiting for Rosemary Rosensteel to send the balance of the Putnam Fund which will be plus/minus \$3500.00

Bills to paid are AKC \$3.18, Sharon Costello \$338.27 for printing and postage for Judges' Ed Jennifer Groves moves to pay bills. Ingrid seconds. Motion passed.

Irene O'Connor and Sharon Costello met with CPA (who is volunteering her time for us!) in reference to tax status. Letter from 2002 from CPA Fred Machini states all paperwork filed as 501c7 and we are a "social club". We must file 990 forms each year (there is no federal fee). If the club earns more than \$25,000.00 per year for three years, THEN USNMC is subject to taxation. As a 501C7 – we are NOT registered for tax exempt status.

Irene asks permission to order checks for total of \$89. Sharon voiced that Irene will need to purchase Quick Books for approximately \$320. Irene will need to meet with CPA for instruction on how to set up accounts. Sharon reiterates that the CPA stated that the club may continue with business of the day.

Jennifer Groves inquired about the \$465.00 bill approved by Janet Hospodar previously. Bill was submitted by Heather Gialella for s/n and shots for rescue dog. Sharon suggests that Jenn call Heather for more information. Donna Welty moves to pay the vet bill for \$465. Rita Biddle seconds. Motion passed. 9 ayes 1 nay

### **Committee Reports:**

**Communications** - liaison Ingrid Fortunato

**Neogram** – Ingrid has received several corrections for the last issue. A meeting is being scheduled with Heather Gialella, Heidi Brown, and board members for August 12, 2007 at 9 PM EST. Meeting focus will be a meet and greet and for necessary information. Donna is to arrange phone conference.

**Website** – A proposal for a new website has been submitted by Karl Groves at the request of the Board. Mr. Groves gave the board a summary of the security of the present site. He also presented an advertising idea that would generate money. When asked a time frame – Mr. Groves stated that after the graphics were secured, two weeks from that date. A graphics person could be hired for \$200-\$250. Nikki Smith moves to accept Mr. Groves proposal. Kendail Gonzales seconds. Motion passed. 10 ayes. Irene O'Connor moves to send proposal to the Website committee to proceed with for new website. Final approval is up to the Board of Directors. Nydia Thornton seconds. Motion passed. 10 ayes. Ingrid reports that she has the following people listed for the Website Committee to date: Shani Stewart Robbins, Karl Groves, Ted DeLuca, Amber Gordy, Kendail Gonzales and Donna Welty.

**Fund Raising** – liaison Nydia Thornton

Sharon reports that she has spoken with artist Valerie Valesio, has forward the artist's website to committee members to view, and that the artist has started the artwork. A discussion on T-Shirts ensued. Jennifer reported that Hills Dog Food has donated a feeder and that the website for the 2008 National is up.

**Judges' and Public Education** – liaison Sharon Costello

Sharon thanked Nikki and Shani for updating the breed flyer that is sent out by the AKC when new puppies are registered. This should be sent to AKC asap. The revised commentary and our breed standard has been mailed to the Penta's Judging Institute. Sharon Costello and Jim Deppen will be presenting on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Health** - liaison Irene O'Connor

Irene reported that to date, the members of the committee are Dr. Pierluigi Scalia, Nikki Stamper-Smith, Irene O'Connor, Dr. Sherilyn Allen, Dr. Robin Waldvogel and Karl Groves. Sharon has spoken with Dr. Allen and Dr. Scalia. Dr. Scalia has offered to attend the AKC Health Convention. Irene is told to follow up with contacting Adam King from the AKC. AKC will pay for hotel and meals but transportation is not included.

**Legislation** – liaison Rita Biddle

A brief discussion on the Tellings vs. Toledo reversed ruling was held. Donna will send email stating ruling.

*Rita signs off at this point*

**Historian** - liaison Donna Welty

No contacts made from volunteers. No report

**Code of Ethics** - liaison Shani Stewart Robbins

Members of Committee to date are as follows; Ted DeLuca, Scott Thornton, Stephanie Siegel, Brian King. Discussion on need of copy of by-laws and its history be sent to each committee member. Also discussed was the "Contact the Club" button and the possibility of an automatic reply on new website.

**By-Laws Review** – liaison Kendail Gonzales

Members to date are as follows: Brian King, Karl Groves, Scott Thornton, Sharon Costello, Jennifer Groves, Donna Welty, Bill Goetz and Dale McDonald. A meeting will be scheduled shortly.

**Membership** – liaison Anita Goetz

Member and Chair to date: Cathy White. Anita reported several of Cathy and her ideas for membership – membership cards, anniversary incentives. A new membership letter has been created, a postcard campaign to get associate members to become full members. A short discussion on the number of sponsors occurred.

**Nationals and Awards** – Showchair Jennifer Groves

Sharon and Donna will meet Heidi Warren from the Baltimore Kennel Club on Sunday to discuss details for Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> Supported Entry with the BKC. Alessandra has returned his contract to the Old Dominion K.C. Need to finalize his travel plans – flight, when arriving and departing. Sweepstake judges are needed for Saturday and Sunday.

**Local Clubs** – liaison Nikki Stamper

**OLD BUSINESS**

- **Rescue** – 501C3 paperwork still not done but will email board members copy of state filing. Rescue will be incorporated in the state of MD. To date, there are 19 dogs/puppies under the USNMC/ NeoRescue, Inc. umbrella. Discussion ensued.

Jennifer Groves moves to dissolve the USNMC Rescue by August 16<sup>th</sup>. Ingrid Fortunato seconds. Motion passed – 7 ayes 1 abstain

Donna Welty moves to surrender all existing rescue dogs/puppies in USNMC Rescue to NeoRescue, Inc by August 16<sup>th</sup>. Nikki Stamper -Smith seconds. Motion passed. 8 ayes

*Ingrid signs off at this point. Somewhere between Membership and here we lost Anita*  
If anyone has Rescue Bills outstanding- submit to Irene O'Connor asap (Heather Gialella - \$450)  
Nydia Thornton moves to reimburse Nikki Stamper Smith \$500 for rescue bills occurred a year ago. Jennifer Groves seconds and notes that prior approval had been given for payment by previous board. Motion carried. 7 ayes 1 Abstain

- Letter to membership regarding judges suggested names for 2009 and 2010 mailed
- ATIMANA  
Based on numbers printed in AKC Gazette, a letter has been faxed to Alessandra. We are waiting for his calculations for cost of membership. Last bill for 2006 (for two years???) was \$1800 and was paid personally by Peggy Wolfe.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- AKC Gazette needs to be contacted and request change of correspondent. A suggestion of different columnists is made.
- AKC to be contacted in reference to Title Report and Studbook report.
- Table Eukanuba medallions and Meet the Breeds Booth

#### **OTHER**

- Nikki requests copy of email sent referencing her (??) be attached

Next meetings: Sunday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at 9 PM re: Neogram

Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 PM re: Board Meeting

Donna moved to adjourn meeting at 12:12 AM, Monday, August 3rd