



USNMC Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, October 14, 2015
8:30pm Eastern, 7:30pm Central

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

Absent (Excused): Sherry Deans, Bill Goetz

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

The minutes of the September 9 BOD meeting and September 16 special meeting were presented. Alaina Pierret noted that both minutes were emailed to all board members on September 17 and according to the by-laws seven days were allowed for changes, corrections or amendments. She also noted that none were received. A motion to approve the minutes as distributed was made by Peggy Wolfe and seconded by Debbie Priester. No objections; motion carries.

President's Report

Gonnie emailed a copy of the OFA quarterly report on October 13. He stated that recently some members have complained about the treatment they have received from some board members. He stated that board members need to be held to a higher standard and will be treated the same as anyone else in online forums. Peggy pointed out that she thinks an email needs to be sent when someone is suspended.

Secretary Report

- Sent notice to AKC regarding standard change being tabled
- Emailed John Seibel regarding regional specialties
- Created BallotBin vote regarding Membership for Mark Reed

Treasurer Report

Mike McDonald asked if there were any questions with the report that was sent. No one had any. He mentioned that Constant Contact charged us again but has been contacted and they will be issuing a refund since it was their mistake. He also noted that he has voided the sweeps check that was outstanding and will re-issue it. He stated that he has not transferred the money from PayPal for the quilt since some has not cleared yet. He updated the status of the eBay store and said new items are being added. With no further discussion, a motion was made by Debbie Priester to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Rachel Hosking. No objection; motion carries.

Committee Reports

Membership Committee – Rachel Hosking, Chair

Mark Reed was voted on and approved by the board. A welcome letter and club information was emailed to him as well as the current newsletter.

2016 National Specialty Committee – Sherry Deans, Chair

Not much to report. Waiting on exact numbers and a few payments but we have about 30 photos for the quilt so that should be enough to fund it. They haven't started printing the squares yet so if anyone has any to still submit we can still take them.

New show dates confirmed with AKC. Working with Mike to resubmit paperwork and

fees. Need approval from Gonnies to hold club meeting on Friday at 8 am. Who will be doing judges education and ringside mentoring and when should we hold it. Thinking Friday following the annual meeting. All decisions were tabled to a later meeting.

Fundraising Committee – Carol Armbrust, Chair

I'm the only person on this committee. No volunteers, but am working with Sherry Deans closely on the show committee.

Website Committee – Michael McDonald, Chair

Rachel asked who the website inquiries are going to. Peggy mentioned that Cathy DeLuca volunteered and Rachel offered to be the backup. Everyone agreed at the last board meeting. Mike said he would notify the webmaster of the change and would give her their email addresses.

Communications Committee – Alaina Pierret, Chair

The newsletter was sent out to the membership on October 1st (our target date). No feedback was received. We have room to improve and will be working hard to do that with the next issue. Our projected publish date is December 1st. We will put together a meeting soon to discuss our next issue and to begin work on the NeoGram.

By-Laws Committee – Peggy Wolfe, Chair

Emailed the document with proposed verbiage changes to the AKC Club Relations department for their review and feedback on August 26. Have not had a reply from them so emailed it a 2nd time on October 2 asking for a response. Have not had a response yet (as of October 8). Have printed out a copy of the document and a letter and for sending via regular mail this weekend.

Published a summary of proposed changes to the membership in the October Mastino Monitor.

Am developing (should be developed by the board meeting of Oct 10) another "chat board" with the proposed verbiage changes on different "threads" for each section to give members a chance to review the exact verbiage and reasoning on each one and to provide feedback. This will allow us to publish the voluminous document to the members without overwhelming them. Reference to this could be done in an ad hoc communications or could wait for the NeoGram or monitor.

Need to write a brief summary and questions suitable for sending to the members of the two / three issues we want more detailed discussion on: term limits; member review of replaced board members; renaming subscriber back to associate. Have to decide if we'll use the BallotBin software for this or regular mailing. These should be available within the next month.

Judges and Public Education Committee – Lena Moles, Chair

The committee will be expanding the research for educational materials:

This includes: Structure, like below - implementing it in a Neapolitan Mastiff - Body (Jessica)

Head Type Education with descriptions – committee will start with the head (Carlo, Gonnies)

Health and Wellness - Researching Information, from past educational seminars from all over the world that maybe in Italian, Carlo will translate

History, explanations and differences - Lena research

Next meeting will be between Oct 29 - Nov 6

NeoRescue Liaison – Carol Armbrust, Chair

Carol gave an update on NeoRescue efforts. She said she is handling all of the Midwest and has helped with a rescue in Wyoming. She reported that there are no open foster homes and they have large medical expenses on currently fostered dogs. She asked if funding could be sent to help them, possibly a donation or a percentage of ways-and-means, etc. Peggy gave some background on how rescue became a separate entity. She volunteered to work with Carol to develop a proposal to present at the next board meeting.

Elections of New Members

Mark Reed was elected by affirmative vote via BallotBin

Unfinished Business

FaceBook Procedures - Aaron Lozano reported that Jessica Stites was asked to be a member admin and at first she hesitated but accepted. He also reported that all board members were removed except for Gonnies and himself.

Eukanuba

Rachel reported that John Seibel has volunteered to man the Meet the Breeds booth. She stated that she contacted Cathy DeLuca to get the breed banners shipped to John.

New Business

NONE

The next scheduled meeting will be held November 11, 2015 at 8:30EST/7:30CST.

With no further business, Alaina made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Peggy. No objections, motion carries. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45/8:45CST.

Respectfully submitted,
Alaina Pierret
USNMC Secretary