

# **Minutes for the Annual Meeting of the National Search Dog Alliance**

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors

December 4th, 2014

**Call to Order by Norma Snelling at 7:04pm**

## **Roll Call**

### **Directors Present:**

**Norma Snelling, Terry Crooks, Julie Gibson, Sherry Scruggs,  
Gloria Howard, Suzanne Elshult, Robert Noziska,  
Susan Fleming**

**Absent: Jan Meyers**

**Members: Larry Welker, Rena Ferguson, Pam Harding,  
Chris Terpstra**

**Approve Minutes from the November 6th, 2014 Meeting  
Minutes are approved as corrected.**

## **Officer's Reports**

### **President's Report**

Norma Snelling

Rena Ferguson has been appointed as Testing Chair; Robert Noziska is chairing committees on Firearms Evidence and Area/HRD standards; Tracey Burns will chair the Resource Committee.

### **Vice President's Report**

Terry Crooks

Avalanche Standard is being restructured. Terry is working with Cam Daggett and Kevin Huggett on this.

### **Secretary's Report**

Julie Gibson

Christmas cards are ready to go out to founding and life members.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Sherry Scruggs

See attached documents; budget will be reviewed later in meeting.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Alliance Depot**

Gloria Howard

In November there was \$235 in sales. Annually from January to November we had \$941.00 in sales.

### **Annual Conference**

No report

### **Book Review**

Susan Bulanda

No report

**Education Chair**

Wade Boyd

No report

**Evaluator Committee Chair**

Susan Fleming

No new evaluator applicants at this time. Chris Terpstra is the only member in the evaluator applicant process at this time.

**Fundraising Chair**

Pat Reagan

Houston Community Fund asked us to send documents online; our tax returns, nonprofit status were sent and we were approved to proceed. Norma could not get on line to their computer system and send additional required documents to Pat Reagan to process. This will be done in January.

**Marketing**

Judy Otto

No activity, No report, Judy would like direction to take on PR.

**Membership**

Ann Moser

-  
Membership as of December 1,2014

	Number
Current	200
Expired (< 6 months)	39
New	176
Founding	14
Life	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>438</b>

**PODCASTS**

Larry Welker

There have been no new podcasts over the past quarter. There are about 40 downloads per week of existing podcasts. Larry would like to train someone to do podcasts due to health reasons. Susan Fleming asked what podcasts are most popular; Larry stated that training the working dog is most downloaded. Larry would like to step down and train a new person.

**Resource Committee Chair**

Tracey Burns

The committee is working on getting the list-finalized and making sure-it is current and ready to be posted on the website.

**Social Media Chair**

Suzanne Elshult

Social Media

Suzanne Elshult and Ricki McLaughlin have been working together. Suzanne is posting more articles and pictures relating to SAR K9. Posts have increased substantially, increasing 968% in the past week. Engagement has increased 381% this past week. We will be moving into other social media forums.

Austen Peay State University Media Plan Project  
Suzanne has been working with the Austen Peay State University undergrad students, and instructor, Alice Hicks-Goldston. Their ideas include presentations on PR, TV commercials, products to sell, and social media. They had ideas to set up 2 Facebook pages, one for handlers, and one for public.

**Testing Chair** - Rena Ferguson  
We need to set up a job description for testing chair and need to plan to do more testing. See regional testing ideas in new business.

**Website** Norma Snelling  
Norma Snelling has added a four page list of updates to the website this month and will add more next week. We got a bill for time from Compusoar (per our request) for the amount of \$331.45  
The board will need to decide on and vote, on a bonus for Compousar.

## **Unfinished Business**

Training period for new board members coming in  
We will need guidelines for new board members and a new Board member package with expectations for their duties.

Presidents term P and P addendum to 2 year term.  
This would require a by law change. The board should rather recognize that the president should be in office 2 years and or longer if the job is being done well.

## **New Business**

### **Evidence Standard**

Committee is almost finished writing the standard. Cat Best has been the driving force on this standard and has put a lot of time into bringing this to a professional level. Sherry Scruggs questioned the use of an e collar on the test.

Area search/Large source HRD committee will come up with a standard. Two formats have been given to committee chair, Robert Noziska and he will appoint members to look at and format a standard and test.

### **Revision of Mission Statement**

NSDA needs to update its mission statement to satisfy the requirements of grantors. Many of the grantors require less words and our statement needs to address education, public safety and our high standards.

NSDA standards being NIMS compliant- Discussion of pros and cons  
Secretary Julie Gibson requested input from guests. They are training to

be compliant but NIMS compliance to level 3-4 seems to be adequate. NIMS compliance seems to be more of a talking point than something that is being implemented nationally.

#### Budget

Treasurer Sherry Scruggs will adjust the numbers on the budget, changing 2015 allocations and present to the board via email for a vote.

#### Regional Testing

It would be good to plan testing weekends in regions where we do not have a stronghold of handlers. We would make arrangements for lodging or camping and provide testing in multiple disciplines. We need to take advantage of the Alaska teams joining NSDA and offer them testing, plus add evaluators in uncovered areas. An article will be put in the newsletter and on social media requesting locations and help from teams.

A 2015 goal would be to add testing opportunities and to evaluate at least 100 teams.

Sherry Scruggs has been talking with Paul Martin about a project to make use of our research dollars.

We will need to appoint a nominating committee to recruit new board members; the election will be held earlier next year. Julie Gibson will send out an email request to form a nominating committee.

There being no further business, Julie Gibson made a motion to adjourn with a second by Terry Crooks. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m. MDT.

\_\_\_\_\_*Julie Gibson*\_\_\_\_\_, Secretary/ 12/04/2014

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