

**NATIONAL SEARCH DOG ALLIANCE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 22, 2009**

The National Search Dog Alliance held a regular meeting of the Board of Directors by conference call on January 22, 2009. The call to order was by President Norma Snelling at 7:07 PM, CST

The following Directors were present and constituted a quorum.

Norma Snelling	Terry Crooks	Jan Meyer
Dee Wild	Cameron Daggett	Jacob Weaver
Sherry Scruggs	Sue Wolff	

Members requesting attendance and present on call:

Pat Totillo
Larry Welker

I. NOTICE

The meeting was called in accordance with the bylaws of the corporation. Notice Was e-mailed to the directors and membership.

II. FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

NSDA has \$39,995.02 with \$9,475.00 as restricted funds leaving us with operating cash on hand of \$30,520.02.

III. OFFICER'S REPORTS

President's Report, Norma Snelling

Norma reported that the first draft of the GPS Trailing study document has been received and sent out to the board for comment. Several board members have responded. When all comments are received she will compile them for a response to the Chair of this project.

Vice President's Report, Terry Crooks

We have 14 Evaluator candidates and chair, Kathy Adamle is working though sending out references, checking credentials and then we will go into interviews.

Secretary's Report, Sherry Scruggs

The Secretary exported her membership e-mail list to her external hard drive so that it can be downloaded as a PST file for use with Outlook Mail. This can be transferred to the new incoming secretary when programs and file types are adjusted.

Sherry does not expect to be out of town for any extended length of time before the elections but the next Board will have to designate someone to keep a secondary file.

In order to clean up the e-mail list, notice will be put in the next newsletter that on February 17th at a predetermined time of day there will be a mailing from the

Secretary to the membership. Members can assume that if they don't receive this e-mail then they should assume that their e-mail is either incorrect in our database or possibly the mailings are being blocked. It will put them on notice to contact the secretary or the membership chairperson to get this corrected.

Treasurer's Report, Cameron Daggett

The books have been balanced and a report was sent to the executive board. Norma sent the budget for 2009 to be included in the treasurer's files. This budget was also sent to the executive board. Sue Wolff made a motion to accept the budget as written. Sherry Scruggs seconded. There was a unanimous vote of all the board members to accept the motion.

IV. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Education: Ms. Snelling reported the Supplementary group of questions for the Avalanche standard will be finished and put on the web before Avalanche testing. The Education committee is working diligently to finish the General test.

Avalanche: Mr. Crooks will address this further when we discuss document changes.

HRD: Ms. Wild reported that a draft was sent to the executive board. She would like to get these standards out to peer review so everyone needs to have their comments back to her by Tuesday 27th at 5:00 pm. Sue Wolff will send out a mass e-mail tomorrow asking who would like to serve on the peer review committee. These people need to contact Dee Wild by January 28th.

Network Committee: Larry Welker reported that each time the podcasts air that there has been an increase in member and non-member participation. Larry gave some dates for future podcasts and Dee Wild will get those out to the executive board. Larry works with the guest speakers for each session the week before going live so the speaker can easily move through the podcast program and this helps to keep things flowing well.

Mentoring Committee: Ms. Wild reported that she has matched up several teams. She's has some more applications and is working on finding a good match. She needs some tracking/trailing handlers willing to mentor.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Grants: With information from Dee Wild, Norma Snelling sent in a request to Jenny's Heroes for funding. Other letters have been written to make possible donors aware of our organization.

Written Test: There was discussion again about whether to put the test on the web. The board agreed, as before, there should be general test questions and then additional questions which are specific to the discipline the K-9 team will be testing in. There should be a question pool of about 20 questions that the specific

questions can be pulled from. The web page will contain the information that people will be expected to know for the written test.

Quick Books: Jan Meyer has checked into another program that we could use to keep the accounting books. This program requires the users to load the program on their computers. The board decided it would be easier to use the on-line version of Quick Books Pro. Cameron Daggett will continue with getting this set up.

Executive Board Meeting: Board members are making their own flight arrangements for St. Louis on March 27, 2009. We need to send that information to Cameron Daggett for ticket reimbursement.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

By Law Changes: Amendments to the by laws were sent to the membership for their review. Members could request to vote at the conference call meeting or send their proxy to the Secretary with their voting instructions. The secretary has received the proxy of five members to vote in favor of all proposed amendments. Dee Wild made a motion to accept the by law amendments as written. Sue Wolff seconded. There was a unanimous vote of all the board members to accept the motion.

August Meeting: Norma reminded everyone that elections are coming up soon and we need to all be thinking about and talking with people that we think would make good board members. There needs to be an overlap of new and retiring board members on several phone calls. There was also discussion about having a face to face meeting with the new board members in August. This will be discussed further during the March 27th meeting.

Meeting Night Change: A request was made to the President to review the bi-weekly meeting night. Norma will take a poll of the Board members to change it to Monday.

Evaluator Guidelines: The board members are continuing to send the secretary their thoughts on things that work and things that don't work when putting on a certification test. The secretary will keep a record of everyone's comments to be discussed at a later date.

Ratify Conference Calls and E-mail Votes:

1. Advisory Board member, Carol Namur of Quebec, Canada requested approval of the NSDA Board to allow NSDA approved canine evaluators to evaluate canine teams in Quebec to Quebec standards. On January 11th a unanimous vote of approval was granted by means of a telephone vote conducted by President, Norma Snelling.

Avalanche And Evaluator Document Changes: Terry Crooks proposed the following changes to the avalanche documents.

1. Change the Criteria to state “Two (2) designated NSDA Evaluators are recommended with at least one being a Primary Evaluator. If two (2) NSDA Evaluators are not available, one (1) Primary Evaluator may conduct the test.”
2. Remove the bullet about double blinds as it will require two evaluators to accomplish such.
3. Change 10 blind live burials in the last 12 months in the pre-test requirements to 10 live burials. The 10 blinds is becoming a logistical problem.

Terry Crooks proposed the following change to the Evaluator document.

1. Change it to also read as the criteria in #1 above.

The Executive Board accepted the changes that Terry is proposing.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the directors agreed to adjourn at 8:37 PM, CST.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sherry Scruggs, Secretary