

NATIONAL SEARCH DOG ALLIANCE
MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
March 25, 2010
Certified

The National Search Dog Alliance held its quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors by conference call on March 25, 2010. President Sue Wolff called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM EDT.

The following Directors were present and constituted a quorum.

Cameron Daggett	Norma Snelling	Sherry Scruggs
Sue Wolff	Larry Welker	Terry Crooks

Absent were:

Dee Wild (Working)
Cris Goodhue (Family Emergency)
Jacob Weaver (Work)

Members requesting attendance and present on the call:

Jan Myers	Ben Alexander	Cynthia Sheffield
Tawni Crippin	Mary Jane Boyd	Christy Bormann
Kathy Adamle	Walter Snelling	

I. NOTICE

The meeting was called in accordance with the Bylaws of the Corporation. Notice was emailed to the Directors and membership as prescribed by the Bylaws.

II. Long Term Goals for NSDA

Walter Snelling spoke to the BOD about the issues that are important in a not-for-profit organization. Setting goals is important for the following reasons:

1. The BOD changes often with the three (3) year terms. If the new BOD members are in agreement with the goals, then the process of doing business is a lot smoother.
2. The goals need to be specific, time oriented, quantitative, achievable, and the ability for goals that are large in scope to be broken down into sub-goals.
3. The goals should be broken into time lengths of 1, 3, and 5 years; with 10 year goals possibly being broken down into sub-goals.

III. Minutes From The Last Quarterly Meeting

Norma had a grammatical correction. Norma made a motion to accept the minutes with the grammatical change. Sue seconded and there was a unanimous vote to accept the minutes as corrected.

IV. OFFICER'S REPORT

President's Report, Sue Wolff

The next annual meeting will take place on September 16, 2010. A thirty day notice will be sent to the membership.

Sue reported that NSDA has accomplished many positive things since their last quarterly meeting in December 2009.

1. Written tests have been input online and are being edited now. They should be available for use in the next couple of months.
2. NSDA is in the final stages of recording the membership list online. Billing for renewal memberships will then be done from there.
3. This year's seminar is planned for June in Cody Wyoming. Several registrations have already been received.
4. Trailing is out for beta testing and that process is progressing well.
5. The Podcasts continue being a success both during the airing as well as the recordings.
6. In the process of posting the minutes online, we realized that we had not had an annual meeting in 2009. The 2008 meeting was held at the seminar at Camp Atterbury but will not be held at this year's seminar due to the limitations to attendance space. The 2010 Annual Meeting is scheduled for September 16th. Notices will be sent out to the membership thirty days prior to the meeting.
7. When NSDA was in its infancy, weekly BOD meetings were essential. Now the Alliance is on stable footing and these meetings are not as vital as they once were. Therefore the Board has decided to eliminate the tri-weekly conference call meetings.

Thanks to NSDA members, certain factors have been brought to the Board's attention.

1. The Land HRD standards online still had old verbiage in it. The correct one has been sent to the web poster.
2. The correctly formatted Area Standards have also been sent to the web poster.
3. The Policy and Procedures previously on the website were not current and have been replaced with the latest copy.
4. When the By-Laws were revised, a copy was sent to the IRS for their records.
5. Many good suggestions have been made for changes to NSDA documents such as the Policy & Procedures and the standards. These are all being kept by Terry Crooks for use during the document's yearly review.

AKC Grant

Provisions

- \$2,500 to be used for airfare, lodging and ground transportation for instructors and evaluators at the Cody seminar.
- \$7,500 for 3 regional certification sessions (at \$2,500 each) to provide airfare, lodging and ground transportation for evaluators. These must take place within the next 12 months, by March 31, 2011.

NSDA is looking for testing locations and members are encouraged to contact any

Board member if they know of suitable ones.

Vice Present's Report, Terry Crooks

All went well at the K-9 Avalanche event at West Yellowstone. There were eight (8) teams involved in the ski area portion of the event and seven (7) teams involved in the backcountry. We were able to work avalanche debris and other sites very typical of the avalanche problems one would expect to encounter. There is a lot of interest in NSDA and thankful of the work and future of NSDA.

Secretary's Report, Sherry Scruggs

All of the meeting notes taken since the organization began have been sent to Nicole Mosta for inclusion onto the website. Nicole will begin to populate those over the weekend.

Treasurer's Report, Norma Snelling

As of March 25, 2010

Bank of America	\$50,295.99
Capital One MM	270.65
Paypal	<u>271.74</u>
Total Funds	\$50,838.38

Capital One

Signature cards have been updated for the Money Market account. As soon as the bank records their receipt, NSDA will transfer \$30,000 into the Money Market account which is currently paying 1.01%. The Board was questioned as to any upcoming large expenditures besides the insurance premium.

The 2010 budget, which was revised to include the \$10,000 AKC grant, had been previously sent to the Board members for their review. Sue made a motion to accept the 2010 Budget as revised. The motion was seconded by Larry and unanimously approved by the Board members present.

Membership

As of March 25, 2010

290	Total members
<u>- 23</u>	Founding and Life members
267	Annual memberships

9 of the above will expire in March
105 are new or renewal memberships that have been received since
January 1, 2010

V. OLD BUSINESS

Conference – Wyoming: Jan Myers reported that there are ten complete registrations so far. There is only room for one more dog in the intermediate HRD class. There was discussion on certifying dogs during the conference. We will need about 4-5 evaluators to handle the Area and HRD tests. When the handlers sign up to test their dog, Jan will send them a reminder to bring a neatly organized folder with a copy of all their documents required for testing.

Website: Sue Wolff reported that the voting regions have been added and reminded everyone that only she or Larry can request things be added to the site. Norma has asked Georgia Baker to keep track of the independent handlers wanting to test. Once she has a small group within a reasonable distance of each other, she will request that an Evaluator be sent there to test the dog teams. She will contact Kathy Adamle and Darcy Harbaugh to get all the paper work completed.

Sue has spoken with Pat Totillo and the testing modules should be ready very soon and will be put on line. This will facilitate studying before they take the written test which will also be on line.

Water HRD: Sherry Scruggs reported the standards have been finalized and are ready to be published. The Evaluator Workshop power point presentation is written and we are ready to start identifying Evaluators and setting up a conference call to review the power point slides.

Trailing Beta: Cameron Daggett reported that he has completed both of the standards. He will put these in a PDF format so they cannot be altered. There are three teams requesting to beta test the standards. There needs to be another push for teams to beta test in the April newsletter.

Life Membership Payments: The BOD decided to make a provision so that people wanting to become life members could make payments instead of one large payment. Norma Snelling reported that people aren't taking advantage of this and it is hard for the Treasurer to keep track of. Norma made a motion to discontinue the plan. Sherry seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote from the Board.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

General Manager Position: Norma Snelling wrote a job description for this position and sent it to the Board for their critique. This person would take on some of the responsibilities that the President is now performing. If the Board approves the concept, then the job description would be posted in the newsletter for the membership to read and comment on. Sherry made a motion that the Board agree to the concept. Larry seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board. Larry made a motion that the job description draft be approved as written. Terry seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote of the Board.

Decisions voted on since the last meeting via e-mail: Sue made a motion to accept Kathleen Zasomovich as an Apprentice Evaluator in Trailing. Norma seconded the motion. The following Board members voted and she will be given the status of Apprentice Evaluator: Norma, Cameron, Larry, Jacob, Terry, Sue, Sherry.

The Board was sent the standards for the Ohio Federation of K-9 Search Teams for consideration in adding the organization to the acceptable list of National Standards that would allow their Evaluators to become Principal Evaluators for NSDA. The following Board members voted and the standards will be accepted: Norma, Sue, Terry, Sherry, Cameron, Cris, Larry and Dee.

Members Address The Board:

The following members had applied to speak to the Board at this meeting: Ben Alexander, Cynthia Sheffield, Tawni Crippin, and Mary Jane Boyd.

Ben Alexander expressed concerns about membership renewals and receipt of new membership cards.

Cynthia Sheffield felt that the membership did not get a reasonable opportunity to vote on the BOD term limits which were addressed in the January 21, 2010 Special Meeting regarding amendments to the By-Laws.

Tawni Crippin expressed concern about how the quarterly meetings are announced because the agenda for the meeting is not sent with the invitation.

Mary Jane Boyd made a lengthy statement regarding NSDA finances, management, goals, procedures, benefits for members, and offered suggestions for improvement.

Discussions followed each speaker and explanations were given. It was decided that the invitation to join the Quarterly Meetings will be modified and anyone requesting to join the call will be sent an agenda about one week before the meeting. At that time, they can request to speak to the Board. Mary Jane was tasked with revising the NSDA Policies and Procedures.

Terry Crooks made a motion to adjourn and Larry Welker seconded it. The motion passed unanimously and there being no further business, Sue Wolff adjourned the meeting at 11:40 p.m. EDT.