



NATIONAL SEARCH DOG ALLIANCE

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors

February 7, 2019

Certified

The Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Search Dog Alliance was held by conference call on Thursday, February 7, 2019. President and Chief Executive Officer Norma Snelling called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. EST.

The following Directors were present and constituted a quorum: Norma Snelling, Sue Wolff, Sherry Scruggs, Heather Proper-Van Valkenberg, Roy Pescador.

Also present were: Rena Ferguson, Leslie Kucinkas, Julie Grinnell.

Members of the Board were asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the January 3, 2019 Regular Meeting which were posted in the NSDA folder on Google Drive. As not all Board members had access to the new 2019 NSDA folder on Google Drive, approval will be done by email after all Board members are able to review the minutes.

Officer's Reports

President & CEO's Report, Norma Snelling

President & CEO Snelling reported that she made a request to Assistant Financial Officer Daggett to send checks for \$45.00 to Sherry Scruggs and Kathy Adamle. As both hold subscription memberships, this would be in lieu of extending their membership for one year as an award as a distinguished top Evaluator.

She also reported that she made a request to Assistant Financial Officer Daggett to refund \$180.00 after a double payment was made for a team registration.

President & CEO Snelling stated that she met with Education Program Manager Wisok, Communications Program Manager Kucinkas and Executive Vice-President Wolff to discuss their recent suggestions on programs.

President & CEO Snelling reported that a list of 67 names was sent to Distinct ID for membership cards. She also reported that Membership Manager Ferguson will be sending future lists.

Executive Vice-President's Report, Sue Wolff

Executive Vice-President Wolff reported that she finished the annual report and posted it to GuideStar.

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Corporate Secretary's Report, Sue Wolff

Corporate Secretary Wolff reported that an email motion was made by Roy Pescador on January 16, 2019, seconded by Sue Wolff, to approve two (2) apprenticeships under Terry Crooks prior to the Evaluator application for Sally Bankson being received, leaving only one (1) additional apprenticeship needed to become an Avalanche Evaluator. Motion carried, unanimously.

Chief Financial Officer's Report, Heather Proper-Van Valkenberg

Chief Financial Officer Proper-Van Valkenberg stated that she has sent out the financial reports to all Board members.

Program Reports

Communications Program, Leslie Kucinkas

Manager Kucinkas reported that she has been learning to make videos. She reported that she submitted a demo video to the Board in conjunction with a request that NSDA start a YouTube channel, to create educational content and to raise awareness of NSDA. She stated that she is looking forward to feedback.

Manager Kucinkas reported that she investigated the idea of virtual badges to replace membership cards. She reported that it would cost \$2.00 per badge but would include a photo. President & CEO Snelling asked that there be a central hub to gain access on memberships. She also asked about the security of this system, and whether members would be able to access their account information and make changes. Manager Kucinkas said she would find out.

President & CEO Snelling reported that the webmaster is trying to find a single way that every member can access their membership number, because we are currently using two different systems.

Education Program, Adrienne Wisok

Absent. No report sent.

Evaluation Program, Kathy Adamle

President & CEO Snelling reported that Manager Adamle is contacting Evaluators to discuss standards.

Testing Administrator/Resource Chair, Sherry Scruggs

Administrator Scruggs reported that roughly a half dozen tests have been given in January.

Newsletter, Norma Snelling

Editor Snelling reported that there are 1482 subscribers to the newsletter.

She also stated that we will be finding out next week if the NSDA Newsletter qualifies for an award from the Dog Writers Association of America.

Marketing, Beverly Moody

Absent. No report sent.

Membership, Rena Ferguson

Manager Ferguson reported she has sent 26 emails to thank members for joining or renewing their membership, and deleted nine (9) members who were past due and had received notification. She also sent out twelve (12) notices of expired memberships and five (5) second notices of membership expiration. In addition, she sent out reminder notices of expired memberships to one (1) team and two (2) Evaluators.

She also stated that she worked on registering one (1) new team and renewing three (3) teams.

Manager Ferguson stated that we presently have twenty (20) team memberships with a total of 242 members and 208 individual members, for a total of 450 members.

PODCASTS, Eva Briggs

President & CEO Snelling stated that she talked to Manager Briggs and reported that she is still interested in staying involved with PODCASTS but is having trouble finding people who are interested in doing them.

SAR Shop, Anne Goldsmith

President & CEO Snelling reported that NSDA is working on putting an ad in the CARDA Reflector newsletter, advertising books and stickers.

Social Media Supervisor, Tracy Wessel

Absent. No report sent.

Testing Program, Karen Nesbitt

Absent. No report sent.

Unfinished Business

Director Pescador reported that the Urban Trailing standards are moving along. Several issues were discussed, based on suggestions received.

- Regarding the issue of the Start Box, it was decided that this will be discussed at a later date.
- Regarding the distance of the test, it was decided to not make changes. Director Pescador suggested increasing the number of turns in situations where the length of the test was shorter. President & CEO Snelling agreed to reword the standard, but not make changes.
- It was agreed to create a Trailing 1 test with no articles.
- Regarding whether wilderness certifications can be used as a prerequisite for the Urban Trailing tests, after discussion it was decided to keep the wilderness and urban testing separate and create a stand-alone Urban Trailing 3 test.

Director Pescador stated that checklists and score sheets still need to be worked on.

It was decided that more discussion should take place and the issues brought back to the table at a later date.

The Board of Directors membership requirement has been tabled.

After discussion, it was decided that the remaining \$2000 from the Hero Dog award would be used for evaluator travel.

New Business

President & CEO Snelling reported that there have been three (3) applications for Board of Directors.

Administrator Scruggs made a motion to reinstitute the provision for boarding Evaluator's dogs.
Motion carried, unanimously.

Administrator Scruggs asked if non-NSDA certifications can be accepted in lieu of required training logs, for prerequisites. President & CEO Snelling asked her to write something up to present for consideration.

The information on the Hosting Team Information form will be edited to remove the sentence about the host being responsible for sending the testing funds collected to NSDA.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. EST.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Grinnell". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Julie Grinnell
Assistant Corporate Secretary