

AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB, INC.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday, July 7, 2004

Utah Boardroom, Indianapolis Marriott Downtown, Indianapolis, IN

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Dr. Alvin Grossman, Chairman of the Board, Presiding.
2. Roll call of members present.

Present:

Dr. Alvin Grossman, President/Chairman of the Board.
Dr. Clyde Shaw, First Vice-President.
David Donaldson, Second Vice-President.
Carolee Douglas, Director, Class of 2005.
Donald B. Harris, Director, Class of 2005.
Anthony Stallard, Director, Class of 2005
Nancy L. Foley, Director, Class of 2006
Kathleen L. Patterson, Director, Class of 2006/Legal Chair.
John Swank, Director, Class of 2006.
Laurie Ferland, Director, Zone I.
Julie Virosteck, Director, Zone IV
Sharon Elliott, Director, Zone V
Dr. Barbara Lippincott, Treasurer, Ex-Officio.
Dorothy J. Mustard, Secretary, Ex-Officio.

Absent:

Becki Buss, Director, Zone II.
Bruce J. Van Deman, Zone III.

3. Notation of Committee Chairs Present:
Eleanor (Lee) Brown, 2005 National Show Chair
Jill Ozechowski, ASC Archivist
Wilma Parker, ASC Curator
Margaret M. Saari, DVM, ASC Health Chair
Neville Ward, Foreign Liaison

Other Members Present:

Charlotte Kirton
Quinn Ruvacava
Barbara Shaw
Jane T. Williams

Guest Present

Jennifer Bennett

4. Approval of the Agenda.

Dr. Grossman announced the following changes to the Agenda: Item #9A, Goals & Objectives for Standing Committee for Companion Events – Dr. Grim, is deferred until the next meeting. No reports from the following Standing Committees: Item #11-B – ASC Curator – Mrs. Parker; Item #11-F – ASC Website Coordinator – Mrs. Orkins; Item #11-K – English Cocker Spaniel – Mr. McFarlane; Item #11-L – Mrs. Henson; Item #11-P – Finance – Dr. Lippincott; and Item #11-Y – Legal – Ms. Patterson, Esq.

Mr. DeClerck sent an e-mail to Mrs. Mustard stating that he would not attend the meeting so we can take up Item #9-G in its proper order. Ms. Moore will be here late so we can take up Item #11-G whenever she arrives.

With the above exceptions, the Agenda was approved unanimously.

5. Report of the President – Dr. Grossman

Dr. Grossman welcomed the board members to Indianapolis and expressed great appreciation and support for Nancy Foley and her Show committee. He also welcomed the several ASC members and guests who were in attendance. Dr. Grossman spoke of several AKC activities such as the Stud Book being sent to parent breed clubs and not being printed any longer, the PETA push on docking and cropping having a major effect on our breed. He mentioned that there was a record attendance at the AKC Delegates' meeting in Nashville. The AKC Board-proposed advertising of puppies for sale on the website is very controversial and future discussion has been deferred until the January meeting.

6. Report of the Secretary – Mrs. Mustard

As usual, Samuel Spaniel has asked me to make his report to the Board. Sam wants you to know that since the first of the year he has responded to a little over 80 emails sent to him through the website. Other than 4 or 5 from members asking about show related or website related information, the remaining were from the general public asking information about health, breeding, rescue, breeder referral or behavioral issues. Questions on behavioral issues are way down - questions on rescue and puppies are up. More times than not - information on the ASC website is of help. For other cases, I refer them to their local dog club, veterinarian or rescue network. Regards, Your Samuel Spaniel

The following e-mail discussion and subsequent ballot was handled by Board members since the last meeting:

1. *Approval of the April 24, 2004 Board Meeting Minutes*

This e-mail topic was forwarded to the voting members on May 3, 2004. One week, until May 10, was provided for discussion.

It was moved by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Ms. Patterson that the minutes of the April 24, 2004 Board Meeting be approved as amended on May 12, 2004.

The above motion was sent via e-mail to all voting Board members on May 20, 2004.

No Board Member stated that he/she would be unable to participate in the discussion period provided nor that the e-mail attachment forwarded on May 20, 2004 could not be opened. No Board Member stated that they would be unable to vote during the period provided.

The vote for the motion is as follows: Yes: Dr. Shaw, Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Douglas, Mr. Stallard, Mrs. Foley, Ms. Patterson, Mrs. Ferland, Mr. Van Deman, Mrs. Virosteck and Ms. Elliott. Not Voting: Mr. Harris, Mr. Swank and Ms. Buss.

The April 24, 2004 Board Meeting minutes are approved.

2. *Member Club Question*

While this is not technically an item that needs to be reported as an e-mail discussion, I think that we should have it in the record.

My communication to Board members on April 30, 2004, was as follows: "In case you don't know, I am responsible for approving member clubs having specialty shows. AKC requires ASC approval before they will finalize the show.

The CSC of San Diego lost their show venue for their scheduled ate of May 14th because of the associated club's losing their site. The club has asked for approval to schedule their show for July 9 – the same weekend of the National. Because of the necessity for clubs to lock in the site and the date as well as to obtain judges, there is some urgency .

I feel that I need some guidance here. My feeling (and Kathy's and Al's) is that while we have sympathy for the club, there should be some support by the club for our National rather than scheduling a show at the same time.

Because of the timing, I am asking for your guidance. Discussion if necessary, but I would like to reply to the Club by Wednesday, May 5.

On Wednesday, May 5, 2004 I sent the following to the Board, "I have received responses from all but two of the voting members of the Board. This certainly constitutes a majority and all responded No to my question. I am sending that message to the CSC of San Diego today.

3. Straw Vote to Authorize Nancy Foley to Authorize Volunteer Quinn Ruvacava to Video the 2004 National

The results of the "straw vote" to authorize Nancy Foley, Show Chair for 2004 National, to make arrangements for Quinn Ruvacava to be the show videographer are as follows: 11 Yes Votes, 1 Abstention, and 1 Not Voting.

I stated that I would read this authorization as part of my report to the Board and you could finalize the authorization at that time. I am asking for that authorization now. **IT WAS MOVED** by Mrs. Virosteck and seconded by Ms. Elliot to make this authorization. The motion was unanimously approved.

There has been one mailing to ASC members since the April meeting. Due to an unfortunate glitch in my computer, I'm very much afraid that those members who receive the Bulletin via e-mail, did not receive it. Hopefully, the glitch has been repaired and, since I'm not having any problem sending e-mail attachments now, I expect the next Bulletin via e-mail will go without a hitch.

The Annual Report went to the printer on June 17, much later than I had anticipated. I hope to have it in the mail to members no later than August 1. Speaking of the Annual Report, I want to raise a couple of options with you.

One thing I hear constantly from Club members is that the Report as it is currently printed is very difficult to read. Naturally, this is a function of the type font, but as long as we are constrained to this size, we need to keep the number of pages down and the only way to do this is to keep the font size small.

If we keep this size, I would like to suggest that we split the Annual Report into two parts. Part one would be printed every five years or so, unless there is a change in the material. This part would include the Articles of Incorporation, the By-Laws, the Cocker Spaniel Standard, the Code of Ethics, Guidelines for the Code, Regulations for the holding of shows, obedience trials and field trials, regulations to be followed by member clubs and any other pages that do not change from year to year.

Part two would be printed each year and would contain the Board and Committee information as well as the annual awards and committee reports as well as the listing of current members and show photographs.

Another option would be to use 11 X 17 inch paper - this would produce an 8 ½ X 11 inch book which would include all the information currently produced in the Annual Report. The advantage here would be the increased readability of the material. Cheaper to produce, even using quality paper. We would still produce a complete report each year but would be able to reduce the number of pages significantly (about 15%).

Don Ploke sent me, at Julie's urging, a copy of a booklet that he produces annually for the Nevada Dog Fanciers. We might want to discuss the publication of our Annual Report with him.

Still another option would be to go to a slick magazine format - we could finance this by soliciting ads.

IT WAS MOVED by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Donaldson that Don Ploke be asked to place a bid on printing the Annual Report in the current format. The motion was approved unanimously.

As the ASC Club representative to the Purina Parent Club Partnership Program, after consulting with Dr. Grossman, I signed a contract with Purina through December 2006 to continue our participation. This is the ProClub part of the Purina program. As of April 30, 2004 ASC had 428 members who agreed to submit weight circles - this resulted in a total of \$1,042.66 accumulated so far for the 2004 program. I am the ASC Purina representative insofar as the notifications for bitch nominations (earning \$10 each for the Club) and puppy enrollments are concerned. I also provide to Purina the names of Futurity enrolled puppies who achieve their championship. This earns the Club \$25 per champion.

I need your approval for Carol Proxee to serve as the January 2006 Futurity Chair. Since the bitch nomination form needs to be distributed prior to the January Board Meeting, please approve that now. **IT WAS MOVED** by Dr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Donaldson and unanimously approved for Carol Proxee to serve as the January 2006 Futurity Chair.

As we all know, one of the board e-mail discussions that was rather sensitive was forwarded to someone not on the board and who was being discussed. Because of this I request that all discussions, sensitive or not, be confined to voting board members only - this would include the Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Secretary.

After some discussion, it was decided that a letter would be sent to the member who had forwarded the e-mail. To hopefully eliminate the problem in the future, **IT WAS MOVED** by Ms. Patterson and seconded by Mrs. Virosteck that Mrs. Foley will set up a Yahoo Group for Board Members. The motion was unanimously approved.

We need to set the date and location of the January meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting will be held on January 6, 2005 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Philadelphia..

Thank you.

7. Report of the Treasurer – Dr. Lippincott.

Dr. Lippincott provided an update on current funding. Financially, the July show is fine. There is one thing hanging from the January show; the Purina check is in the mail, but no money has been received from Pam Maher from the silent auction. After some discussion, Dr. Grossman was asked to speak to Mrs. Maher.

8. Report of the Assistant Treasurer – Mrs. Harmon.

The dues cycle for this year is over and so things have slowed down dramatically. Our drop list this year was on the low side, so that's good news.

I have received to date 6 volunteer forms with the offers of help in the following areas:

- Breeder Education
- Ethics
- International Relations
- National Show Events
- Cocker Spaniel Standard
- Internal Relations
- Legal
- Public Education
- Health & Research
- Health Registry
- ASC Website
- Companion Dog Events
- Agility
- History
- ASC By Laws

After an extensive discussion regarding the volunteer form and potential use of the list of volunteers, **IT WAS MOVED** by Dr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Donaldson and unanimously agreed that a Standing Committee be created for the Coordination of Volunteer Services. This committee will utilize Zone Directors as liaison to help assign volunteers to committees as deemed appropriate. Mrs. Mustard contacted Mrs. Harmon at the direction of the Board and she has agreed to fill this position. All volunteers will be acknowledged by letter and appreciation expressed for their willingness to serve the club.

9. Unfinished Business.A) Goals & Objectives for Standing Committee for Companion Events – Dr. Grim.

Dr. Grim's report is deferred until the January meeting.

B) Trophies –1. Medallions for First in Classes at ASC Shows – Ms. Patterson.

Ms. Patterson stated that Mrs. Mills' suggestion that there not be trophies given at the Flushing Spaniel show below reserve winners might be handled by having an ASC medallion made up and presented to all first in classes at the show. The medallion that is on the Versatility Plaque is a three-dimensional representation of the Paul Brown head and would most likely cost \$7 to \$10 each, less than buying trophies. This would also save the Trophy Chair having to collect pledges for those trophies; more emphasis could be provided to collecting to the General Trophy Fund. Mrs. Parker will be in later with some old medallions and some more current for board members to view. Ms. Patterson and Mr. Harris will be investigating alternatives and will provide recommendations to the board at the January meeting.

2. Storage and Maintenance of ASC Trophies – Ms. Torgerson/Mrs. Parker.

After a thorough investigation with negative results in finding a suitable and affordable storage facility both in Philadelphia and Maryland, it is the recommendation of the Archival Committee that all trophies and historical artifacts be stored in one location with the ASC Curator who will oversee their management and care. **IT WAS MOVED** by Dr. Shaw, seconded by Ms. Patterson and unanimously approved that the ASC Curator store and oversee the management and care of all ASC trophies and historical artifacts.

3. Lack of Funding for Two Memorial Trophies – Ms. Patterson.

After some discussion, Board Members decided that the Trophy Chair for the Flushing Spaniel show be informed that she should fund these trophies from the general trophy fund.

C) Administration of the Top Dog Awards Committee – Discussion of Member Appointments – Dr. Grossman.

Dr. Saari had asked that this topic be deferred until her arrival; she was present so the subject was raised. Several potential committee members were suggested; Jason Harmon; Elena Duggan and Jeanne Grim. Dr. Saari and Dr. Grim are to serve as co-chairs of the Committee. Dr. Grossman is to speak to Dr. Grim.

D) DNA Blood Draw Project – Ms. Kolehouse.

Report accepted. **IT WAS MOVED**, seconded and unanimously approved to authorize the Cocker DNA Blood Draw be held at all ASC events; e.g., the Cocker Spaniel National and the Flushing Spaniel Show. Unentered dogs will be allowed at both shows for the duration of the Blood Draw.

E) E-Mail from Gary Walker to President Alvin Grossman – Dr. Grossman.

Since most of Dr. Walker's proposals will either require By-Laws changes or additional funding (or both), the consensus was to have Mrs. Foley prepare a draft response to him. Her draft will be forwarded to Board Members no later than September 1, 2004. Dr. Grossman will inform Dr. Walker that the Board has discussed his proposals and a reply will be forthcoming.

F) Board Members Judging at ASC Shows – Dr. Grossman.

Dr. Grossman stated that he and Mrs. Mustard had looked at the Standing Rules and could find no rule stating that board members cannot judge at the two ASC-sponsored shows. **IT WAS MOVED** by Mrs. Ferland and seconded by Mr. Stallard to establish a Standing Rule that no incumbent board member be placed on the ballot to judge either the ASC National nor the Flushing Spaniel Show. All members in attendance voted yes except Dr. Shaw who voted no.

G) Videography Services for ASC – Dr. Grossman.

After some discussion concerning videography services for ASC (how past tapes are used and what the Club needs for future years), it was determined that Mrs. Foley will ask Mr. Van Deman if he will head up a committee to make recommendations to the Board as to the ASC needs for a video history, how the past and the future should interact. Mrs. Foley later reported that Mr. Van Deman will assume the Chair of this committee. Patty Darke was recommended to serve on the committee as she has knowledge and interest in the subject. The general consensus of the board members was to have this committee begin work immediately so that the videography situation can be resolved before the January meeting, if possible. Mr. Van Deman is to provide the Board with an outline of the committee's work, a list of committee members and a timetable for completion and recommendations.

Lunch Break 11:55 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

H) Any Other Unfinished Business.

1. 5-Day Show Discussion – Mrs. Virosteck.

Mrs. Virosteck reported that the comparison between four and five days involved both outlays and revenues and were outweighed by the advantages for increased educational opportunities and health clinics. **IT WAS MOVED** by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Ms. Elliott that the ASC National can be expanded to five days (beginning with the 2006 National) at the discretion of the Show Committee, with the approval of the Board. Unanimously approved.

11. Reports from Standing Committee Chairs and Show Committee Chairs.

A) ASC Archivist – Ms. Ozechowski.

Mrs. Ozechowski reported on her contacts with Melanie Sharp Bolster, the great granddaughter of both Hildreth and Howard Willets of Mepal Farm fame. Mrs. Bolster has a collection of Cocker history, in documents, pictures and statuary. Mrs. Ozechowski reports that she is negotiating with Mrs. Bolster to possibly recover some of these priceless materials.

B) ASC Curator – Mrs. Parker.

Mrs. Parker had nothing to report at this time.

C) ASC Health Chair – Dr. Saari.

Dr. Saari's report was accepted as read.

D) ASC Health Registry – Mrs. Iby.

Mrs. Iby's report was accepted as read.

E) ASC Rescue – Ms. Buss.

There was some discussion concerning the NC rescue situation and when it appeared that not enough information had been provided and nothing could be resolved, **IT WAS MOVED** by Ms. Patterson and seconded by Mrs. Virosteck appoint Mr. Donaldson and Mrs. Ferland to follow through with Ms. Buss and report back to the Board. Unanimously approved.

F) ASC Website Coordinator – Mrs. Orkins.

Mrs. Orkins had nothing to report at this time.

G) ASC By-Laws Revision Committee – Ms. Moore, Esq.

Ms. Moore spoke about some of the proposed changes and accepted some further direction from board members.

H) Canine Legislation – Mrs. Dixon.

Mrs. Dixon's report was accepted as read.

I) Cocker Spaniel Standard – Mrs. Speich.

Mrs. Speich's suggestion concerning a "Quick Refresher" card was discussed. Those judges on the board had no knowledge of such a card from other breeds. Member Barbara Shaw was recognized and suggested using technology to putting some judge's information on the website. No action taken by the board.

J) Companion Events – Dr. Grim.

Dr. Grim's report was accepted as read.

K) English Cocker Spaniel – Mr. McFarlane.

Mr. McFarlane had nothing to report at this time.

L) Ethics – Mrs. Henson.

Mrs. Henson had nothing to report at this time.

M) Field East – Mrs. Cacchio.N) Field Mid-West – Ms. Kolehouse.O) Field West – Mrs. Linehan.

The joint report for the three Field Chairs was accepted as read.

P) Finance – Dr. Lippincott.

Dr. Lippincott had nothing to report at this time.

Q) Insurance – Ms. Torgerson.

Ms. Torgerson's report was accepted as read.

R) January 2005 Show Chair – Mrs. Mills.

Mrs. Mills' report was accepted as read. **IT WAS MOVED** by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Ms. Elliott to approve Patti Nazarko as the Seating Committee Chair. Unanimously approved.

S) January 2005 Futurity Chair – Mrs. Proxee.

Mrs. Proxee's report was accepted as read.

T) Judges & Breeders Education – Mrs. Speich.

Mrs. Speich's report was accepted as read.

U) July Shows Liaison – Ms. Patterson, Esq.

Ms. Patterson's report was accepted as read. She recommended that the board look at the overall declining entry figures since 1997. She distributed the updated Policy Manual for the ASC National Cocker Spaniel Specialty Show.

V) 2004 National Show Chair – Mrs. Foley.

Mrs. Foley's report was accepted as read. She indicated that the show will be a huge success and will make money, not as much as projected, but still in the black. The All-Breed Agility entries were far less than projected and this is an area the board might want to look at for future shows. There were problems with Onofrio as superintendent and the travel side of Onofrio did not support the show. Costs for one judge's airfare to the show far exceeded the usual cost of a flight. Although she knows that a contract has been signed for the 2005 National, Mrs. Foley recommends that Onofrio not be contracted for future years.

W) 2005 National Show Chair – Mrs. Brown.

Mrs. Brown's report was accepted. Committee Chairs were approved. Discussion centered around the logo and the artist, Mrs. Kirton, not being willing to release the logo to the Club without retaining future rights to it. The Paul Brown logo will be added to the catalog and premium list version of the logo, but since that was the only requirement indicated in the National Guidelines sent to Mrs. Brown last year, the Board could not require more.

IT WAS MOVED by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Stallard that Debbie Paull's proposal for Peggy Bang artwork as trophies for the National be accepted. Unanimously approved.

IT WAS MOVED by Mr. Stallard and seconded by Dr. Shaw to accept the proposal to offer rosettes for all class placements at the 2005 National. Unanimously approved.

IT WAS MOVED by Mrs. Virosteck and seconded by Mrs. Foley that all non-regular classes in Obedience be offered at the 2005 National. Unanimously approved.

X) 2006 National Show Chair (Site Discussion) – Ms. Ferland.

Mrs. Ferland's report was accepted.

Y) Legal – Ms. Patterson.

Ms. Patterson had nothing to report at this time.

12. Zone Director Reports

Zone I – Ms. Ferland.

Zone II – Ms. Buss.

Zone III – Mr. Van Deman.

Zone IV – Mrs. Virosteck.

Zone V – Ms. Elliott.

Zone Director reports were accepted.

13. New Business

A) Applicants for Membership and Election to Membership (Written, secret ballot).

This Agenda Item was deferred to Executive Session, immediately following this meeting.

B) Life Membership for the following members with continuous membership for 25 years:

June 1979: Sandra M. Lex (Canada); Dennis Messamore (IL); Kyle J. Robinson (KY) and Deborah Verdon (LA); July 1979: Eileen Chenevert (MD); Edward Laughlin (TX); Dr. Carole K. Miura (HI); August 1979: Carol Dixon (FL).

All members listed were elected to life membership, without objection.

C) Establishment of Nominating Committees for 2005 Election – Dr. Grossman.

After discussion and several ballots, members were selected for Nominating Committees as follows:

National Nominating Committee: Julie Virosteck, Zone IV, Chair; Bonnie Pike, Zone I; Beth Speich, Zone II; Nancy Gallant, Zone III and Betty McClendon, Zone V. Alternates: Wilson Pike, Zone I; Susan B.

Roman, Zone II; Melinda A. Hart, Zone III; Carolyn A. Calkins, Zone IV and Deborah Y. Verdon, Zone V.

Zone I Nominating Committee: Judy Kline (NH), Chair; Xiomara Larson (CT) and Carol Papp (CT).

Alternate: David Donaldson (PA).

Zone II Nominating Committee: Jane T. Williams (AL), Chair; Charlotte Kirton (GA) and Gwen Wells (NC). Alternate: Jackie Cavallin (SC).

Zone III Nominating Committee: Joan Stallard (OH), Chair; Lisa Arnett (MI) and Tina Turner (IN).

Alternate: Annalisa Arnett (MI).

Zone IV: Sylvia Fairbanks (NV), Chair; Jerry Moon (OR) and Annette L. Zuck (CA). Alternate: Stephanie Kaul (CA).

Zone V: Dr. Tammy M. Stiller (MO), Chair; Lisa K. Bowers (OK) and Gail Labbe' (TX). Alternate: Frances McCue (TX).

IT WAS MOVED by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Donaldson that the material in bold print on paragraphs 6 and 8 of the *Guidelines for the National Nominating Committee and Zone Nominating Committees in Selection of Candidates* be deleted. Unanimously approved.

D) Review of Secretary Contract for August 1, 2004 through July 30, 2005 – Mrs. Mustard.

IT WAS MOVED by Dr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Stallard and unanimously approved to accept the interim contract for secretarial services for Mrs. Mustard.

E) Medallions for AKC/Eukanuba National Championship on January 15-16, 2005 – Dr. Grossman.

IT WAS MOVED by Dr. Shaw and seconded by Mrs. Virosteck that ASC donate \$225 for medallions to be given at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship for Best of Breed, Best Opposite Sex to Best of Breed and for Best Bred By Exhibitor. Unanimously approved.

- F) Hosting of “AKC Meets The Breeds” Booth at the AKC/Eukanuba Show – Dr. Grossman.
Dr. Lippincott volunteered to set up and man the booth for ASC.
 - G) AKC Breeder Referral Program - Dr. Grossman.
Dr. Grossman provided an overview of the program.
 - H) Partnership Between ASC and ASCF on the BreedCare Program – Ms. Kolehouse.
Ms. Kolehouse’s report was accepted as read.
 - I) ASC/AKC Electronic Stud Book – Dr. Grossman.
This topic was discussed briefly.
 - J) Discussion of Relationship Between ASC and ASCF – ASCF Board Members.
Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Parker, Dr. Grossman and Mrs. Virosteck provided an overview of the Foundation charter. Questions were answered both from members of the Board and from the audience.
 - K) Docking of Tails and Cropping Ears – Dr. Grossman.
Dr. Grossman discussed this very serious issue and mentioned that Becki Buss is the ASC representative to the National Breed Club Alliance. The Alliance is working toward elimination of “docking and cropping” legislation across the country.
15. Any Other Business.
- 1) Show Committee for January 2006.
Dr. Grossman will discuss with Mrs. Mills the appointment of an Assistant Show Chair to become familiar with the workings of the show. He will also ask Mrs. Mills to serve as Show Chair for January 2006.
16. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy J. Mustard
Secretary

Board approved on September 11, 2004.