

AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB, INC.
NOTICE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: Saturday, April 14, 2007 at 9:00 A.M., Eastern Daylight Time.
PLACE: Embassy Suites Hotel, Atlanta Airport.

1. Call to order, Mrs. Jane T. Williams, Presiding, at 9:00 a.m.

2. Members present: Williams, Van Deman, Virosteck, Campbell, Elliott, Foley, Gallant, Harris, Larson, Pike, Skinner, Torgerson-Rismyhr, Ward
Absent: Pitts
Ex Officio: Harmon, Patterson

3. Notation of Committee Chairs and others present. Quinn Ruvacava, Carolee Douglas, Jason Harmon, Venee Gardner

4. Approval of the Agenda. Modification: discuss the July 2008 show after lunch Motion by Mr. Van Deman, second by Mrs. Torgerson-Rismyhr to accept the agenda as amended. Approved.

5. Approval of Minutes of the January 2006 regular and organizational meetings (sent under separate cover). Mr. Harris moved to approve the minutes of the regular January Meeting, second by Ms. Elliott. Approved. Mrs. Gallant moved to approve the minutes of the January organizational meeting, second by Mr. Skinner. Approved.

6. Report of the President – Mrs. Williams. GET FROM JANE.

7. Report of the Secretary – Ms. Patterson.

The first 2007 Bulletin was prepared and mailed. And the second Bulletin is in progress.

Annual Report: We are waiting for a few reports – Treasurer, English Cocker Spaniel liaison, some zone directors -- and we will be ready to send the annual report to the printer. Since we are so close to the May 1st drop date, I plan to wait and use the updated May 1 membership list. One consideration for you as Board members to discuss, if not this year, perhaps next, is the possibility of going to biennial reports. The cost for the spiral bound report is considerably more than former reports – almost double. Because of the cost (approximately \$5-6000 for printing and \$1500-2000 for envelopes and mailing) do you want to do a biennial report and just print one every other year?

The bylaws revisions are almost ready to go to the membership. Linda Moore is doing a final review of the explanations of changes and then we'll print the information sheets and ballot.

Mailing costs for a secret ballot on the bylaws amendments is approximately \$1525-1600 for 1000 pieces printed and mailed. Breakdown:

Outer envelope -- \$150. (this is a discount because I had an extra 1000 outer envelopes printed when we printed the Bulletin envelopes.)
Ballot envelope -- \$53.98 (small envelope with "BALLOT" printed on front.
Info piece -- \$450 (approximate cost, will depend on actual number of pages)
Postage -- \$870 (figured at .87/envelope and no additional for foreign)
(Additional cost of 2nd envelope addressed to Secretary or teller -- \$53.98 – do you wish to provide this for members to use?) The consensus is to print this envelope.

Since January, I have been contacted by several people/organizations with various propositions:

1. Al Grossman. He would like a free page of advertising in each Bulletin in exchange for columns like those that appear in other dog magazines. Consensus, already in other dog publications, don't need to duplicate.
2. Sherluck MultiMedia. Consensus, send a letter to Shurluck MultiMedia reminding them that they have already done the cocker standard.
3. American Kennel Club seeks nominations for Lifetime Achievement Awards in the areas of conformation, companion events and performance. Nominations are due May 11.
4. American Kennel Club – advertising opportunity in Family Dog magazine. \$1.25/word/issue.
8. Report of the Treasurer – Dr. Lippincott. Since Dr. Lippincott was not present, this item was moved to Executive Session after lunch.
9. Report of the Membership Chair – Mrs. Harmon. Dues have come in well this year and she has the potential drop list for Zone Directors. Other membership issues were moved to executive session.
10. Unfinished Business
 - A) Futurity Update – Mrs. Pike

Online nominations – Mr. Fehring sent a trial form for Board to try online. Several Board members indicated they couldn't get it to work but do like the concept. Want members to be able to use an online system if they want to. Others can send traditional way. Mrs. Foley moves to give Mr. Fehring the authority to work with Ms. Bell and Mr. Delisle to put the futurity forms on web site and begin implementing and accepting online futurity nominations in addition to the current hard copy forms. Seconded by Ms. Elliott. Approved. In addition, explore making payment by using Paypal a possibility.

Mrs. Pike moves to change the wording in the futurity rules to clarify that both the dog and bitch be at least 2 years of age and provide photocopies of "eyes examined on or after 2 years of age and annually thereafter." Seconded by Mr. Ward. Approved, with Mrs. Torgerson-Rismyhr abstaining.

Discussion about amending the wording on the website about when and how dogs obtain "permanent" status. Mrs. Torgerson-Rismyhr and Mrs. Foley will work on language and bring change to the Board after lunch. Effective for the July 2008 Futurity, the language for permanent status will read "a dog who has a clear eye exam on or after their 8th birthday...." Motion by Mrs. Virosteck, second by Ms. Elliott. Approved.

B) Merle Committee Progress Report – Mrs. Campbell/Mr. Wright.

DNA blood draws sent to Rocky (10 year old rescue dog) Will be done in next 10 days or two weeks. One dog tested has passed away (young dog) but do have pictures and DNA.

Mrs. Williams will contact the Dachshund Club re their double dapple and report to the Board.

C) Balloting Procedures Implementation – Mr. VanDeman/Ms. Torgerson

Mrs. Foley moves to form a standing committee called the Judges Selection Committee. Seconded by Mrs. Torgerson-Rismyhr. Approved, with Mr. Harris voting no and Mr. Van Deman and Mrs. Pike abstaining.

Mrs. Foley moved to name Susan Stacy Lowder as chair and ask her to work with the Secretary and 1st Vice President to assure smooth transition and attempt to implement the process for the 2009 judges' selection. Second by Mrs. Gallant. Approved, with Mr. Van Deman abstaining.

Mr. Ward moves, seconded by Mrs. Larson, to modify point #2 in Mr. Van Deman's proposal to have the committee be composed of one member from each zone. Chair can designate which three are tellers and which alternate. Approved, with Mr. Van Deman and Mr. Harris abstaining.

D) Approval of Standing and Show Committee Chairs vacant after organizational meeting. Motion by Mr. Skinner, seconded by Mrs. Virosteck to approve the following committee chairs:

Legal Chair – Ms. Linda Moore, Esq.

January 2008 Flushing Spaniel Show – Dr. Bob Smith

Mrs. Campbell moves, seconded by Mrs. Virosteck to continue the arrangement with Jean Delisle for web design.

Mrs. Williams announced that Dr. Ann Jeglum had volunteered to co-chair Health Committee and assist in organizing the DNA info being gathered. Mrs. Williams reported Dr. Saari welcomed the assistance. Without objection, the Board concurred.

E) Proposal to change Flushing Spaniel Show to four days - appoint committee to explore per January minutes. Xia Larson volunteered to chair committee with members; Laurie Ferland, Calvin Ward, Bruce Van Deman, Jason Harmon. Will report at the July meeting.

11. Reports from Standing Committee Chairs and Show Committee Chairs

A) Report of the Delegate – Mrs. Shaw

Mrs. Shaw presented a detailed report of the March Annual Meeting and election of AKC Board members Dr. Patricia Haines, Ken Marden, and Patti Strand. There is a survey on the AKC web site regarding the Mixed Breed question. Please take the time to answer. The response will determine if the AKC pursues this notion.

B) January 2008 Show, Acting Chair – Dr. Smith. Mrs. Williams distributed Dr. Smith's report.

Proposal # 1. Recommend list of Committee Chairs. Motion by Mr. Ward, second by Mrs. Gallant. Approved, with Mrs. Campbell abstaining.

Mr. Skinner brought up some issues with vendors at the 2007 show such as complaints from long-time vendors who were not invited to attend. The consensus of the Board was that any vendor who wants to come can reserve a booth until we run out of space. Also raised was issue that we are not charging enough rental to cover electricity. Consensus to allow vendors to reserve and pay for their own electrical needs. Jane will pass on comments to vendor chair.

Proposal # 2. Offer Best Veteran In Show. Motion by Mr. Ward, second by Mrs. Virosteck. Approved. Mr. Harris volunteered to donate that trophy.

Proposal # 3. Recommend contracting with Rau as the Superintendent. Motion by Mr. Ward, second by Mrs. Campbell. Approved

Proposal # 4. Recommend contracting, in future years, with the Scanticon to store carpet and tubs instead of Reber-Friel. Motion by Mr. Ward, second by Ms. Elliott. Approved

Proposal # 5. Recommend establishing a committee to research cost of new carpeting for January 2009. Motion by Mr. Ward, second by Ms. Elliott. Approved

C) January 2008 Futurity Chair – Mr. Carter.
Email from Mr. Carter that he has 37 bitch nominations as of April 10, 2007.

D) July 2007 Show Chair – Mrs. Taylor/Mr. Mertens.

Jan Taylor's husband is critically ill. All of Jan's committee chairs have been following through and Sharon has been following up on a lot of the loose ends. Onofrio is sending me the premium list to share with Jason Harmon for proofing as soon as it is available.

E) July 2007 Futurity Chair – Mr. Fehring

Email from Mr. Fehring that he has 81 Bitch Nominations, 2 Puppy enrollments as of April 10, 2007.

F) July 2008 Show Chair – Mrs. Foley

Will be back in Indianapolis at Convention Center. Dates: July 10-13, with move-in July 9th. Theme: Back Home Again in Indiana.

Committee:

Chair – Nancy Foley
Asst Chair – Jason Harmon
Futurity – Jim Fehring
Grounds – Tim Jones
Tack room -Laura Heidrich
Obedience – Mariela Piola
Nancy Gallant - Agility
Judges Hospitality - Doug Johnson
Denise Anderson – catalog sales
Jane Wms. - Steward
Trophy Chairs Marty and Wilma
Diane Nelson - Seating
Tina Turner – Advertising
Ken Feller – Vendors
Kathy Reid – Memorabilia
Fundraising – Genea Jones
Hunt - Vickie Dahlk

Plans are to have a Stud Dog Showcase and/or a Breeders Showcase

Motion by Mr. Ward, second by Mr. Skinner to approve theme and committee chairs.
Approved.

G) Companion Events – Mrs. Douglas

Mrs. Douglas assessed several issues faced by individuals who do primarily performance activities with their dogs and don't know ASC members to get sponsors as well as the lack of "welcome" from conformation exhibitors.

Discussion ensued on how to identify mentors or greeting committee at shows. All need to take responsibility. How get someone like a docent. Check in at catalog committee for a dog show tours. How show more interest in newbies. Quinn -- need to take responsibility for meeting others as well. Maybe have announcement during show if new and want more information about club and show. Could maybe have button saying "I'm a visitor today" or "This is my first ASC". Suggest show chair announce if new member stand up...or if visitor stand up.

Need to incorporate others into "family" – neighbors, friends, etc. 63% of US population own pet dogs. Need to be inclusive.

Maybe what is needed in some time or way that when we DO have someone that has come to our National or Flushing Show, the visitor is introduced to everyone, I believe that this has been done at our Annual Meeting. Like at the dinner out by the lake in Sturbridge would be the likely time/place. Our ASC members should make an effort to introduce themselves to them and make the visitor feel welcomed. We always sit with our groups, we need to open up and spread out to intermingle with these new members or visitors. Consider a "Mentor" being assigned to the applicant or new member for a period of time.

The companion and performance committee also recommends requiring at least one member of the Board to be an active exhibitor in one, if not all, the companion

events. By only having breeders and/or conformation exhibitors on the board, the board DOES send a message to the membership that breeding and exhibiting in conformation is only thing that ASC is about. It's like companion events are something that ASC is being forced to accommodate these events when they are the fastest growth in the exhibition of dogs, especially cockers.

Discussion ensued that a new nominating committee is appointed every July. The Board can't formulate a requirement that there be specific interests represented on the Board but can request the nominating committee consider other than conformation members. Companion and performance members must also take the initiative to contact nominating committee members and express their interest in serving on the Board.

H) Field – Mrs. Gardner.

Mrs. Gardner presented revisions to the Hunting Test Guidelines that would allow ASC to sponsor event for club not qualified to sponsor event on its own.

Mrs. Foley moved, second by Mr. Ward to adopt the guidelines presented. Approved. with Mrs. Torgerson-Rismyhr, Ms. Elliott and Mrs. Pike abstaining.

12. Zone Director Reports
Zone I – Mrs. Larson.

Mrs. Larson reported she had set up a Yahoo group for Zone I members and held a zone meeting on March 30, 2007, in Hamden, CT, at the Meadowbrook CSC show. In attendance were about 40 ASC members as well as several board members and alternates, including, Mrs. Donaldson, Mrs. Pike, Mrs. Foley and Mrs. Torgeson-Rismyhr.

There was a discussion at the meeting regarding the "Futurity Rule" 2-2-2 To be bred at two, OFA at two, Eye Papers at two. The members in attendance were split on these issues. Some want to have the eyes tested at 22 months or prior to that. They want to be able to breed their dog/bitches at two years and have eyes exams accepted from the latest testing. A poll of the members present showed twenty-two members were in favor of all testing and breeding being done after age two.

Another issue was brought up by the Cocker Spaniel Club of Southern N.J by Ms. Pat Crew regarding their club information being incorrect. Ms. Larson was assured the Membership Chair would check and make sure the information is correct in the ASC records.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Mrs. Larson reported that after the meeting she was approached by members regarding the site for the January show. There were some complaints:

1. Everything is so far apart restaurants, rooms, hotels, etc.
2. Long walks.
3. Traffic, traffic!!!!
4. Not able to socialize
5. The only time to see people was at ringside, when you are watching the show.
6. Not close to airports

They suggested the Meadowlands Exposition Center in Secaucus N.J. This issue is on the agenda under new business

Zone III – Mrs. Gallant.

Mrs. Gallant reported that she held a meeting at the Mid Michigan Cocker Spaniel Club show on March 25th at noon. There was good attendance. We talked about the zone email and how to get on that. Either Nancy Foley or Nancy Gallant should be contacted. We talked about the legislation that is everywhere lately and how we need to be proactive with this and know what is going on. The merle issue was discussed as Jeff Wright was in attendance. We are looking forward to our Zone III show in 2008 and asked for workers and everyone's support. Meeting adjourned at 12:30p.m.

Zone IV – Mr. Harris.

Discussion of site for National 2009. Portland versus Riverside.

Portland	Riverside
close to airport	cost of travel
hotels inexpensive	
entry	

Jason Harmon, the July Shows Liaison, will contact Bill Mixon, the proposed Show Chair and get more information about the Portland site and report back to Board in two weeks. The Board will meet by conference call at that time. Jason will contact the Riverside site and ask for extra time to make a decision.

Ms. Elliott moved, second by Mrs. Virosteck, to accept the zone reports as presented. Approved.

13. New Business

A) Zone IV Show for Flushing Spaniels – Mr. Harris. Proposed date -- Thursday, January 17, 2008, in conjunction with Portland, OR, cluster.

After discussion, motion by Mrs. Torgerson-Rismyhr, second by Mrs. Pike to permit Mr. Harris to offer a Zone IV Show for all Flushing Spaniels in January 2008 if there is no additional cost to ASC. Approved with Mrs. Foley and Mrs. Virosteck voting no and Ms. Elliott abstaining.

B) Appoint Committee to develop health testing recommendations – Ms. Kolehouse suggested the Board appoint this committee. The Secretary was directed to inform Ms. Kolehouse that those recommendations are a responsibility of the Health Committee and she should work through them..

C) Agility trials – Ms. Ruvacava.

The Cocker Spaniel Club of Orange County requests permission to run an agility trial under ASC's approvals. Carrie DeYoung, one of the AKC's agility reps told me many clubs hold trials under their parent clubs' approvals, and by doing so, do not have to hold a match. The parent clubs are allowed to hold up to three trials, and many just hold one at their Nationals. After discussion, Mr. Ward moves, seconded by Mr.

Skinner, to allow the CSC of Orange County to apply for an agility trial using ASC's third trial. Approved.

E) Move the January show to the Secaucus N.J. area. – Mrs. Larson.
Suggestion - The Meadowlands Exposition Center, 35 Plaza Drive, Secaucus N.J. 07094. See rationale under Mrs. Larson's zone meeting report. At this point ASC has signed contracts through the January 2010 Show with the Valley Forge Convention Center. Also Linda Pitts asked In January about the feasibility of moving the show west to Harrisburg, PA, where there is a new facility. Mrs. Larson offered to gather information on cost, etc., of the Secaucus facility and bring that information to the Board in July.

F) South Atlantic CSC wants to use ASC logo on their web page. More info needed.

14. Adjournment to Executive Session at 3:16 p.m. Motion by Mr. Ward, second by Mrs. Larson. Approved.

Minutes approved by roll call vote at Special Board Meeting July 2, 2007.