

AMERICAN SPANIEL CLUB, INC.
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

DATE: Thursday, January 4, 2007 at 9:00 A.M., Eastern Standard Time.

PLACE: Valley Forge Convention Center, King of Prussia, PA.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m., Mrs. Jane T. Williams presiding.
Members present: Mrs. Williams, Mr. VanDeman, Mrs. Campbell, Mrs. Foley, Ms. Darke, Ms. Torgerson, Mrs. Virosteck, Mrs. Ferland, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Harris, Ms. Elliott. Mrs. Bennett (arrived at noon).

Absent Mrs. Pike, Dr. Lippincott, Mrs. Harmon.

Committee Chairs present. Wilma Parker, curator; Jill O.,archivist; Bob Smith, January 2007 Show Chair; Heidi Braun, Rescue Chair; Noel Cacchio, Field Chair; Carolee Douglas, Companion Events Chair; Linda Moore, Bylaws Committee Chair.

Guests present: Cara Burgess, Laurie Foley, Adrienne Grimes, Nancy Gallant, Gwen Hales, Xiomara Larson, Toni Mills, Doug Muir, Rae Porter, Robert Vaughan, Quinn Ruvacava.

Agenda. without objection, approved as printed.

Minutes of the July 2006 meeting without objection, approved as mailed.

Report of the President – Mrs. Williams gave the following report.

My report as President of The American Spaniel Club will be as brief as my tenure. At President Shaw's request I contacted the top six persons nominated to serve on the January 2008 judging panel. All six agreed to have their name placed on the ballot. I also contacted the top three persons nominated to judge the January 2008 Futurity. I had to contact three because Patti Nazarko declined for personal reasons. The results of balloting will be announced later.

Upon Dr. Shaw's resignation from office in November, I assumed the presidency.

Today we have the opportunity to take action on two agenda items that began during Dr. Shaw's presidency. These are the merle issue and procedures for ASC ballot counting. We also may vote to accept the Bylaws revisions so they may be submitted to the membership for approval.

For those of you have offered words of encouragement and support, I thank you.

Report of the Secretary. Ms. Patterson reported as follows:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as ASC Secretary. This year has been a learning experience. I understand now how former secretaries spent 70 hours a week dealing with the volume of work. It is MUCH greater than I anticipated. I am still going through the Secretary's files and trying to either update the material or archive the files. I hope to come close to completing that task in 2007.

We have published an Annual Report and four issues of the Bulletin, all of which were well received. I want to thank those Board members who supported the Club by taking business card ads and ask the rest of you to consider doing the same. I hope we will be able to take some pressure off the show chairs by making the Bulletin self-supporting – and that can only happen with member advertising providing support of the Bulletin.

I want to also thank you all for your patience this fall while my mother was ill. Notices to the members and member clubs were sent off on time with Jane Harmon's help and the Bulletin deadline was met. The minutes of the July meeting did not get to you as quickly as I would have liked, and I will be working to rectify that next year.

Three votes of the Board occurred between the July meeting and now and need to be placed in the record.

1. Motion was made by Mrs. Ferland, seconded by Mrs. Williams to permit the new ASC-F web site to link to the ASC web site, providing that the link will not go past one "generation"

The discussion period was set from August 1 to August 7, 2006. Mrs. Williams indicated that she would be out of town during part of the discussion period but did not wish the discussion to be held until her return. No other Board member indicated that they would be unavailable during either the discussion or voting period, so the ballot was sent August 8, 2006, with returns to be made by August 18, 2006.

Results of the vote are as follows:

Yes: Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Campbell, Ms. Darke, Mrs. Ferland, Mrs. Foley, Mr. Harris, Mrs. Pike, Ms. Torgerson, Mr. VanDeman, Mrs. Virosteck, Mrs. Williams.

Not Voting: Ms. Elliott, Mrs. Jones.

The motion carries.

2. Motion was made by Ms. Darke, seconded by Mrs. Campbell to appoint Heidi Braun as ASC Rescue Chair.

The discussion period was set from August 3 to August 10, 2006. No Board member indicated that they would be unavailable during either the discussion or voting period so the ballot was sent August 11, 2006, to be returned to the Secretary's office by August 21, 2006. Because a quorum had not voted by this point in time, the time period for voting was extended one week until August 28, 2006.

Results:

Yes: Mrs. Campbell, Ms. Darke, Ms. Elliott, Mr. Harris, Mrs. Ferland, Mrs. Foley, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Pike, Ms. Torgerson, Mrs. Virosteck, Mrs. Williams.

Not Voting: Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Van Deman.

The motion carries.

3. Mrs. Ferland moved that the American Spaniel Club, Inc. appropriate \$250. to sponsor a table at the January 2007 ASC-Foundation Gala. Ms. Darke seconded the motion. The discussion period was set to run from September 20, 2006, to September 27, 2006, with a ballot being sent September 28, due October 8, 2006.

Results:

For: Mrs. Bennett, Ms. Darke, Mrs. Ferland, Mrs. Pike, Ms. Torgerson, Mr. VanDeman, Mrs. Virosteck.

Not Voting – Mrs. Campbell, Ms. Elliott, Mrs. Foley, Mr. Harris, Mrs. Jones. Mrs. Williams

The motion carries.

The Secretary also presented the report from Samuel Spaniel on questions he had received from the web site.

Report of the Treasurer. No report was received from the Treasurer, Dr. Lippincott, who was not in attendance at the meeting.

Report of the Membership Chair – Mrs. Harmon reported that dues were coming in. She has made up 100 of the Membership Folders as discussed in July at Sturbridge and although they are fine, believes they need to be 'professionalized' if the Board wants to proceed with them. She offered to work with anyone who can/will do this. She also reported that she had sent all the membership applications for the Board's consideration.

Unfinished Business

Merle Committee Progress Report – Mrs. Campbell provided an update re testing. Drew blood and obtained DNA swabs. Mrs. Campbell banked the blood and has the swabs. One dog has not been taken for testing and Mrs. Campbell said she will get additional dog tested by herself. Various suggestions were discussed about how to handle the merle color on the registration certificate. The ideal goal is to eradicate merle gene from the cocker spaniel gene pool. Alternatively, work with AKC to manage so health issues associated with the merle gene don't proliferate. Need to sit down with empirical evidence that registry process has errors is incumbent on them to resolve problem. Need to know what can do with AKC. Like to see sit down with AKC sooner rather than later. Engage AKC in the process

Ms. Darke moved Jane Williams chair the merle committee, comprised of Bettie Campbell, Bruce Van Deman and Jeff Wright to meet with AKC and report back to the Board by July with a progress report at spring Board Mtg. Second by Ms. Torgerson. Unanimously approved.

Balloting Proposal – Ms. Patterson informs the Board that the Secretary can't do four additional mailings and that needs to be the responsibility of the committee and committee chair. Several Board members wanted to have Jane Harmon do ballots and mailings. [FYI, I asked Jane and she said there's a limit to volunteerism and she does not wish to do four mailings a year in addition to those she already does as membership chair. KLP] Mrs. Jones comments that her zone wants to be able to return ballots by fax not just by mail as proposed.

Ms. Torgerson moves, second by Julie Virosteck, to adopt Mr. Van Deman's proposal and appoint a committee to implement and revise the proposal to include a fax

component. Motion amended to change Item # 4 – Chair shall convene the committee to tabulate top 3 and 1 . . change to tabulate top 6 and 2 to put on the ballot and make all other provisions consistent with current timing and rules. . . Approved unanimously with Mr. Van Deman abstaining.

There was no further unfinished business and the Board moved to consider the reports of the Standing Committee and Show Committee Chairs. There was no action requested on the following committee reports: AKC Delegate, AKC Gazette Columnist, ASC Health Chair, ASC Health Registry, ASC Rescue, Canine Legislation, Cocker Spaniel Breeder Referral, Cocker Spaniel Standard, Education, Corporate Sponsorships, Finance, Foreign Relations, Fundraising, Insurance, Legal, January 2007 Show and Futurity, July Liaison Report, July 2008 Show Chair,

The ASC Archival Work Group requested that the Board approve three items. First, to permit them to provide an electronic copy of the ASC minutes from 1886 through 1940 to the AKC Library to assist researchers and historians in finding correct information when needed. Second, to charge ASC members \$20 for a CD containing the minutes of the board meetings and annual meetings from 1886 through 1940. Executive sessions after 1950 should not be offered for public viewing. And finally, to offer ASC members DVD copies of the Roosevelt shows from 1958, 1959 and 1960 at the price of \$30 to cover costs. Mrs. Ferland moved, second by Ms. Elliott to approve all three of the committee's proposals. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the ASC Website authorizing Mrs. Williams to sit down with Mr. DeLisle to work out a way to keep the web site current without shifting so much of the workload to him.

Ms. Moore distributed the letter from the AKC and revised bylaws. Ready to go to the membership. Motion to accept bylaws as submitted by Ms. Moore made by Mrs. Campbell, seconded by Ms. Darke. Motion carries.

Motion to change certificate of incorporation to reflect Frankfort, KY address made by Mrs. Ferland, seconded by Ms. Torgerson. Motion carries.

Companion Events. Mrs. Douglas presented a copy of a flyer she wanted to send out to performance exhibitors and informed the Board she'd look into production costs and work with Mrs. Virosteck to update Mrs. Harmon's flyer.

Mrs. Douglas also wanted to reopen the discussion about ASC membership for performance exhibitors. . "Provisional status" is suggested to help deal with the lack of sponsors for performance (conformation) exhibitors. As these exhibitors receive the letters and flyers and are ENCOURAGED to come to our Nationals (those that exhibit in agility, obedience, rally and possibly participate in the hunt instinct testing) and Flushing shows (only good for those that do obedience and rally) from our field work, they hopefully will meet at least one ASC member and can apply for membership on a provisional status.

Because many performance exhibitors are not ASC members until after their dog receives one title, the committee recommends amending the versatility award rules to allow new ASC members to earn a versatility award when one of required titles was earned before he/she became a member of ASC. Motion, Ms. Elliott; second, Mrs. Campbell. Motion carries.

The committee also suggested a versatility award for performance dogs utilizing the following rules:

The American Spaniel Club Inc., will offer a Performance Versatility Award to each of its members in good standing who have a Flushing Spaniel achieving a Title of at an A.K.C. authorized event in the following categories: obedience, agility, field, hunting or tracking. Titles in three out of the five areas listed are necessary and one MUST be an obedience title, one MUST be an Agility title, and one MUST be either a Field, Hunting or Tracking title.

The award will be given to the member applying and submitting

- a. Copy of AKC Registration certificate
- b. Copy of AKC Obedience Title certificate
- c. Copy of AKC Agility Title certificate
- d. Copy of one other AKC Title certificate from list

During the period when two of the three Titles were achieved, the Flushing Spaniel must have been owned by a member(s) of the Club. Titles may not be transferred or included for the Versatility Award by a new owner-member. The award will be a plaque with a plate engraved with the name of the Flushing Spaniel and the three Titles with year of Title. Only one plaque will be awarded if jointly owned.

Copies of the AKC Registration and AKC Title Certificates must be submitted to the Secretary of the American Spaniel Club by November 1 each year. The Versatility award will be presented at the Annual Meeting in January.

Ms. Darke moves to establish a Performance Versatility Award as written. Seconded by Mrs. Virosteck. Motion carries. Opposed, Mrs. Jones.

The Field Committee presented the Cocker Spaniel Hunting Style description for Board action:

Cocker Spaniels are the smallest of the Sporting Spaniels today, possessing an instinctive ability to quest game. They are alert, merry, and willing to please, making them good hunting companions.

Cockers hunt at a moderate pace, covering ground in an efficient manner, making use of both foot and air scent. Cockers may occasionally glance to their handlers for direction.

Cockers will clearly indicate they are marking game by their animated body movements and vigorous tail wagging, which may be preceded or followed by a momentary hesitation, where they appear to use their nose, eyes, and ears to help them locate the exact area they have detected bird scent. A bold flush will follow. Cockers are particularly excellent hunting dogs for Grouse and Woodcock often found in areas of thick hedgerow and dense berry bushes, where they will exhibit their true boldness to cover.

Cockers are excellent markers, and willing retrievers. Although bred as upland bird dogs, Cockers are willing swimmers, and will retrieve game from water in an efficient manner.

Summary

A Cocker Spaniel has an action all his own, and will hunt game methodically and at a moderate pace. His smaller size permits the Cocker to be hunt efficiently in hedges, brambles, and around downed trees. His merry action will clearly indicate when he is making game. A close working spaniel, the Cocker stays within gun range, and has the natural instinct to find, flush, mark and retrieve small and large game birds to his hunting companion.

Mrs. Virosteck moved that the committee's Hunting Style description be approved as written. Seconded by Ms. Torgerson. Motion carried.

The July 2007 Show Chair asked for approval of Dianne Hill as vendor chair. Motion by Ms. Elliott, seconded by Mr. Van Deman. Motion carries.

Mrs. Jones questions whether ASC should contract for videographer services through July 2008. Consensus was that would be fine.

Before the Board broke for lunch, Mrs. Ferland moved that all reports presented to this point in time be accepted. Seconded by Mrs. Campbell. Motion carries. The Board meeting resumed by considering Mr. Fehring's proposed improvements to the Futurity nomination process to allow nominations online (since everyone who nominated a bitch for July 2007 had an email address) and to make the Futurity Chair's job easier. The Board encouraged him to come back with a concrete proposal.

Dr. Grim requested that the July premium list have an order form for the Top Dog catalog with a price of \$5.00 per catalog. This will allow us to have a better idea of how many catalogs to print and will cover most if not all of the cost, allowing it to be printed professionally and in color. The Board referred this to the July 2007 Show Chair for implementation.

Ms. Torgerson moved to approve reports considered since the lunch break. Mrs. Bennett seconded. Approved

Zone Director reports were orally presented since none had been received in advance. Ms. Elliott moved to accept the zone reports "paltry as they are." Seconded by Mrs. Ferland. Approved.

New Business

Consideration of applicants for membership was deferred to Executive Session.

Mrs. Campbell moved to grant Life Membership status to the following members with continuous membership for 25 years: Peter Morrow, Durla Spencer, Jim and Carol Yates. Motion seconded by Mrs. Virosteck. Motion carries.

Mrs. Ferland reports that several members have asked her to bring the issue of changing the Flushing Spaniel Show to four days to the Board for consideration – cost, etc. Feels membership should vote on any change like this. Perhaps have an ad hoc committee to investigate pros and cons. Mrs. Williams proposes organizational meeting appoint committee.

Mrs. Campbell suggests a booklet like the National Guidelines for the Flushing Spaniel show and asking all committee chairs to write a report detailing any problems and their solutions. Also a list of contacts each chair used.

Ms. Darke then presented a report from the ASC Foundation.

Mrs. Virosteck presented two topics she thought needed to be discussed. First, who has access to Board email and second, that the vacancy in the office of 2nd Vice President could be filled by someone already on the Board. Both of these were passed for consideration at the organizational meeting.

Adjournment. Motion by Ms. Torgerson that the Board adjourn at 2:18 p.m. Seconded by Mrs. Virosteck. Motion carries.

Approved at the April 14, 2007, meeting of the Board.