**GDCA BOD Meeting Minutes - July 26th, 2014**

*All motions are considered unanimous unless otherwise noted.*

Meeting was called to order at 9am

**Present:** Dianne Powers, Cindy Harwin, Neil O’Sullivan, Nancy Ridgway, Dale Tarbox, Susan Yotive, Kathy Munyan, Jean Highlands, Sue Shaw, Lynda Moriarty, Linda Cain.

**Guests:** Terri Reddehopp, Teri Holle and Tracy Purser were introduced.

**Absence of Board members**: Bill Stebbins, Jason Hoke, Jamie Harshfield

MOTION: to excuse Bill Stebbins, Jason Hoke and Jamie Harshfield.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Nancy Ridgway

**Minutes**

MOTION: To approve the minutes of 4/29/2014.

Moved: Nancy Ridgway Second: Sue Shaw

MOTION: To approve the minutes of 5/20/2014

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Linda Moriarty

**Secretary’s Report -** Nancy reported/shared the following correspondence:

* A letter from Alan Slay regarding the Owner Handler Series noting changes starting 2015.
* A thank you note from Nancy Simmons for being chosen to judge the Top 20 event in Lancaster.
* A newsletter brochure from the Canine Health Foundation (CHF).
* A brochure for NFS soft crates. It was discussed that one of these could be considered for purchase for the BOD auction item.
* A letter and brochure regarding the Charitable Trust raffle item for 2014 called “Tribute of the Hearts” by Jerry Lobato. Raffle tickets are currently being sold and will also be available at the national.

**Treasurer’s report –** Kathy Munyan

Kathy reviewed the YTD financials from November 1 2013 through June 30th 2104.

Total income: $81,558.06

Total expenses: $13,530.16

Net Income overall $39,921.12

Net savings: $158,249.73

MOTION: To approve the YTD financials through June 2014.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Susan Yotive

Kathy reviewed the budget and proposed budget for 2015. Some minor adjustments were made. Kathy recommends that dues remain unchanged and that the GDCA start funding the Charitable Trust with the extra income over our safety net of $150k in the bank.

MOTION: To approve the proposed budget.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Neil O’Sullivan

**Affiliate Club Representative Report**- Cindy Harwin

Cindy reported that she received a grant request for $1000 for an echo clinic from the Wolverine Club to help subsidize the cost of the echocardiograms. There was discussion regarding what data is required of the dogs being echoed. Positive identification of the dogs is required by the clinician and procedures are in place.

She also received a grant request from the Illini Great Dane Club for $250 to benefit the GDCA Central Division to help defray the cost of the Education programs at the 2014 National Specialty. Lynda will take this request back to the club to get additional information and a detailed proposal.

MOTION: To have the Charitable Trust fund $500 of the $1000 grant request from the Wolverine Club.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Neil O’Sullivan

MOTION: That the GDCA shall fund the remaining balance of $500 of the $1000 grant request from the Wolverine Club.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Lynda Moriarty

**AKC Delegate’s Report** - Dale Tarbox

Dale gave a report of the AKC delegates meeting. She reported that the GDCA was given a lot of recognition for participation in the Disaster Relief Trailer program. She also reported that a lot of time was spent on discussing the Owner Handler Series at the meeting. She reported that the Owner Handler Series will be required to be offered at the National resulting in 2 Best of Breeds.

**Standing Committees:**

**Advisory –** no report

**Awards** – Margaret Ontl

Dianne reported that Margaret is doing well and working on the program.

**Constitution and By-Laws** – Nancy Ridgway

Nancy gave a status report of the committee.

* Research is being done to determine which states will allow a non-profit to vote on-line.
* Member input for suggested changes to the by-laws has greatly decreased.
* Changes and improvements are needed to the procedures of the membership committee.

Additional help is needed on the committee. Linda Cain volunteered to help.

**Futurity –** Michael Pacucci

Dianne reported that Michael is doing great and she is working closely with him in the transition of responsibility.

**Health & Research – Neil O’Sullivan**

Neil gave an update of each of the health and research projects.

* Genome Re-sequence Project with Dr. Leigh Anne Clark - The genotypes have been contributed to the cardiomyopathy project.
* Cardiomyopathy Study – Dr. Mark Oyama and Dr. Katie Murrs are the chief co-investigators and are cardiologists with backgrounds in genetics.
* Megaesophagus – Neil has made a request to Leigh Anne Clark to put together a letter to veterinarians that explains the research and to ask them to offer reduced rates for barium swallow x-rays.
* Wobblers Project – The 160K Alumina chip is currently in use which is not tailored to Great Dane. Neil informed Alumina that the Great Dane has been re-sequenced and we would share the data and hopefully will prompt them to create a new platform more tailored to the Great Dane.
* Neil reported new study funded by the Canine HF which is looking for GD owners to supply a DNA and fecal sample of Danes from 3-7 years of age so as to look at the gut biome of those that have bloated and those that have not. They need samples from Danes that have not been gastropexyed.

It was suggested to look into a study that focuses on epilepsy in Great Danes.

Neil suggested that we update what we have on the GDCA web-site for each of the health issues and also the health and research material that is posted.

The concern was raised over puppies under 6 months of age at the National without adequate vaccine coverage. Neil went over the timing of vaccines and efficacy. It was felt that a statement needs to be made about being cognizant when bringing puppies to the National that are not adequately protected.

Neil will do a write up that will be published on the web-site and conformation slips for the futurity, etc.

**Judges Education –** Jason Hoke, Dale Tarbox, Bill Stebbins

Dale reported that Bill Stebbins obtained a list of judges from the AKC that judge the working group.

Judges Education program at the national will be $25 and will include a catalog and snacks. There is enough of the current program materials to do the 2014 National. More discussion about revamping the program can be discussed at the October meeting.

**Junior Showmanship** – Jamie Harshfield

Cindy reported for Jamie that the scholarships have been sent out.

Cindy also reported that Jamie will take care of purchasing the Great Dane gate for the auction. Each BOD member needs to send Jamie their portion of the gate cost.

**National Specialty Coordinator** – Linda Moriarty

**2014**- Lynda reported that everything is on track and the web-site is up to date. The agility premium is complete and the regular premium will be complete soon. Joe Longo will take over as Corporate Sponsorship Chair for his division.

**2015 –**Myrtle Beach**-** Everything is going as planned and the division is excited to get going as soon as the 2014 National closes.

**2016** – Tulsa - A short presentation and a site tour of the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center was given to all in attendance at the meeting. Nancy distributed and reviewed the proposed contract in its entirety with the BOD. Some minor changes were suggested.

MOTION: To approve the Renaissance site in Tulsa Oklahoma for the 2016 National.

Moved: Jean Highlands Second: Lynda Moriarty

MOTION: To approve the Renaissance contract subject to the proposed changes and review by Nancy Ridgway, Kathy Munyan, Lynda Moriarty. The local attorney review stipulation shall be waived.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Sue Shaw

**2017-** Cindy reported that a division meeting was held at the Monterey Specialty and more chair people were secured.

**Performance/Companion events** – Joyce Guthrie

Sue Shaw reported for Joyce that there will be two performance trials. There are a few issues and rules to work through.

**Public Education –** Jeffrey Ball

Dianne reported that Jeffrey and Bill are working together at developing the program first for the membership.

**Rescue –** Kathie Shea

Kathie submitted her report previously along with 12 rescue grant requests.

MOTION: To recommend that the Charitable Trust fund the grant request from the Great Dane Club of Tucson in the amount of $500.

Moved: Jean Highlands Second: Nancy Ridgway

MOTION: To recommend that the Charitable Trust fund the 2 grant requests from the Great Dane Rescue Midwest in the amount of $500 each.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Cindy Harwin

MOTION: To recommend that the Charitable Trust fund the 2 grant requests from the Great Dane Rescue Inc. – Michigan in the amount of $500 each.

Moved: Linda Cain Second: Susan Yotive

MOTION: To recommend that the Charitable Trust fund the 2 grant requests from the Great Dane Rescue Inc. – Illinois in the amount of $500 each.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Sue Shaw

MOTION: To recommend that the Charitable Trust fund the 2 grant requests from the Great Dane Rescue Inc- Alabama in the amount of $500 each.

Moved: Neil O’Sullivan Second: Linda Moriarty

MOTION: To recommend that the Charitable Trust fund the grant request from The Great Dane Rescue of New England in the amount of $500.

Moved: Sue Shaw Second: Linda Cain

MOTION: To recommend that the Charitable Trust fund the 2 grant requests from Harlequin Haven Great Dane Rescue in the amount of $500 each.

Moved: Dale Tarbox Second: Sue Shaw

**Standard –** Sharon Fulford – no report

**Web-site**- Nancy Lerch submitted her written report previously. In her report she suggested that an area on the web-site be added for committee updates. It was also suggested additions be made to the breeder referral section with additional information for acquiring a well-bred puppy.

**Special Committees**

**Breeders Education** – Jane Gray – no report

**Breeder referral** – Nancy Lerch – included in web-site report

**Charitable trust** – Jean Highlands

Jean distributed and reviewed the financial report and it will be posted on the GDCA web-site. She also reported that canvas bags with a design by Susan Orland will be sold at the National.

**Corporate Sponsors** – Reported on earlier.

**Historian** – Norvel Benoit

Dale reported for Norvel that she would like a liason to the committee. Susan Yotive will act as a liason to this committee.

**Legislation** – Tom Sandenaw – no report

**Membership** - Lynda Moriarty

Lynda presented the list of eligible candidates to be published. They are as follows: Heike Caspary, Jason Peech, Kelly Haas, Kim Nelson, Amit Pathak, Derek & Nikki Leach, Susan Fenwick, Dianne Andrews.

MOTION: To approve the following applicants for membership pending no negative comments by July 31st 2014: Jennifer Morgan, Rachel Wilson, Gary & Debi Romerosa, Pat Ostrout, Traci Rinoldo, Leslie Pirtle, Jackie Van Delft (Lipton), Breanna Uyeno (Junior member), Pamela Forrester, Dollye Stark, Jim Lord, Nadine Elisabeth Fers-Hildenbrand.

Moved: Nancy Ridgway Second: Sue Shaw

**Bulletin**- Cindy Harwin

All submissions for the bulletin need to be to Cindy by no later than August 3rd.

**Trophies** – Jean Dinkins/Kathy Munyan – no report

**Yearbook-** Rita Suddarth

There has been little to no interest in the yearbook. Only 4 ads have been received and the deadline is already passed.

**OLD BUSINESS –** No old business to discuss at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* Establish a memorial committee for deceased members - It was the consensus that a memorial committee would be a good idea. Linda Cain volunteered to chair the new committee and will do a write up for the GDCA web-site.

MOTION: To create a memorial committee to be chaired by Linda Cain.

Moved: Nancy Ridgway Second: Cindy Harwin

* Quintessa web-site – It was thought that this web-site is a valuable tool for our members and it should be added to our web-site as a link. However, in addition, a disclaimer will be added that the GDCA will not be responsible for the accuracy of the Quintessa web-site.

MOTION: To add a link for the Quintessa Pedigree Database web-site to the GDCA web-site.

Moved: Dale Tarbox Second: Sue Shaw

MOTION: To have the GDCA make an annual $100 donation to the Quintessa Pedigree web-site.

Moved: Lynda Moriarty Second: Cindy Harwin

* Meet the Breeds event in Orlando – Dale received a letter requesting our participation. The event will be held December 13-14th. Dianne will contact Willie Crawford and Jay Miller to see if they want to handle the event.

MOTION: To fund the Meet the Breeds Medallions in the amount of $215

Moved: Susan Yotive Second Linda Cain

**Review of meeting motions**

MOTION: To accept the motions of 7/26/2014 as presented.

Moved: Cindy Harwin Second: Sue Shaw

MOTION: To adjourn

Moved: Linda Cain Second: Sue Shaw