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Delegates' Report for September 11, 2012 Meeting Held in Newark, NJ

This is the highlights of the Delegates' Meeting; a complete set of Delegates' Meeting Minutes is located at http://images.akc.org/pdf/delegate_minutes/September2012.pdf

Breeder of Merit Program – AKC has changed the customer service phone procedures to support the AKC Breeder of Merit Program. They now have a single number and pin for all BOMs. The phone number is 800 252 5545 and the pin is 26000. If you are qualified for the BOM award and have not yet applied, I strongly encourage you to apply. Please share this information.

Points of interest from the Delegates' Meeting

There was a large part of the meeting dedicated to the events during 9/11/2001. AKC had an active part in the support of the search dogs that worked on 9/11 and long days thereafter. AKC's accomplishments and support for these dogs and their handlers was outstanding. The complete speeches and presentations are available on the Delegates' Meeting minutes at the address listed above. LLS

The Chair called on John Lyons, who will retire in January of 2013, to provide an update about the process of selecting his successor.

The selection committee is currently doing a search for the new COO which will be effective on January 2013. LLS

Ms. Bernardi asked if AKC could find a way to bring back our field reps to our shows?

Mr. Sprung: Thank you for that, Gretchen, and we did have a discussion just this past weekend with Patty Proctor about that very item.

I don't believe this is the last word on this issue. LLS

Ann Lettis, Delegate for the Grand River Kennel Club, also asked about reinstating the printed Gazette.

There was no answer. LLS

The election results for the standing Committees - Kim Johnson of KPMG read the Teller's report for the Delegate Standing Committees.

Ms. Johnston: For the All-Breed Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Margaret DiCorleto; Margaret Doster; Lawrence Libeu; Cathleen Rubens. For the Bylaws Committee, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms:

Sylvia Arrowwood; Dr. Gregory J. Paveza; Diane F. Taylor. Also for the Bylaws Committee, the following candidate was elected for a two-year term: Harry Ottmann.

For the Canine Health Committee, the following three candidates were elected for three-year terms: Susan LaCroix Hamil; Joan Savage; Sherry E. Wallis.

For the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Dick Blair; Whitney Coombs; Mary Lou Olszewski; Carole Plesur.

For the Dog Show Rules Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Cindy Miller; Charles Schaefer; Robert A. Schroll; Johnny Shoemaker.

For the Obedience, Tracking and Agility Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: James Ashton; Jack Cadalso; Gail LaBerge; Kathrynann Sarvinas.

For the Parents Club Committee, the following four candidates were elected for three-year terms: Patricia W. Laurans; Karen Mays; Betty Jo Patrick and Peter Piusz.

Thank you.

Mr. Sprung: There is no election required for the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee and for the Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee, as well as the *Perspectives* Editorial Committee.

The Delegates nominated for these committees are seated.

The Executive Secretary will read the names of the Delegates who will serve on these Committees.

Mr. Crowley: Delegates who self-nominated there to serve three three-year terms and one one-year term on the Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee are: Colleen McDaniel; Christopher Sweetwood; Joan Tabor; Judith Tighe.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve three three-year terms, two two-year terms and one one-year term on the Herding, Earthdog and Coursing Events Committee are: Don Adams; Dominic Carota; Carol Fisher; Gwen McCullagh; Dr. Nicklas Piasias.

Delegates who self-nominated and will serve six two-year terms on the *Perspectives* Editorial Committee are Dr. Gerry Meisels; Dr. Geno Sisneros; Monica Henderson Stoner; Sylvia Thomas; Carol Williamson and Lynn Worth-Smith.

An additional member may be appointed for a one-year term, as a seat remains open.

End of the Delegates' Meeting minutes.

The following report is an overview of the AKC Board Meeting which took place after the delegates' meeting. The complete minutes may be viewed at: http://images.akc.org/pdf/board_minutes/0912.pdf

FINANCIAL REPORT

Peter Farnsworth, AKC's Chief Financial Officer, gave the financial report.

Total revenues of \$4.6 million in the month of August 2012 were \$250,000 below budget but \$350,000 above 2011. Total monthly operating expenses of \$4.7 million were \$200,000 below budget but \$200,000 above 2011. This resulted in an operating loss of \$67,000 for the month. This was an improvement from last August's monthly operating loss of \$217,000. Our investments, Year-To-Date, are up \$4.9 million but we recognize this could change at any time.

[Peter Farnsworth is the new CFO. Jim Stevens will be missed, he did a great job. Investments are doing well. LLS](#)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT Agility Club Membership

The Board reviewed a proposal to amend ARTICLE IV, SECTION 1, and SECTION 3, of the AKC Bylaws to expand the eligibility requirements for AKC membership to permit licensed Agility clubs that meet the criteria, to apply to become AKC members. Following discussion, there was a motion by Ms. Scully, seconded by Dr. Smith, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to

amend ARTICLE IV, SECTIONS 1 and 3, of the AKC Bylaws as follows (changes underlined):

Section 1

All Clubs or Associations which have held at least three Dog Shows, Obedience Trials, Field Trials, or Agility Trials in consecutive years under rules of the AKC and all Specialty Clubs which have been or shall be formed for the improvement of any breed of purebred dogs shall be eligible to become members of the AKC.

Section 3

No Club or Association shall be eligible to be admitted to membership in the AKC unless its Constitution and Bylaws shall provide that among the objects for which said Club or Association has been formed are the holding of annual dog shows, annual obedience trials, or annual field trials, or annual agility trials, or that said Club or Association was formed for the protection or benefit of purebred dogs.

This is a VERY important proposal. It was proposed about 12 years ago and failed. This proposal will change the makeup of the delegate body. This will be a subject we will need to examine carefully. I expect a vote on it next year. LLS

Member Club Admission Fee

ARTICLE V, SECTION 1, of the AKC Bylaws, provides for a one-time admission fee for new Member Clubs. The fee is to be determined by the Board subject to approval by the Delegates. Following discussion, there was a motion by Dr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Scully, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to raise the \$250 admission fee to \$1,500. The admission fee of \$250 was established in 1925 and in today's dollars would be over \$3,500. This will be read at the December Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the March Delegate meeting. The effective date would be one year from the date of adoption.

This one speaks for its' self. LLS

Proposal to Reduce the Number of Delegate Meetings

The Board reviewed a proposal from the Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee to reduce the number of yearly Delegate meetings from four to three per year. The proposal suggests that two of these meetings be expanded from two days to three days in order to enable increased attendance at the various Delegate committee meetings. AKC staff endorses this proposal. There was a motion by Mr. Arnold, seconded by Ms. Cruz, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to send the proposed amendment to ARTICLE XVIII, SECTION 1 of the AKC Bylaws to the Delegates with no recommendation. The proposal reads as follows (changes underlined):

SECTION 1: The annual meeting of the AKC shall be the regular meeting held in April. There shall also be a regular meeting of the AKC in August. There shall be one regular meeting held in December or January announced at least two years in advance. The exact date, time and location of all meetings shall be determined by the Board of Directors. Standing Delegate Committee meetings shall be scheduled on the two days immediately preceding each regular meeting in April and August and the day preceding the December or January meeting.

This will be read at the December Delegate meeting for a VOTE at the March Delegate meeting. If adopted, the effective date would be January 1, 2015.

This makes sense from a cost cutting point of view. However, fewer meetings will reduce the impact of the member clubs delegate on the decisions AKC makes. LLS

Recognition of Registries in China

There was a motion by Mr. Gladstone, seconded by Dr. Smith, and it was VOTED (unanimously) to add the National General Kennel Club (China), to the list of registries with pedigrees acceptable for AKC registration.

This may be financially good for AKC in the future. LLS

Adding Coat Type to Registry

Based on a request from the Board, Staff was directed to provide more details to explain its cost estimate for capturing Coat Type as part of the registration of a dog. Staff outlined the impact this change would have on IT, Support Services and Registration Services and estimates that the entire project will have a negative ROI of \$230,000.

This will have a benefit for varieties separated by coat type, and the breeds that have the open classes divided by coat type. I will keep a close watch on this subject. LLS

Parent Clubs Excellence

The Board considered a proposal from the Delegate Parent Club Committee for the establishment of a program to recognize Parent Clubs that excel in organization of representation of their breeds, including their protection, preservation and promotion as well as the objectives of The American Kennel Club. The proposal would be for an AKC award administered by the Parent Club Committee with AKC Board oversight. This will be considered further at the October 2012 meeting.

This is the program proposal which I brought forward through the Parent Club Committee. LLS

JUDGING OPERATIONS

Occupational Eligibility

The Board reviewed a staff recommendation to modify the policy restricting when a judge may present a seminar in conjunction with a judging assignment. This will be considered further at the October 2012 meeting.

OK. LLS

NEW BUSINESS

Judging Approval Process

Staff was directed to take a survey to evaluate the judging approval process and to report the results back to the Board.

We will all be looking forward to this answer. LLS

Respectively submitted,

Larry Sorenson