



ESAA Board of Directors Annual Meeting – September 27, 2016

In attendance: Colleen Bell, Julie Brimble, Kathy Cunningham-Roy, John Fabelo, Jane Flynn, Janet Gray, Susie Kerwin-Bush, Judi Hunter, Dave Mates, Carl Necker, John Nielsen, B.J. Parsons, Julie Quirk, Coleen Raber.

The meeting called to order at 8:02 am.

President's Comments:

- ✿ Janet reviewed some financial resolution plans for this year's National.
- ✿ She expressed how pleased she is to see additional interest in ESAA regional specialties that are increasing entries in our breed.
- ✿ She mentioned how great our health and genetics team has been: Michelle Raisor for investigating research options; and Dee Verti, Kathy Mellis, and Lenora Barber with the health clinics at the National.
- ✿ Janet thanked the Board for all the accomplishments we made at the Board teleconferences that really help to save time at our face-to-face meeting.
- ✿ ESAA is very open to having any group interested in organizing a National Field Trial to approach the Board. Janet is waiting to hear back from a member who was asked to head a committee. Mary Coldiron offered to serve as liaison between the ESAA Board and the NFTC in the future.

Treasurer's Report:

- ✿ Ross Rice submitted an additional report updating the transition from Jane Danek to him.
- ✿ Re-opening the Wells Fargo account allows the membership chair to deposit checks without the risk of having to send them through the mail.
- ✿ After reviewing the accounts, Ross had several suggestions for the Board to consider.
- ✿ Some funds were transferred to a money market account will earn some interest for the club.
- ✿ Ross asked if the secondary accounts could be combined. Many of our secondary accounts are "restricted funds" which can only be used for that purpose. Therefore, those secondary accounts need to remain.
- ✿ It was suggested to investigate the possibility of creating a 501C3 for certain funds such as education, scholarships, health and genetics, etc. Jane Danek offered to check into this possibility. The Board had reservations about this, but will hold off on any discussion until we have more specific information.
- ✿ It was suggested to increase our donations to 501C3 organizations.
- ✿ A Mates/Quirk motion to accept this report was passed unanimously.

Finance Report:

- ✿ Dave explained several of the specifics on the financial spread sheet.
- ✿ In the future there will be a specific itemized line for the National reconciliation.
- ✿ The 2015 National reconciliation was a difficult task. There were a number of incorrect charges that made this a lengthy process. It did make us aware to be very specific with the host hotel as to what the cut-off date is for ESAA charges in the future.
- ✿ The ESAA regional specialty financial resolutions will be included in future reports.
- ✿ A brief discussion occurred regarding the Annual. We felt that the direct link to paypal made a big difference with the additional orders once the deadline was extended.
- ✿ The financial health of ESAA is strong, but the committee encouraged the Board to continue to be diligent in our budgetary items.
- ✿ The Board expressed appreciation for the format Dave uses for this report. It makes it very easy and concise for the Board to review and understand.
- ✿ Discussion occurred regarding the extreme expense of electric for grooming, as well as ballroom expenses at ESAA indoor Nationals. As expenses for indoor facilities continue to increase, we need to begin to consider looking into outdoor options.
- ✿ The report was approved on a Kerwin-Bush/Parsons motion.

National Discussion

- 🐾 Donna handed out the latest version of the ESAA National Guidelines. Julie Quirk offered to look at reformatting this document in the near future.
- 🐾 The National Coordinator's report will be moved to a year-end report so we can have the current year's data available.
- 🐾 Some discussion occurred regarding future National locations, default locations, clubs combining their efforts to host shows, outdoor shows, etc.
- 🐾 In 2017 the National Specialty will be 4 days, so the ESAA/host club split will be 2/3 to 1/3.
- 🐾 Potential host clubs need to be creative in investigating tents, EZ Ups, etc.

ESAA Store

- 🐾 Susie and Rebecca did a fabulous job in designing the totes and duffle bags for the ESAA store.
- 🐾 Susie is investigating additional items that are more affordable, as well as items that can be used at dog shows, in travel, etc.
- 🐾 Discussion occurred as to what we want the store to "look like" moving forward.
- 🐾 Members are encouraged to contact Susie with potential ideas for items to sell in the store.
- 🐾 We have members who have the capability to embroider.
- 🐾 The store should try to avoid offering items that might be sold by the host club.
- 🐾 ESAA owns a National Field Trial logo, as well as all of the art in the Visualization of the Standard which can be used on items for a variety.
- 🐾 A survey will be put out to see what the membership might like to see in the store.
- 🐾 The report was accepted on a Mates/Flynn motion.

Standing Rules

- 🐾 Reminder that sire and dam must be listed for any dog pictured in the ESAA Annual. Dave Mates has a copy of the Guidelines for the Annual and will circulate to the Board.
- 🐾 A compilation of the Standing Rules was also handed out. Some of the inclusions are more appropriately labeled as committee guidelines rather than standing rules. These will be separated out for the future.
- 🐾 A motion was made to amend the finance committee guidelines to allow the finance committee chair to be able to serve concurrently as a Board member. A Quirk/Cunningham-Roy motion passed without objection.
- 🐾 Clarification on the "Day of Vision" ...it is to be on a trial basis for 2017.
- 🐾 The Standing Rules report was accepted on a Cunningham-Roy/Mates motion.

Old Business

1. ESRT/Rescue

- 🐾 They have a board of five members.
- 🐾 So far they have been distributing funds only, but not actively working to rescue and place dogs.
- 🐾 Several ESAA members who have submitted bills for dogs that have been rescued have had claims denied, or had expenses only partially reimbursed.
- 🐾 The Board would like to see a statement of how many dogs have been rescued and how the money was expended. The ESAA Board has a responsibility to our membership to show how rescue funds have been used.
- 🐾 The ESAA Board is disappointed that the ESRT is not following the expectations set up by the Trust charter.
- 🐾 The ESRT request for a donation is declined until ESRT provides the Board with a statement of how many dogs have been rescued and how ESAA's initial donation was expended. The secretary will send ESRT a letter to this effect.
- 🐾 The Board will consider donations to any rescue group that follows a specific procedure which they are willing to share, as well as a financial breakdown with ESAA.

2. Health Clinics

Thyroid/Endocrinology

- 🐾 Dee Verti outlined the study by Michigan State on thyroid in English Setters. This is being done by a team headed by Dr. Petroff who is in endocrinology studies.
- 🐾 ESAA health clinic Collected blood samples to send to MSU for a complete thyroid panel, including Autoimmune Thyroiditis from last year's clinic at the National.
- 🐾 The project is still in the works. They are now conducting a study of messenger RNA and DNA acting as a switch in a recessive gene as the "culprit" turning the genes on or off.
- 🐾 English Setters continue to be the number one breed with thyroid issues. Other endocrinological issues include sterility and inflammatory bowel disease.
- 🐾 There are markers for reproductive issues in studies coming from Colorado State University and Michigan State University. If some of these dogs are spayed or neutered due to these issues, the study groups

would love to have to the organs sent to them for examination. Dee Verti is to be contacted for more information about how this is to be done.

- * Dee has asked for the Board to report any of the above issues to her as we hear about them.
- * These are issues specific to English Setters that are not found in many other breeds, that makes these studies so crucial.
- * There is so much “finger pointing” that members are hesitant to have testing information listed in the public domain. Until that happens, we will have a great deal of difficulty making improvements in the key health issues that affect our breed. (Note: The Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America has a very open and complete database on their health issues. <http://www.bmdca.org/health/>)

Other Issues

- * Ophthalmology
- * Deafness – would like to find a BAER study
- * Dysplasia
- * Autoimmune Thyroiditis is one of the top ten concerns from parent clubs
- * Look at the background of any prospective sire or dam to see what the health clearance history is in the line, as well as in the littermates.

3. Web Site Guidelines

- * The Board discussed allowing advertising on the ESAA web site, including links to more specific information.
- * Technology has made things like the ESAA written booklet almost obsolete. A web site allows information to be updated in a timely manner.
- * It was suggested to have a welcome letter to new members from the Regional Vice Presidents which includes links to information of English Setters from the ESAA web site.
- * We need to take a look at possibly revising the ESAA informational page which AKC sends out to owners of newly registered English Setters.
- * The BOD discussed what would be included in the gallery.
- * A Kerwin-Bush/Cunningham-Roy motion was made to no longer restrict the gallery to deceased English Setters.
- * The Board can have the web master take some steps to protect pictures on the web site, but there is no foolproof method to completely protect things.
- * We will ask the new web designer to create several sample home pages to run by the Board.
- * We want to make sure the new web site design can be run on any electronic device.
- * Clarification from the 9-12-16 minutes to get permission for both the photographer and owner of the dog to post on the web site beginning with the 2016 National, and going forward.
- * We will take a look at possibly including the other winners at the National on the new web site, not just BOB.

4. BAER

- * When the BAER database first started, members were not willing to submit BAER information to an open database. Therefore, the closed database was started.
- * We are interested in the data from past years regarding the number of puppies tested, litters tested, BAER normals, uni's, and deaf puppies. As of now we have the first 3 quarters of 2015, with the next report due at the end of 2016. We would love to have that same information for each of the years since the ESAA BAER database has been kept so we can see the trends.
- * We are hoping the information and trends from our BAER history can be channeled into a research project. Any suggestions will be appreciated.

5. Bereavement Protocol

- * Sending a card is appropriate.
- * A Hunter/Brimble motion to send a donation of \$250 to Take the Lead at the end of each year in memory of members who are no longer with us passed without objection.

6. WGS Judging

- * The cluster is working together to bring judges in to be shared among English, Gordon, and Irish Setters for the three days.
- * The cluster representative will handle negotiations for the judges' fees in these cases.
- * The back-up will be to request availability from some of the judges on the Westminster panel for that year.

7. Dick Fox Memorial Fund: A Quirk/Hunter motion was passed to send \$2000 from Health and Genetics to OFA for this fund.

8. We still need volunteers for the Newsletter Editor and the Annual Awards chair positions.

9. The Board voted to donate \$10,000 from the general fund to CHF for their research on tick borne diseases. It passed on a Mates/Jordan motion.
10. Versatility Title – this report will be presented at a later date.
11. DVD – still working on trying to get permission from AKC to add the English Setter Breed DVD to our web site.

New Business

1. English Setter Conflicting Events: ESAA requests that regional clubs refrain from scheduling events or supported entries during the week/weekends of the National specialty, if possible. Coleen will send an e-mail request to other clubs.
2. Charities:
 - ✿ ESAA would like to increase charitable contributions, in addition to the money we give toward research and rescue.
 - ✿ Examples: reading with canines, therapy dog organizations, service dog organizations, etc.
 - ✿ A Brimble/Hunter motion was passed for Susie Kerwin-Bush to chair a committee for charitable contributions.
 - ✿ Some recommendations will be presented to the Board the first quarter of 2017.
3. Scholarship Committee Chair
 - ✿ We need a temporary chair for the ESAA scholarship committee for 2017. Susie Kerwin-Bush made a motion to nominated Amy Duncan for this [position, if she will accept. The motion was seconded by Julie Quirk and passed without objection.
4. Regional Club Officers
 - ✿ Request quarterly requests for updated lists of officers.
 - ✿ Memos will be posted on facebook, sent by e-mail, and published in the newsletter.
5. ESAA Scholarship Challenge Award
 - ✿ The scholarship committee will amend their guidelines to add a challenge award to a deserving member who might not qualify academically, but are still deserving.

A Kerwin-Bush/Flynn motion was passed to adjourn the meeting at 2:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Coleen M. Raber

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ESAA Secretary