



American Miniature Schnauzer Club

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: April 13, 2018

Location: Show site, Perry Georgia

Officers and Board members in Attendance:

President – Carole Weinberger

Vice President – Patti Henderson

Treasurer – Bonnie Keyes

Secretary – Carma Ewer

Board Members: Amy Gordon, Donna Hills, Marie Murphy, Patricia O'Brien, Beth Santure, Cathi Rohrer, Sonny Lelle.

Committee members, local club delegates, and visitors: Jan Taylor, Jackie Ebersbach, Marie Pletsch

Carole called the meeting to order at 6:40. She read the Board Policy set June 17, 1983 "Voting Procedure at Board Meetings." There were two additions to the agenda concerning Judges Selection and Membership. A motion was made by Marie and 2nd by Amy to adopt the revised agenda.

Minutes from the October 6 meeting, the fall Mini Board meeting, and the annual club meeting were approved. There was a discussion about the Phone meeting minutes in January and some board members present did not receive, so they will be resent to the board. Key points in the January Board minutes were read to those attending.

Report of the President – Carole gave an update on the status of MCKC Judge Joan Huber, stating that the AKC has yet to act and is waiting for an appeal. The board voted at the January phone meeting to wait until March 16 for a decision from AKC. If no decision was forthcoming by that date from AKC, the board voted to replace Joan with one of the 2019 judges. Steve Hayden was contacted and has agreed to accept the assignment for MCKC 2018. Carole contacted Joan to notify her of the boards actions.

Carole also brought up the importance of attendance at the board meetings and making sure that the new Nominating committee will have success nominating board members who are willing to attend the board meetings.

Report of the Secretary – The board had several action items from the board discussion list.

1. Permission to move forward on having the Grooming Charts and Illustrated Discussion converted to downloadable PDF files and CD converted to file with text. Cost \$400.00. Yes votes – 13, no votes – 0. (12/1)
2. Authorize Treasurer to issue a check for \$700.00 to Nadine Tare to pay for the Heartworm and Tick Preventative for the Foster Dog's in her care. Yes – 5, no – 1. (12/2)

Membership as of 3/01/2018 is 378 regular, 4 life, 29 foreign with voting privileges, and 28 foreign without voting privileges for a total of 439 and thirteen new member applicants. (11 regular and 2 foreign). There have been 7 deceased members in 2017 and 30 members did not renew.

There are presently 17 local clubs that are active and licensed to hold specialty shows.

Report of the Treasurer - Bonnie provided the board with copies of the 2017 Year end Financial Statement, a Financial Statement for the first three months ending March 31, 2018. And also copies of the budget for 2018. Donna moved and Patti seconded that the board approve and accept the budget for 2018.

Bonnie also informed the board that the 2017 Financial information has been given to the Auditor, and she is awaiting the report. The 2018 Roster has also been updated and is on the website.

Donna moved, and Patti seconded accepting the Treasurer report.

Committee Reports:

Special Committees:

2018 Montgomery County Specialty: Lloyd Amodei Lloyd reported that all expenses (judges/stewards) should remain the same. Replacement judge for Joan Huber will be Steve Hayden.

2018 Roving Specialty – Perry, GA : Amy Gordon - Amy reported that all is in order for the specialty on Sunday. Entry is great and the committee is hoping everyone has a wonderful time.

2018 Summer Specialty - Tania Kidd. There was a discussion of the fact that the Miniature Schnauzer Club of Southern California does not want to host the specialty at Great Western anymore. For 2018, Tania Kidd has volunteered to be specialty coordinator with assistance from Kathy Colby and Karen Smith (Great Western). The board discussed the future of having an AMSC specialty with Great Western. Patti Henderson moved that starting in 2019, the AMSC will eliminate our AMSC Specialty with Great Western, and reduce the number of specialties to 2. The Roving and Montgomery County. Sonny seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Our original judge for Great Western 2019 was Steve Hayden, who is moved to Montgomery 2018. Cheryl Coffman, the sweepstakes judge for 2019 will move to the top of the list for 2020 sweepstakes.

The board also received a letter from the Northern California Club that was scheduled to hold the Roving specialty in 2020, asking to be relieved from that responsibility citing the problems of being a small club with not enough members to hold a National Specialty. After much discussion, and to ensure that the West Coast AMSC members could establish an alternate West Coast Specialty site which will serve as the Roving location and perhaps share among local clubs, the board instructed the Secretary to contact the local clubs in the area and request a representative from each club to assist with the Roving Specialty committee.

2019 Roving Specialty – Schnauzapalooza – no report

Standing Committees:

AMSCare: Jana King – Jana is working on the guidelines, they will state that if a member would like to place a dog through AMSCare they should contact Jana. Jana will send them a form that asks approximately 20 questions about the dog. These answers help rescue find a foster home that can take this dog, and also an idea what type of permanent home they will need (ie no cats, older kids, etc.)

Jana will also send them a form email stating what is required when a dog is placed through Rescue.

Proof of:

Rabies

DHPP

Bordatella

Fecal test for parasites

Heartworm Test

Jana will then put out an email to the rescue that is closest to this person and ask for assistance in placing the dog. Jana will contact the breeder and let them know when there is an available foster.

Patti moved that the board authorize Jana to contact Alice McBride about recouping our expenses and setting up guidelines for reimbursement for dogs rescued. This was seconded by Cathi. Motion passed unanimous.

Donna moved that Jana be given the authority for developing AMSCare guidelines. Seconded by Sonny. Passed unanimous. The board also discussed changing the name of the Rescue Fund account to the AMSCare Account and make those monies available to AMSCare with Board approval. This was moved by Patti and seconded by Carma. Motion approved.

Awards: Kathy Colby, Lynn Tamms, Versatility Award: Lynn Baitinger

Versatility – Beth moved that the only companion events added to the Versatility awards are events approved by the AKC, with the exception of Barn Hunt, which is a Breed trait. This was seconded by Amy and passed unanimously. Carole also asked that Lynn send her a list of Versatility Award winners quarterly.

Constitution and By Laws: Chris Levy, John Constantine, Wyoma Clouss – this report was moved to unfinished business.

Education: John Constantine – John has received a request from Show Sight Magazine for information on Miniature Schnauzers for an upcoming magazine issue. The board authorized John to put an article together.

Health: Patti Henderson, Paula Steele DVM, Lisa Sarvas DVM, Kurt Garmaker, Patricia O'Brien, Sheila Marks Anderson

Patti shared the information on Type B PRA in the Miniature Schnauzer by Dr. Jerold Bell DVM. The board agreed that this information should be posted on the AMSC List. Patti will do this.

The Health committee is also requesting funds to pay for a Calendar for fundraising. Katerina Cechova has offered to help with a calendar that will have original artwork of some of the top Miniature Schnauzers that have played a significant roll in the Breed and which were deceased by 2000. Tania Kidd has gone through Dan's archives and is sending Katerina photos of the 18 dogs selected. These collectible calendars will be for sale at Schnauzerpalooza 2019. The original artwork for the calendar will be auctioned off. Patti made a motion requesting \$6500 for 600 calendars and seconded by Amy. Motion passed unanimously. The profits from the calendars will go back to the Health Committee after the club is reimbursed for the original \$6500.

At the last Board meeting the Health committee proposed support for Dr Eva Furrow's research on Stone Disease "Identifying practical risk factors for the prevention of calcium oxalate uroliths recurrence in dogs" which was approved by the Board for DAF. Due to administrative technicalities despite its scientific merit, the proposal could not be approved by the CHF. It was modified to meet Morris Animal Foundation criteria and was approved for funding. Health Committee would like to fund this research through Health Committee funds as opposed to DAF. Patti motioned the board approve funding from the Health Committee funds in the amount of \$2000 in support of this research. could not be supported by CHF as originally approved. Donna seconded and Board unanimously approved the change.

Historian and Policy Records: Richard Isley – Richard will be resigning at the end of this year and is asking for a replacement. Anyone interested should contact Richard or Carole.

Judges Selection: Carma and Galen Ewer Carma reported that the Nomination forms have been published in AMSCOPE and on the website. Balloting will begin in May. Also, Steve Hayden has agreed to fill in the vacancy at Montgomery County Kennel Club 2018.

Membership: Jackie submitted information on new applicants Greg Cook, Doug Weaver, and Jerene Weiss. Their information was shared with the board .

AKC has also informed the club of IRS rules regarding 501c(7) clubs:

Limited Membership - ... The fact that a social club may have an associate (nonvoting) class of membership won't be, in and of itself, a cause for nonrecognition of exemption. However, if one membership class pays substantially lower dues and fees than another membership class, although both classes enjoy the same rights and privileges in using the club facilities, there may be an inurement of income to the benefited class, resulting in a denial of the club's exemption.

There was also a discussion on how long an applicant must know their sponsor. Jackie will check other club membership forms and report back to the board at the next meeting.

Publications and Literature: Patricia O'Brien

The committee requests a motion to approve an expenditure of \$200 to have 50 grooming charts printed. This was seconded by Cathi and approved unanimously.

Grooming charts and CD are also available for download on the webpage.

Trophies: - Amy Gordon and Barbara Donahue

All trophies are set for the Specialty on Sunday. The committee hopes that everyone likes what we chose. We realize that everyone has different tastes and try our best to choose things that are unique. The committee is always open to suggestions on what to give for trophies. Let Barbara or Amy know about any ideas you might have. They are working on the Artists/craftsmen for next years trophies.

Unfinished Business:

1. Constitution and ByLaws. – Chris Levy

Below are the changes requested by AKC (with my comments in blue). I made all the changes (or in some cases, reversal back to the original) in a new document with those changes tracked.

Their email also included a new version of the Parent Club Sample Constitution and Bylaws and I used some wording to improve our Constitution's Objectives (c) and (d).

Board Decisions Needed:

1. We need to specify a maximum amount of dues for Foreign Membership. We can make it the same as Regular Membership - \$75. But I need a number to plug in.
Patti moved, Amy seconded to set dues at \$75.00 Passed
2. The Board needs to review the changes recommended by AKC and approve (or not) those changes. (Then I will make up a new version with the changes since 2009 tracked in order for the membership to vote on the final changes.)
Cathi moved, and Donna seconded to approve the Changes made by AKC. Passed

AKC Comments/Changes to submitted C&B (with comments by Chris in blue):

Constitution

Article I, Section 2e. While submitted for review, please adjust the sentence to include the most current AKC-approved language: “...and any other events for which the club is eligible under the Rules and Regulations of The American Kennel Club”.

Chris: From Parent Club Sample Constitution and Bylaws: **Article I**, Section 2(c), add “and to encourage sportsman-like competition at all events held under AKC Rules and Regulations”. I added that phrase.

Chris: From phone discussion with AKC – they forgot to mention this one so it's not on the original email from them. **Article I**, Section 2. Add another Objective to be in line with the parent club sample Constitution and Bylaws: “(g) To encourage the organization of independent local specialty clubs in those localities where there are sufficient fanciers of the breed to meet the requirements of The American Kennel Club.”

Bylaws

Article 1, Section 4. Please include a maximum dues amount for each membership type, e.g. “dues for Foreign members shall not exceed \$ ___ per year”. Additionally, please also see the attached Advisory for Clubs with 501 C-7 Exemption Status regarding equalized dues structuring with respect to Life membership types. Chris: we are a 501c(7) organization to the IRS. This type of organization does not allow differences in member benefits for the amount of dues paid. **In other words, Lifetime Membership, since they do not pay dues, in a 501c(7) organization, may not vote nor run for office.** Bonnie is looking at changing us to a 501c(4) which would allow us to continue our Life Member status as is. The Board also needs to determine the maximum amount of dues for Foreign Membership.

AKC pointed out that if we have a “Life Membership” class that doesn't pay dues, then they also cannot hold office or be allowed to vote. Bonnie reviewed the differences between the 501c exemptions and explained why the AMSC cannot be identified in an exemption category that would allow full privileges for lifetime members.

The Board discussed that we don't want to reward someone with a lifetime of service to the club with a “Life Membership” and then take away their voting rights. Patti suggested that rather than remove the Life Membership designation that the club should pay the dues FOR the lifetime members to address the “equalized dues” restriction and made a motion that the club will pay dues for all so-designated lifetime members. Sonny seconded. Passed unanimously.

In Sections 4(b), please revert back to the original language “on or before”.

In Section 4(c), please identify the person sending out dues notices, e.g. “The Treasurer shall send a statement of dues payable for the ensuing year to each member at least one month prior to the due date.”

In Section 4(d), please revert back to the original language and remove “as of the closing date of the vote”.

In Section 5(a), while not submitted for review, please replace the 2nd sentence with most current AKC-approved language, “Obligations other than dues are considered a debt to the club and must be paid prior to resignation.”

Article II, Sections 1(b) and 3(a), and **Article III**, Sections 2(a) and 2(b), we recommend terms for officers *and* directors/Board of Governors of either “1 year” or “2 years”. Additionally, the terms for all officers (Article III, Section 2) and directors/Board of Governors (Article II, Section 3) should be the same. In Article III, Sections 2(a) and 2(b), please adjust the term for the Treasurer to be the same as the officers. [I checked with AKC on this because our Board of Governors have multiple-year terms. They are OK with that, just not having different officers with different lengths of terms.](#)

Article III, Section 3(d). Please include the most current AKC-approved language and insert “which shall be sent to any member in good standing upon written request, not more than once every club year” immediately after “keep a roster of club members with their addresses”.

Article VI, Sections 1(a), 2(a), 3(a) and 4(a). Please insert the word “Written” immediately before “Notice” in all 4 sections. Please refer to the attached letters dated June 15, 2004 and March 6, 2003 (page 2) in which we advised the club of this adjustment. Additionally, please include “Section 4(b) The quorum for any such meeting shall be a majority of the Board”.

Article VII, Section 2. Since the club is including teleconference and videoconference in the Board Business section, please remove “or membership meeting” and “and of the Club” in the 2nd sentence. Teleconference and videoconference are only applicable to Board meetings. Please refer to Article III, Section’s 1 and 2 in the attached sample bylaws. In Sections 2, 2(a), 2(b) and 2(c), please replace “telephone and/or” with “teleconference or videoconference”.

Article VIII, Sections 1(a) through 1(f). Please . With the annual meeting taking place in the month of October (per Article VI, Section 1 of these bylaws), we suggest the following schedule be utilized for the nomination/election process: select the nominating committee by May 1st; the nominating committee mails the slate of candidates to the Recording Secretary by June 1st; the Recording Secretary mails the list of candidates to the membership by June 15th; additional nominations are sent to the Recording Secretary by July 15th; (if no additional nominations are received by July 15, the slate shall be declared elected and no balloting will be required); if one or more additional nominations are received, the Recording Secretary (or professional independent firm designated by the board) mails ballots to the membership by August 1st; ballots are returned to the Secretary (or independent firm) by September 1st and the results of the election are announced on the club’s website, as well as at the annual meeting. In Section 1(f), please replace “deadline for filing the July issue” with a specific date for the July issue in conjunction with mailing or emailing the membership. [I made all these changes to have hard dates. The Board needs to discuss if “mailing the list of candidates to the membership” can be done by AMSCOPE by June 15.](#)

In Section 1(g) per the above schedule, petitions for additional nominations must be received no later than the third month preceding the annual meeting, or “July 15”.

Article X, Section 1. Please adjust the additional wording to read: “...suspended from any of the privileges...”

Sections 2 and 3. Please remove Section 2 completely. In Section 3, please revert back to the original language. If the club is interested in a board hearing committee, that language must be uniform throughout the bylaws and wherever mentioned. In the Disciplinary Article, it’s either the Board or Board Committee that sends a copy of the charges to the each member of the board. [I discussed with AKC about our Ethics Committee process, and they had no problem with that – they just don’t want it codified in the Constitution and Bylaws. They were firm about all clubs having the Article on Discipline be consistent between all clubs.](#)

In Sections 4 and 5, please replace "Board or Committee" with "Board or Board Committee" in all instances.

Election of New Members: Jacquelyn Ebersbach

Jackie presented Greg Cook, Doug Weaver, and Jerene Weiss for membership. They were approved by the board. Welcome to our new members.

New Business

1. Discussion of Merle Miniature Schnauzers

The AMSC was contacted by a breeder (non member) who was concerned about a group of people who were breeding merle miniature schnauzers and advertising them on the internet as registerable with AKC. After some detective work, Carole and Vicki Kubic were able to find proof that Merle miniature schnauzers are being registered as Black/Silver. Carole wrote a letter to AKC which she shared with the board. We are waiting for some action by AKC, however, Carole will send the letter on to several dog publications if there is no response from AKC.

2. Discuss the pros and cons of mailing the Roster to all members. Also, we discussed the need to change the password on the member section of the website. In the past 3 years the club has lost 90 members, however, the password has remained the same. Bonnie moved and Donna seconded that the password be changed every years at Vicki's direction. Passed.

3. Election of the Nominating Committee:

The following members were elected to the Nominating Committee:

Patti Henderson (board member) – Chairman, Sonny Lelle (Board Member), Rhonda Smith, Debbie Herrell, and Jan Taylor with Patti Ledgerwood as an alternate.

4. There was a request by several members to designate a miniature schnauzer specialty at the Terrier Association of Oregon in the summer of 2018. The club policy is to have each specialty sponsored by a local club. The local club in this case would be the Portland Miniature Schnauzer Club and they have stated that they were not interested in sponsoring this specialty. The secretary will respond to the members with a letter explaining the Roving Specialty process and as an alternative discussions of location will be directed to the Roving Committee

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm EST. The next board meeting will be a teleconference on Tuesday, June 5 at 8pm Eastern.

Respectfully submitted

Carma Ewer

Secretary

