

The TTCA board met by teleconference — March 24, 2019

Betsy Richards called the meeting to order at 9:00 PM on March 24th, 2019

Board members present were: Betsy Richards, Sheryl Getman, Karen Tromblee, Janet Slothower, Sharon Hurd, Amy Soderman, Flossie Barczewski, Dee Travella, Rene Stamm, Ron Pankiewicz, and Stacey LaForge
absent Grant Gibson

Committee Reports, from each TTCA Committee are due. Janet reported that there are still some to be turned in. She will send an update. Each committee chair will turn in a report to Janet, Each Board Member will obtain a copy of each committee report and bring those with them to the board meeting in Boxborough.

Jamie Smith will be acting chairman of the Performance Committee with the approval of the Board. There has been no actual committee chair for this committee for several years. A job description stating the club's expectations for this position, needs to be formulated and provided for this position. Part of the job description will be to handle the performance statistics. Jamie is aware of this. Amy asked when Jamie will assume the position, now or after guidelines are set. Betsy reminded the Board that Jamie cannot actually be the chairman until she is a full member of the TTCA. Until that time a Board Member or another full member will need to be named as the chair. Amy suggested that Clair Coppola be named to the committee as she has some experience. It was agreed that someone who knows what performance entails should be on the committee. Betsy asked for a volunteer from the Board to be part of the committee. Flossie volunteered. She will contact Jamie and Claire and report back to the Board. This matter was tabled until the May meeting in Boxborough.

This year's NS will showcase past years' performance results/ statistics.

Gale Mattison has formally retired from the TTCA Show Chair position, following the 2020 NS. He has talked with Pam Desrosiers, who has agreed to accept the position upon becoming a full club member. She has been an associate member for more than one year and is in the process of applying to become a full member..

Several valuable committee chairs have expressed their desire to retire from their positions. Sandy White, Steve Layten, and Andrea Reiman all wish to resign. Sandy and Steve work with the web design. Steve created the website and code to work with it. Sandy would like to end her website duties within one year. Sandy also works with the Journal and NS Specialty Catalog ads, the Top 20 booklet, as well as the annual calendar sold on the website and would like to pass these duties along to a new volunteer. Andrea writes the Gazette column for the club.

Sheryl will continue to do the website for 2020. She feels that people are overloaded, maybe should be compensated monetarily. She also feels that the program should be moved to another platform, easier to use.

Possibilities for the future of the club's web site were discussed. Someone with a background in web design will be needed to take over. Betsy would like to form a committee to work on the web design issue.

Amy mentioned that Paul, her husband has frequently worked with Sandy, however she does not wish to volunteer his service as he does not wish to end up with the job on a continuing basis.

Sheryl mentioned that whoever helps will need to be familiar with the current site
Janet volunteered that both her son and brother are web designers and could possibly help depending on the system used.

Betsy noted that this would be great but that their time would probably require monetary compensation.

This issue is something that needs to be handled as immediately as possible

Steve suggested "Wordpress" as a possible venue for the website.

Amy cautioned that the club roster is a large area of our design and that whatever we use will have to accommodate it.

The club needs to rebuild its website

If the club has to outsource the website design and daily use, it can be costly.

Sheryl and Betsy suggested the possibility of providing a stipend for Sandy and Steve to entice them to remain until a new web site has been created.

Betsy will put an article in the Newsletter asking for volunteers to help with the website.

Rene had some questions as to the platform currently being used and felt that the club needed a new platform.

Sheryl and Sandy have been using the platform created and coded by Steve. Some sections are being moved to, or already are moved to "Wordpress". The club Store is currently a part of "Wordpress" There are, however, limitations with "Wordpress". It can become expensive if the club wants extras beyond the basics.

Dee reminded the Board that membership applications include an area where prospective members list their special skill areas where volunteering would benefit the club

Betsy and Rene volunteered to help with a committee

Sheryl expressed her desire to work with Paul, Amy and Sandy to determine the best route to take forward. She will plan to present some ideas for the future in May

Betsy asked for ideas whom the club can name to replace Andrea as author of the Gazette column.

The club has some previous columns that can be resubmitted.

Stacey mentioned that AKC has some control as to what is submitted. There are about 15 pages of guidelines to be followed. Stacey will email Betsy the rules.

Ron will ask around to see if anyone has an interest in doing this job.

Rob Smith was mentioned as a possibility to take on this job

Flossie asked if Andrea gave any notice as to when she would be retiring.

This concern was tabled for the time being.

The results of the recent online survey were briefly discussed. Results have been sent to all Board members.

Karen reported that the written responses were the most important feedback. She also felt that it was important to release information gleaned to the club. Names would be omitted.

Betsy will put a note in the Newsletter that the survey results are in and that the Board is looking at the results to determine where the club can improve

Betsy asked Board Members to become familiar with the results so that we can discuss the results at the Board meeting in May.

Karen will continue to lead this task and will have items for a survey pertaining only to the NS available in May

The Parade of New Champions and Title Holders, and TOP 20

The only guidelines existing for either are a paragraph pertaining to the TOP 20.

Betsy asked all to think of items pertinent to each for further discussion in May.

Museum of the Dog

The auction scheduled for April 23 is being watched by Rene. Information will be issued just prior to the event.

The National Specialty for 2021 was briefly discussed.

Grant had said that he might conduct the event in Colorado. Betsy will chat with him to see if he is still interested. The event will be added to the Board discussion in May.

Dee asked that Futurity be added to the May agenda.

Sheryl welcomed the new Board members.

Ron mentioned the finance committee and clarified that it was the corresponding secretary who was on the committee with the club president and treasurer.

The teleconference adjourned at 10:30 PM

submitted by Sharon Hurd