

NATIONAL SEARCH DOG ALLIANCE

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

May 7, 2015

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Search Dog Alliance was held by conference call on Thursday, May 7, 2015. President Norma Snelling called the meeting to order at 8:06 p.m. PST.

The following Directors were present and constituted a quorum: Susan Fleming, Gloria Howard, Sherry Scruggs, Norma Snelling, Terry Crooks, Jan Meyer, Suzanne Elshult.

Absent were: Robert Noziska, Julie Gibson

Guests present: Rena Ferguson, Heather Proper-VanValkenberg

A motion was made by Terry Crooks and seconded by Susan Fleming to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2015 meeting as distributed by email. Motion passed. Yes 6, Absent 3.

Motions passed by email since the last meeting.

1. A motion by Norma Snelling, seconded by Susan Fleming : In order for an existing Apprentice evaluator to proceed for application as a Principal Evaluator in Disaster, Avalanche or Water HRD, they must conduct three (3) NSDA tests under the supervision of a Principal NSDA evaluator. At least one must be a real test for a certifying team but the other two may be mock tests in their approved discipline, given by the Apprentice, under the supervision of a Principal NSDA Evaluator.

Officer's Reports

President's Report

Norma Snelling

President Norma Snelling reported that the 990 form for 2014 taxes has been signed and mailed to our tax accountant. There were answers to some questions on the form that needed to be corrected and this was handled.

Vice President's Report

Terry Crooks

No report

Secretary's Report

Julie Gibson

No Report

Treasurer's Report

Sherry Scruggs

The Treasurer had distributed financial statements by email showing a 14.4% increase in total assets over May 2014.

Committee Reports

Alliance Depot

Gloria Howard

Gloria reported \$110.95 income for the month of April.

Patches, decals, stickers and 2 HRD log books were sent to Franklin Search and Rescue in Maine for their conference.

An order for merchandise was received from a searcher in Australia.

It was decided to place a notice on our website that international orders may be subject to additional mailing costs.

A purchase order for sweatshirts and T-shirts was approved by Treasurer, Sherry Scruggs for \$254.00.

Evaluators

Susan Fleming

Six evaluator applications are in process for approval. They represent the states of Michigan, Florida, Kentucky, Rhode Island and Arkansas.

New evaluator shirts and caps are now available. Shirts are \$17.00 and caps are \$8.00, plus shipping and handling. They are khaki in color with the cap having a black brim. Order information will be placed on the Evaluator Only page on the website.

Susan also reported working with Judy Otto on a fundraising project involving Subaru car manufacturing. Information will be given to a fundraising chair when that position is filled.

Resource Committee:

Tracey Burns

No report was received from this committee.

Further discussion was held regarding our system of documentation of tests and distribution of information. Our written policy is not being followed.

Proof of payment for testing was discussed. Both checks and pre-paid receipts need to be sent to Frank Hancock by the Evaluator, along with the required testing documentation. Frank will then be able to verify payment for the test and forward the checks to the Assistant Treasurer, Cam Daggett. The process needs to be put on the Evaluator Only information page.

Check: can payment receipt be printed more than once? Is the date of purchase or the 6 month expiration date printed on the receipt?

PODCASTS

Eva Briggs

The May 15 Search Dog Podcast, Episode 30, features an interview with Dr. John Berg, a veterinarian from the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. He speaks about spleen tumors, a common canine disease.

Those listening to the show will have an opportunity to win a Glowdoggie lighted LED collar.

The podcast can now be found on Podbean <http://sardoc.podbean.com/e/episode-30-search-dog-podcasts-nsda/>. You can subscribe, and you can download the Podbean app.

The podcast is also on iTunes. Just search the store for Search Dog Podcast NSDA and choose the black logo with SEARCHDOG PODCAST in big block letters. This is the NEW feed; if you are subscribed to the old feed, you must subscribe to the new feed to get this and future episodes.

Social Media

Suzanne Elshult

We have sixty new members for a total of 690. We reached over 2,950 people this past week.

Testing

Rena Ferguson

Four Regional Tests are scheduled so far for this year. They include Idaho Falls, ID., Boise, ID., Arizona, Michigan and a proposed test in Indiana.

A proposal will be discussed: If a Regional test is cancelled due to a documented search dispatch, NSDA will reimburse the evaluator'(s) expenses.

Unfinished Business

NSDA insurance coverage

Sherry Scruggs

Sherry will send the Board a list of states where offices are located for our current insurance company. A new office needs to take over our policy due to our current contact having stepped down from the Board last year. We can then choose an office in a region with a current Board member to sign the paperwork and transfer our account.

Certifying Agency list

Jan Meyer

Jan requested that we put "Disaster Only" next to the FEMA designation on our list of approved Certifying Agencies on our website.

NSDA Disaster Standard

Sherry Scruggs

Sherry announced that the Disaster test is ready to go on line. President Snelling appointed Sherry to give the Disaster evaluator workshop to the new disaster evaluators. Sherry was also asked to review the Prerequisite list being used for any additional requirements pertinent to Disaster. Current Disaster evaluators will be notified that the workshop is ready and they will be contacted.

Jan Meyer will notify the testing chair of arrangements for a possible regional disaster test at Camp Atterbury in October.

New Business

Firearms standard

Norma Snelling

A motion is on the floor by Susan Fleming and seconded by Terry Crooks to accept the Firearms standard. President Snelling will arrange a conference call for Friday, May 15 for any board members wanting to further discuss options and answer questions for the Firearms standard before calling for a vote of the directors.

Gloria Howard made a motion, seconded by Susan Fleming to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously and being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm PST.

Julie Gibson, Secretary Date: 5.12.2015 (Minutes by Norma Snelling) **CERTIFIED**