

High Country Board Meeting  
Board Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2014

Board Members Attending: Claudia Walters, and Mark O'Connor

General Members Attending: Jewel Cody, Kate O'Connor, Steve Gunther, Matt Sidesinger, Katherine Payne, Lyle Payne, Lori Leigh Moreland, Terri Desnica, Sue Raney, Carol Jefferson, Lynn Kitch (by phone)

The meeting was held at the Canyon Ranch condo clubhouse in Highlands Ranch.

Claudia Walters, vice president, called the meeting to order. The first order of business was to fill recently vacated board positions. Mark O'Connor, general board member made a motion to appoint Lynn Kitch, Steve Gunther, and Matt Sidesinger to fill the vacant general board member positions. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. Mark O'Connor then motioned and Steve Gunther seconded to appoint Lyle Payne as treasurer, and Carol Jefferson as secretary. Motion was unanimously approved. Mark O'Connor motioned, and Steve Gunther seconded to appoint Claudia Walters president. The motion was unanimously approved. Steve Gunther motioned, and Matt Sidesinger seconded, to appoint Mark O'Connor vice-president. Motion was unanimously approved. Mark O'Connor motioned, and Matt Sidesinger seconded, to appoint Katie Sidesinger to the newly vacated general board member position. Motion was unanimously approved.

The minutes of the previous board meeting were not available.

There was no Vice President's report.

There was no treasurer's report.

For the president's report, Claudia Walters made several points to the new board and the general members in attendance.

-She believes that we have the opportunity to move forward with a fresh start.

-We need to look at the bylaws as we move forward and make decisions.

-Communication needs to be open and available to all club members and inclusive.

-fiscal planning as it applies to the club needs to continue to move forward.

-We need an ongoing calendar of events, with 4 board and 4 general meetings planned well ahead of their scheduled meeting dates.

-Making a meeting recap or minutes available online.

The floor was then opened to club members who had signed up to address the board.

Terri Desnica spoke to the chairing of events policy of having the president sign off on every receipt before being reimbursed-even though the event budget had previously been approved. (discussion followed) It was decided to take a closer look at this when we review policies and procedures.

Terri also questioned Ron Horn's resignation letter. The bylaws state that a resignation letter should be sent to the board. Ron's letter was sent to the entire club, and to an even wider audience. There were

statements made about people that had no basis in truth-that have damaged reputations of not only those individuals, but the integrity and reputation of the club in general.

Terri inquired as to whether there were reasons given by other board members why they were tendering their resignations. (Claudia replied that no one gave very specific reasons in their resignations.)

Katherine Payne inquired about club policies. She stated that the NCA does not have provisions for people to people behavior. She asked if HCNC needs a policy that designates club members need to be respectful and polite during participation in club sponsored events and activities. Katherine asked if perhaps other clubs have a policy regarding this, that we could use for guidance.

Sue Raney inquired as to whether an audit of the club finances is in order due to a change at the treasurer position. (This may already be required by our bylaws /policies and procedures.) Discussion followed with no one in opposition to this request.

#### Report of the Secretary

Claudia Walters had four communications from club members to present. Letters from Sue Raney, Mark Raney, and Terri Desnica in response to allegations made in Ron Horn's resignation letter were read aloud to those in attendance. Materials were also received from Bill Espander as a response to the process by which he was suspended from HCNC. Points made in this communication related to how it could have been done differently, and how the process didn't follow our own bylaws or policies & procedures. Claudia will disseminate this information to all board members to discuss at the next board meeting. All will be entered into the permanent record. These communications will be used in the effort to increase transparency and communication as we move forward.

#### Discussion Items

-Board Executive sessions-when and why? There is concern that they have been used too regularly and frequently. The new board will attempt to keep executive sessions to a minimum.

-HCNC currently has two websites-only one of which is kept current. There has been confusion, especially for non-club members looking for information. Matt Sidesinger volunteered to look into removing the old website.

-chairs of events- Do we approve a person or the application? Does the budget need to be complete before approving the chair? Does the process of only approving the chair when the budget is complete keep us from taking advantage of the free ad in Newftide? Discussion is ongoing.

#### Treasurer Report

Mark O'Connor reported that a bill for the club's insurance was received and paid. Melissa Lundgren (former treasurer) wrote checks for the Agility Test, summer and fall Water Tests, and election expenses. Several other items will be passed onto Lyle after this meeting to be included in the next treasurer report.

#### Review of Committees

Claudia created a spreadsheet of existing committees and an outdated list from the website to work from. The following is a listing of current committees and those who are currently chairing or serving on them along with any updates or discussion.

Regional Specialty- (ad hoc committee to make recommendations to the board) Peggy Lange, Claudia Walters, Patti Pigeon, are current members. Claudia will call Cathy Sands and Lynn Kitch to see if they are interested in serving.

Claudia would also like to form a new committee to look at uniform prizes for Regional Specialties, and club events. Discussion followed regarding buying in bulk and wholesale through Lori Moreland. Terri Desnica, Mark O'Connor, Sue Raney (chair), and Steve Gunther volunteered to serve.

Bylaws-This is an ongoing committee. Mark O'Conner has concerns regarding the section that addresses the geographic areas of membership. Johanna Matsuda (chair), Raymond Gunn, Claudia Walters, and Kathleen McEwen.

Awards Banquet- Karen Benenati (chair), Linda Morley-Roser, Noreen Rogers

Christmas Parade and Carting- Claudia will talk to Patti Pigeon about this season.

Community Service- Needs new chair for both existing and new venues. We need to look at coordinating a variety of activities for our club members and their dogs.

Chatfield Park Liaison - Patti Pigeon

2015 NCA Draft Test- Sue Raney (chair), Claudia Walters, Lori Moreland, Matt Sidesinger. Sue needs the report from the last test in order to complete the application for this event. She will have it completed by December.

Email Distribution- Carol Jefferson

Facebook Page- Matt Sidesinger, Claudia Walters

NCA Agility Match- Patti Pigeon (trial chair), Terri Desnica (chief Ring Steward)

Fun Match- Future discussion (to be determined by April)

Spring Fling- Pending

Fun Day and Picnic- Kate O'Connor

Health Clinic-Claudia will contact Jan Curtis to see if she will chair. This event may merge with the Spring Fling.

Nominating Committee- Lyle Payne (chair), Steve Gunther, Terri Desnica, Jewel Cody (alternate), Mark Raney (alternate).

Holiday Party- pending

Meet the Breed- (at the Denver Cluster Show) pending

Membership Applications- Mark O'Connor

National Ads- Claudia Walters, Johanna Matsuda

New Puppy Buyer and Welcome- Mark O'Connor

Rescue- Melissa Sharp

Newsletter- Lynn Kitch

Official Club Contact- Raymond Gunn

Policies and Procedures- HCNC Board

Sunshine- Jewel Cody

Water Test (July) - Mark O'Connor(chair), Katie Sidesinger

Water Test (September)- Patti Pigeon

Water Test Clinic- open

Webmaster- Matt Sidesinger, Steve Gunther

All chair positions were unanimously approved.

Policies and procedures are dated and need updating as well. Sue Raney suggested that the new document be open to review (upon its' completion) by the general membership.

Calendar

Scheduled events for the coming year thus far include:

November- Board Meeting (Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, at Hounds on the Hill, 2:00 pm)

December-parade and carting, holiday party

January-

February- Meet the Breed (at the Denver clusters show), general meeting

March- awards banquet

April- spring fling

May- annual meeting, board meeting

June- fun day

July- water test, general meeting

August- fun match (tentative)

September- water test, agility trial, general meeting

October- board meeting

According to the bylaws, the club is obligated to have four general, and four board meetings per year. An updated calendar will be sent to all general members on an ongoing basis as dates are finalized).

A reminder will be sent to all club members that email blasts to the entire membership are to be sent only through the club secretary.

The next board meeting will be held at Hounds on the Hill, November 16<sup>th</sup>, at 2:00pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Jefferson  
HCNC Secretary

Minutes were approved on 11/16/2014 at the November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Board meeting.  
Attachment to the Minutes:

- 1) Meeting Sign In
- 2) Letter from T Desnica - Read aloud
- 3) Letter from S. Raney - Read aloud
- 4) Letter from M. Raney - Read aloud