

**NPGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
TAMPA, FLORIDA
JANUARY 13-14, 2007**

Saturday, January 13, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by President Mark Adkins. Present were President Mark Adkins, Secretary Ray Hoyt, Treasurer Joyce Hubbard, and Directors Debbie Anthony, Donna Elkins, Michelle Fonda, Lynda Gredin, MaryBeth Guenther, Karen Hepner, Maggie Leman, John Murray, Andy Nash, Cheryl Rogers, Susan Seiler, Brenda Steppenbacker, and Business Manager Dori Lowell.

Pres. Mark Adkins announced that Scott Noffsinger had resigned as a region 7 director. There were three members from region 7 that had indicated an interest in being appointed to the vacant position: Terry Atkins of Texas, Renee Furst of New Mexico, and Pat Kaufmann of New Mexico. After discussion and comments from Board members, Pres. Adkins appointed Terry Atkins to fill the unexpired term. The Board unanimously approved the appointment.

Pres. Adkins asked all those present to introduce themselves and advise which region they represented.

President's Report

The 2006 President, Aaron Esterline, reported that it had been a fun four years, three of which he had served as president; he had nice memories of his service.

Vice-President's Report

The 2006 Vice-President, Mark Adkins, reported that he had copies of committee reports available for those who needed them. (While they were being distributed, Business Manager Dori Lowell requested travel reimbursement paperwork from all directors.) No reports were received from the Show and Election Coordinators.

Secretary's Report

The 2006 Secretary, Stetts Stettler, submitted a written report indicating that all secretarial materials had been boxed and shipped to the hotel at which the current meeting is being held. Also included is a CD with all information included in the new director's handbook.

Secretary Hoyt informed the Board that the minutes of the June 2006 meeting needed to be corrected to reflect that Director Murray's vote on Motion 2006-15 was YES. His vote was missing from the minutes; the omission did not affect the outcome of the motion. The correction to the minutes was passed unanimously.

Secretary Hoyt reminded the Board that the Agenda Item Submission Form was to be used for submitting agenda items prior to each Board meeting. The form would be disseminated to all directors for their use.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joyce Hubbard advised the Board that Dori had obtained the current interest rate for Certificates of Deposit. We have approx. \$58,000 in CDs now. We have approx. \$44,800 in the checking account. The Merchandise Department financial report is enroute from Jim Huber. All directors who were not in possession of current budget reports and worksheets were provided them by Dori. The discrepancies on the proposed budget worksheets (office, show, and youth categories) were explained.

Central Office Report

Dori reported on declining membership, office activity remains routine, and coordinator vacancies. She has requested that the Board consider computer and software upgrades. Aaron Esterline provided some insight on the state of technology, and what to buy now. The Board authorized \$2000 to upgrade the computer system. Dori advised that she had a vacancy in region 4 for her Certification Committee. Her report was accepted.

2007 Officer Elections

At 9:15 AM, having complied with Rules and Regulations, paragraph 1.A, the elections were conducted. Nominated for President were Mark Adkins and Ray Hoyt. Each candidate gave a brief synopsis of their experience and answered questions asked by directors. Ray Hoyt was elected by written ballot. For Vice-President, Debbie Anthony and Mark Adkins were nominated. Debbie provided a brief synopsis of her experience and answered questions asked by directors. Mark Adkins was elected by written ballot. For Secretary, Michelle Fonda was the sole nominee for Secretary; she also provided a brief synopsis of her experience and answered questions asked by

directors. She was unanimously elected. For Treasurer, Joyce Hubbard and Debbie Anthony were nominated. Joyce provided a brief synopsis of her experience and answered questions asked by directors. Joyce Hubbard was elected by written ballot.

With the newly elected officers in place, the business before the Board of Directors resumed.

Membership Roster

Aaron Esterline will continue to do the roster. The cost to print it will remain at \$6000. The Board felt that Aaron deserved compensation for his efforts (a stipend of \$250 had been suggested at past meetings, but since Aaron was President this presented a possible conflict of interest). Aaron now can and will accept the stipend.

Ad Hoc Committees

Linear Appraisal

Stetts Stettler has resigned from the committee leaving Maggie Leman and Jason Overman as the only members. Maggie will be the new Chairperson. After much discussion regarding the effectiveness of the program, it was decided to allow the program to continue. The Breed Standard Committee needs to be involved especially with respect to the Scorecard. A rough draft of the Scorecard should be ready by June 2007. Without a Scorecard, selecting and training of appraisers is presumptive. The committee also needs more members from each region.

Wether Promotion

Four more wethers have received Platinum Status. In order to assess the memberships' attitude regarding wethers, the committee has generated a questionnaire/survey to be printed in a future Memo and on the website. Debbie Anthony suggested using 'Jackpots' as a way to encourage more wether participation. It was also noted that judges may need more specific training in this area. It was suggested that unregistered wethers could be recorded based on appearance, perhaps by the Certification committee. An informational booth will be set up at the next Convention

Both Ad hoc reports were approved.

Standing Committees

Breed Standard

The Color Chart has been finished and is available for \$2 each from Merchandise.

The committee has been reviewing the Linear Appraisal Scorecard and other information received from the Ad hoc Linear Appraisal committee. This has resulted in more questions regarding the system. At this time, the Breed Standard committee cannot recommend the adoption of the program.

The Board viewed a video submitted by Debbie Anthony. The purpose of the video was to provide another source of educational materials to members and anyone interested in Pygmy Goats. The Board agreed that a video would be useful as long as it was a quality production, which would include an appropriate facility, sufficient animals to choose from, and dubbing capabilities. Funds were budgeted, but would not be approved until the Board has seen a proposal. The Board approved the formation of the Video Education Committee with Debbie Anthony as the Chairperson. Anyone interested in this endeavor and being on the committee should contact Debbie.

The Breed Standard report was approved.

Health, Education and Research Committee

Ray Hoyt gave an update on NAIS. At the Federal level, NAIS seems to be on its last legs, however, state governments are being encouraged to carry on with the program with the aid of federal funding. Various states have initiated the program, many are ignoring it. Each Director was asked to inquire as to the status in their respective regions. Updates on NAIS will be posted on the NPGA website.

The HER report was approved.

Judges Training Committee

Charging a judges license fee was discussed. It was felt that the judges pay enough out of pocket expenses without adding another. There was no significant appetite on the Board for such a fee. Changing the minimum age to 18 for

participating in the Judges Exam was discussed. The Board discussed the committee recommendation to change Show Rules C5 and C6 for clarification of the language. There was no appetite on the Board to make these changes.

Motion 07-01. Judges- Clarify 92-01

Passed

Elkins/Guenther

Voting Yes: Adkins, Anthony, Elkins, Fonda, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hubbard, Leman, Murray, Nash, Rogers, Seiler, Steppenbacker. No: None. Absent: None

I move that we amend Motion 92-01 by changing 10A1 to read ‘the minimum age for participation in the judging exam as a judge candidate is 18’.

The Board discussed making a one-time exception to the minimum age of 18 to take the Judging Exam for a worthy judge prospect. A majority of the Board was not in favor of such exception.

Provisional Judges need to be indicated by an asterisk or some other means anywhere where a judges list is generated.

Implementing a Computer Placement Program for the classes used during a Judges Exam was discussed. This form of placing animals at the last JE was a success for three out of the four classes. This selection process also proved to be more efficient time wise. Guidelines need to be developed. The Board will make a recommendation to the JT Chairperson to further explore this new system at the next JE and report back to the Board.

The JT report was approved.

Public Relations Committee

The committee is in need of members and ideas for promoting the Pygmy Goat. The NPGA pamphlet should be ready by June 2007. The Board needs to generate a list of what the committee needs to do.

The Board acknowledges receipt of the PR report.

Publications Committee

The chairperson has a request from a magazine to supply pygmy goat photos. No Board involvement was needed.

Webmaster

It was reported that there has been a 25% increase in activities at the website. These activities include sales of animals and on-line renewals. The Board approved the President’s reappointment of Aaron Esterline as Webmaster. Donna Elkins suggested that the Webmaster become its own department; no action was taken on this suggestion.

Youth Committee

The NPGA Coloring and Activities Book had been revised and is available through Merchandise. A Youth Show was held in conjunction with the 2006 Convention. Attendance was great. Two scholarships were awarded to two very deserving girls. The committee would like to request that the scholarship program continue with hopes of more applicants in the future. The committee is in need of members.

The Youth Report was approved.

The Board of Directors meeting was in recess at 5:18 PM to reconvene at 8:00 AM on January 14, 2007.

Sunday, January 14, 2007

The Board of Directors meeting reconvened at 8:00 AM.

Coordinator Reports

Affiliated Clubs Report

There are 29 clubs listed. No new clubs have been added to date. One club has not responded to date.

The report was approved.

Election Report

Erin McCarthy has resigned as Elections Chairperson. No report was submitted.

Ray Hoyt recommended that the Board publish the following suggested Bylaws change in the minutes for notification to the membership, as articulated in Article 6.2 of the Bylaws. This change is necessary for the Bylaws to be consistent with the results of the reorganization study approved by the Board of Directors June 10, 2004:

SECTION 4.5 NOMINATION OF DIRECTORS

The President of the Association shall appoint an Election Coordinator. It is the duty of such Election Coordinator to submit the official slate for the Association. Sixty (60) days notice shall be given to the general membership prior to mailing of the official ballots. All nominations must be ratified by two other members in good standing, identified by two (2) separate and distinct membership numbers. All such nominations and ratifications must be received by August 15.

This change in the Bylaws can thereupon occur in June 2007 by motion.

Show Coordinator

With the resignation of Keira Engelke, Dori Lowell has taken over her responsibilities. Dori reported that new ribbons have been received and that they are all the same color – purple and black. The new manufacturer sends the ribbons all rolled up which leads to them becoming wrinkled in transit. Show Chairs need to be aware of this and may need to iron the ribbons. It took 3½ hours for Dori to process 5 shows.

Motion 07-2. Recording of Wins

Passed

Elkins/Hepner

Voting Yes: Adkins, Anthony, Elkins, Fonda, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hubbard, Leman, Murray, Nash, Rogers, Seiler, Steppenbacker. No: None. Absent: None

We change Show Rule L2, last sentence to read ‘If deliberate abuse of the rules is proven to a majority of the Board, and goat(s) involved are the Champions, the win will be disallowed. In cases where a qualified Reserve Champion exists from that show, that animal will record the win’.

Change Show rule J1, last sentence to read ‘The judge will document and sign the back of the Certificate of Registry of the animal recording the win’.

Mailing of Ribbons

The possibility of Sanction Ribbons being sent as soon as sanction fees have been received and processed, even if this is six months prior to the show date was discussed. Ribbons have been held and sent six weeks before the respective show. If a Show Chairperson desires the ribbons to be sent earlier, they need to call and request it. The Show Report Template is not considered ‘user friendly’ by some individuals. Staci McStotts has written instructions which are included with the Show Information Packet.

Department Reports

MEMO

The MEMO report was discussed in closed session.

There was a discussion on the significant amount of editing and correcting (spelling, punctuation, spacing, etc.) of Show Results as submitted by local show chairpersons. It was decided that Show Results will be published in MEMO in the same condition in which they are received from the respective Show Chairpersons. An article is in progress for MEMO to encourage the Show Chairpersons to proof read their results prior to submission.

The Board acknowledges receipt of the MEMO report.

Merchandise

There were not many entries for the T-Shirt Contest. Otherwise, merchandise is moving well with grossing over \$13,500 for the year.

The report was approved.

Compliance Committee

There were no new complaints.

The report was approved.

Old Business

Continuing Education Committee/Coordinator

The formal establishment of a Judge's Continuing Education (Con-Ed) facilitator/coordinator/moderator, and the seminar itself was discussed:

- Appointed by the Board of Directors
- Coordinates with the JTC chairperson
- Assisted by volunteer(s)
- Frequency of attendance, extensions
- Travel reimbursement?

An actual proposal with suggested rule changes will be ready for the June Board meeting. Andy Nash will continue as the 2007 Con-Ed Facilitator/Moderator. He did pose the question of what should he do in the case of an unruly judge. The Board had no response at this time.

New Business

Shirt Embroidery (Gredin)

Embroidery Impressions, gave a nice presentation of the quality of embroidery products their company can make for NPGA, including two prototype shirts with the NPGA logo. The Board decided that an order should be placed for five dozen shirts and two dozen hats to have available through Merchandise. The Board will re-evaluate how successful these new products are at the June Board meeting. Embroidery Impressions has permission to use the trademarked logo for NPGA purposes only. The prototype shirts will be donated to the convention raffle.

Officer Election Procedure (Hoyt, Nash)

Since Officer elections take place in January, but Directors and therefore offices held may change prior to the January meeting, the board discussed some options as to how to rectify this situation. It would require some changes to the Rules and Regulations. The procedure will be worked on and revisited in June.

Chairperson Terms (Adkins/Elkins)

Motion 07-3. Committee Chair and Member Rotation **Passed** **Elkins/Murray**

Voting Yes: Adkins, Anthony, Elkins, Fonda, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hubbard, Leman, Murray, Nash, Rogers, Seiler, Steppenbacker. No: None. Absent: None

We amend Rules and Regulations 8A by changing it to read:

8A All standing committees shall be composed of a chairperson appointed by the President to a three year term plus a nucleus of members not to exceed the number of regions, having appointed terms of three years each,. Appointment of new committee members shall be made by the chairperson. There will be a one-year lapse between terms served by committee members. There will be no time lapse required between terms for committee chairs. The Vice President will provide a list of chairpersons and their terms of office to the Business Manager by February 1. All chairpersons will provide names of all committee members, along with their rotation schedule, to the Business Manager by February 1. This information will be published in the annual membership roster. (06-13)

Add to the Vice President Job Description 5: Provides the President with a list of chairpersons and terms. In the case of a chair replacement or term rotation *will submit a list of upcoming rotations or vacancies to MEMO editor as follows: January appointments in the Fall and Winter Issues, Convention Meeting appointments in the Spring and Summer Issues.* The Vice-President will advertise the opening in MEMO, send job descriptions to applicants, and supply the President with resumes and references from applicants. (06-13)

NPGA 5 Year Plan (Elkins)

A plan was discussed in order to generate ideas and goals for NPGA to further promote the Pygmy Goat. It was suggested that each of the committees develop their own one year plan and submit them to the Board. The Board would then generate a plan for up to five years by next January..

Motion 07-4. Committee Chair Job Description **Passed** **Adkins/Gredin**

Voting Yes: Adkins, Anthony, Elkins, Fonda, Gredin, Guenther, Hepner, Hubbard, Leman, Murray, Nash, Rogers, Seiler, Steppenbacker. No: None. Absent: None

I move that Committee Chairs Job Description 8 be amended to strike `goals' and add `multi-year plan'.

VRD Eligibility Criteria (Hoyt)

Withdrawn.

HerdBook Fees

It was suggested to reduce the online Herdbook initial fee from \$50 to \$20. The annual fee thereafter would remain at \$20. This will be further discussed in June.

The Budget was approved.

The tentative site for the January 2008 Board meeting will be either Phoenix, AZ or San Diego, CA..

Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.

Respectively submitted,

Michelle E. Fonda
N.P.G.A. Secretary