

**The German Shepherd Dog Club of America, Inc.
October Board Meeting
October 2, 2011**

Capitol Plaza

Topeka, Kansas

Officers	Present: Tish Walker, Lanalee Jorgensen Law, Laura Gilbert, Ginny Altman, and Nadine Grady.
Class of 2012 Directors	Present: Bart Bartley, Frank Fasano, Fred Migliore, Carol Moore, James Moses, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Pam O'Dell.
Class of 2011 Directors	Present: Zoe Backman, Carmen Battaglia, Bill Burggraaf, Ken Downing, Gary Szymczak, Dean Wylie. Absent: Dorothy Linn
Committee Chairpersons	Present: Jim York, Susan Casey, Dalene McIntire, Rita Sandell, Diane Mehra
Members	Present: Margaret Dudley, Deborah Stern, Sharon White, Molly Snider, Phyllis Kraft, Melanie Fuellgraf, Bob Grady, Diane Roberts and guests Andrea Szabo and Ron Mulvaney.
Call to Order	The GSDCA Membership meeting was called to order at 8:14 am on Sunday, October 2, 2011 by Tish Walker, President.
I. Approval of Minutes	
	Carmen Battaglia moved that the July 2011 and the August 16 and 27th Conf call minutes be approved as distributed. Seconded by Dean Wylie. The reading of the minutes were waived and minutes were approved by general consent.
II. Report of Recording Secretary - Ginny Altman	
	Ginny announced that the sign in sheet was distributed and that members, guests and committee chairs are invited to sign in.
III. Report of Corresponding Secretary - Laura Gilbert	
	Laura informed the Board that she has asked for a membership report from the Regional Clubs as part of the requirement for being in good standing. She will be requesting a notice of change in officers and asking if the treasurer is bonded. The suggestion was made to ask how many of the members are GSDCA members and WDA members. Carmen Battaglia informed Laura that she could contact Mike Liosis to electronically submit the GSDCA, Inc. Membership to the AKC.
IV. Report of the Vice-President - Lana Jorgensen Law	
	No report.
V. Report of the Executive Committee - Tish Walker	
	Tish reported that the Executive Committee met August 3, 2011 and voted to call a Board conference call to discuss the action taken by the Board in July on the White German Shepherd Dog.
	Bart Bartley moved to approve the Executive committee report. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.
VI. Report of President - Tish Walker	
	Tish reported that when she became aware of the 9/11 Working Dog Ceremony which was to take place in New Jersey she was able to place a memorial ad for the GSDCA and the GSDCA-WDA in the 9/11 Memorial Catalog being prepared. She reported that she, as president of the GSDCA, was also able to assist the effort of bringing the bronze sculpture "Semper Fi" from Colorado to the Liberty State Park in New Jersey for the ceremony. This sculpture was featured in the GSD Review.

	Tish noted that it was an honor for her to represent the GSDCA at the 9/11 ceremony. On behalf of the GSDCA, Inc. she signed the Convention on Cooperation Among American Working Dog Organizations. This Agreement commits American Dog Breeders to cooperate with the Department of Homeland Security and other agencies to “develop programs designed to provide the ready supply of American working dogs” for use in protecting America.
	Tish asked Carmen to show the Board and members present his slide presentation of the 9/11 Ceremonies. A conference with other countries in attendance was hosted by the AKC. The topics included puppy testing for seeing eye dogs and other working aptitudes. There were papers presented on the genetics of working aptitude. He also had slides of the “Semper Fi” bronze sculpture.
Board positions	The provision for election of the Board is for a majority of those members voting to have cast a vote for director and the bylaws provide that the Board will use the ladder system from the most recent election to complete the process. Those Board members on the ballot not having received a majority in the Election Process were unanimously elected according to the bylaws. Dr. Zoe Backman will fill the one-year vacancy left by Frank Fasano’s election to the office of President.
	The American Temperament Test Society Inc. has objected to the GSDCA temperament test and Evan Ginsburg has written a letter to them to resolve the issue.
	Semper Fi looking for a permanent display place for the statute. There is a need for funds. They will keep the GSDCA informed on the progress. The President of the GSDCA donated \$1500 in the name of the GSDCA to the Semper Fi project.
Motion	Ken Downing moved and Gary Szymczak seconded to reimburse Tish Walker \$1500 for the Semper Fi so that the actual funds for the donation comes from the GSDCA, Inc. The motion carried unanimously.
	Tish received information regarding the Purina funds for the litter nominations. They will provide a check for the compliance in nomination. Purina offered their compliments to Ellie Goede Carson for achieving compliance with their program.
VII Treasurer - Nadine Grady	
	Nadine reported that the financials are not finalized. There were a lot of Products and other sales. She noted that having the ability to process charge cards was helpful. Wells Fargo facilitated the process.
	Nadine will have more information as the results from the National are summarized in her September month end summary.
Budget and Finance - Carmen Battaglia	
	Carmen Battaglia moved that the board approve the addition of Fred Migliore to the Budget and Finance committee. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. Carmen Battaglia moved that the board approve the Budget and Finance committee members to meet before the regular Board meeting in January. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
	Carmen Battaglia noted that the Purina funds of \$15,000 come to the GSDCA each year. The Budget and Finance Committee recommended that the monies be split between the National and the Futurities. The motion carried. All of those who voted were in favor of approving the recommendation of the committee. Carmen noted that the details will be considered by the the Budget and Finance Committee in January and the Board will be asked to approve the specifics at that time.
National Specialty - Bill Burggraaf	
	Bill Burggraaf noted that we had a successful show and for the most part all went well – financially he estimates that we will have netted about \$1800. The profit and loss is determined by how the contract is set up for the facility. The changes made after the contract was written, such as the change from mats, which were not satisfactory, to astroturf for obedience will incur adjustments that have to be made. Bill urged that the negotiation has to be all inclusive and written into the contract.

	Bill informed the Board that, while he was willing to have some involvement in a transition, he offered his resignation as National Show Chairman. Ken Downing moved to accept the resignation as requested. Ginny Altman seconded. There was considerable discussion including the 2013 Centennial and that Bill Burggraaf, Dean Wylie, Tish Walker and Nancy Harper-Mulvaney have put a tremendous amount of work into the plans for that noteworthy event.
	Compliments were given to Bill and several members shared examples of his good work. At the urging of Dean Wylie and others, Bill Burggraaf requested the withdrawal of his offered resignation.
Ad Hoc Committee formed	Carmen Battaglia moved that a committee be formed to examine the issues the club encounters when holding a national specialty. The committee Bill Burggraaf, Tish Walker, Dean Wylie, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney and Frank Fasano would meet and come to the January meeting with a proposal. The motion was seconded by Dean Wylie and carried unanimously.
Obedience - Dalene McIntire	
	Dalene complimented Bill in getting the astroturf for performance when the mats were found to be unworkable and she stated that there were a number of exhibitors who expressed to her that they would like to have astroturf when it is available.
Board Meeting Sites - Bill Burggraaf	
	Bill Burggraaf reported that Lisa Cunningham facilitated contacts with the Chamber of Commerce for rooms under \$100 with airport access in San Diego. Transportation is in line with any other options. It was approved by general consent to meet in San Diego in January.
Thirteen Club - Carol Putnam	
	Carol has informed Tish that she wishes to resign. She has been working with Sherry Kenachu who is willing to assume the role of chairman. Laura Gilbert moved that Sherry Kenachu be approved as chairman, seconded by Ginny Altman. The motion was approved unanimously.
Membership - Dania Karloff	
	Dania has recommended that the GSDCA permit her to send the 2012 membership cards to the members who have email addresses on file with the GSDCA. This represents a savings of about \$1000. Ginny Altman moved that we accept the recommendation of the membership chair. Bart Bartley seconded the motion.
Membership cards	Following discussion and the suggestion that the members be notified that their membership cards will come by email the recommendation of the membership chair was approved unanimously.
Regional Club - Dean Wylie	
	Dean reviewed that the Point system is outlined for the Regional Clubs and has been communicated to them. A Therapy dogs get 5 points a week for the actual visits that the dog and handler makes. This is ongoing time intensive activity for these teams and is commendable activity and the visits are verified by the school or care center getting the service.. It is for the weekly visits that are actually made, not just points for achieving the title. Carmen Battaglia moved, that we communicate that the Board has reviewed this concern and take no action at this time. Ken Downing seconded. Adopted unanimously.
	The Regional Club Challenge Chair requested that as new titles are recognized by the AKC that the Regional Club Committee be authorized to add them to the list of titles that are recognized for points. Dean Wylie moved and Carmen Battaglia seconded, that we approve recommendation of chair. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Breeder of Merit	Ginny Altman moved that the matter of the AKC Breeder of Merit Award be sent to the Regional Club Committee to come back to the Board at a later time. Motion seconded and carried unanimously.
Centennial - Nancy Harper-Mulvaney	
	Nancy reviewed information that was previously disseminated. She noted that the Banner is still a work in progress.
	Nancy has been meeting with the Military Working Dog Assn and they will be doing a presentation at the January board meeting. There was a meeting between the performance events to recommend scheduling of events at the Centennial.
	There are storage needs from the donations of historical items. Some of the items are valuable and irreplaceable. There is a room at Dream Park that is designated for this display. Nancy said that they will try to find a storage space that is climate controlled to protect the historical articles.
Recess	The Board was in recess from 9:17am to 9:40am.
Trust	<p>Pam O'Dell brought to the Board's attention the need to discuss the authorized signatories for the Trust. She noted that the GSDCA Board is the Board of the Trust. Carmen noted that the meeting taking action must be a separate meeting, specifically of the Trust. Nancy Harper-Mulvaney noted that the minutes must also be separate.</p> <p>Ginny moved that the GSDCA Board meeting adjourn at this time and reconvene after the business of the Trust Board is completed. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously.</p> <p>The GSDCA meeting adjourned at 9:43 am.</p>
Reconvened	The GSDCA Board meeting reconvened at 9:50am.
GSD Review	
	Tish Walker reviewed the previous action naming Diane Mehra as the individual to explore the terms upon which an RFP would be sent out.
Motion	Laura Gilbert moved to rescind the decision to send out an RFP. The motion was seconded. There was discussion that while the Board rescinded the action to change the number of annual issues of GSD Review the RFP may be needed if the the Budget and Finance Committee determines a need to change the terms of the contract in January.
	The vote for the motion to rescind the RFP: Carmen Battaglia, Bill Burggraaf, Gary Szymczak, Frank Fasano, Fred Migliore, Laura Gilbert, Lanalee Jorgensen-Law, Nadine Grady, Carol Moore, Nancy Harper-Mulvaney, Dean Wylie, Bart Bartley. Opposed: Pam O'Dell, Zoe Backman, Ken Downing, Ginny Altman.
Ad Hoc Motion	Tish recommended that even though the previous action to go to a bimonthly Review was rescinded, that the Ad Hoc committee with Diane Mehra as chair to investigate ways to improve the Review continue its work. The scope would include content, advertising and pricing. Lanalee Jorgensen-Law moved that we approve an Ad Hoc Committee to explore the Review. The motion was seconded and considerable discussion followed.
	Diane addressed the Board. She found that the committees that are in existence are fragmented. The committees do not know their area of responsibility nor to whom to report. She suggested that it would be of value to have an oversight committee to coordinate the efforts of the committees that are in existence.

	Susan Casey described the three committees and their areas of responsibility. It is her opinion that the committees function within their areas and that they do not have overlapping responsibility and that it works from her perspective.
Postpone	Frank Fasano moved , Gary Szymczak seconded to postpone the decision to form an ad hoc committee until January. Following discussion the vote was all in favor except Ginny Altman opposed and Ken Downing abstained.
Bylaws	Lanalee Jorgensen-Law inquired into the suggestion that was offered in 2010 to reduce the size of the board.
	The bylaws committee is gathering information as to the various possibilities of doing this and exploring ways to implement the idea and Tish noted that she will ask them to submit a proposal to the Board in January.
Courtesy Motion	Frank Fasano moved that the minutes reflect the appreciation of the Board to Tish Walker for her years of service on the Board of Directors of the GSDCA, Inc. It was noted that Tish has given 25 years of service to the Board and the Board, Members and Guests rose in standing ovation and an expression of gratitude.
New Business	
January Friday session	Melanie asked to address the Board at the Friday night session in January. Frank Fasano spoke in favor of having this presentation at a Friday Session. There was no objection to allowing her to address the Board on Friday evening at the January Board meeting.
Temperament	Jim York addressed the Board and expressed concern that the observer at the Futurities was eliminated and that the temperament committee did not have an opportunity to have input in this decision. There was discussion that this has been a problem for the Temperament Committee to get observers but the opportunity to get a resolution was eliminated when the Board moved to eliminate the observer. By general consent, Jim was asked to come back to the board when he had a recommendation for providing experienced observers at the Futurities beyond 2012.
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 10:24am.
	Ginny Altman, Recording Secretary November 1, 2011