

GSDCA BOARD MEETING
Via Telephone Conference
April 26 and 27, 2019

7:09 PM (CST) Friday, April 26, 2019 - CLOSED SESSION – Via CONFERENCE CALL

Officers Present:

Gary Szymczak, President
Patty Korsch, Vice-President
Joan Intersimone, Recording Secretary
Gail Stiefferman, Corresponding Secretary
Larry Rock, Treasurer

Class of 2018; John Ayotte, LaMar Fredrick, Erin Nellis, Joy Schultz.

Class of 2019: Bart Bartley, John Bemont, Laura Gilbert, Deborah Stern

An email received by Gary was read to the Board regarding a member.

Budget Committee report:

The 2019 budgets for the GSDCA and for the Trust were presented by Erin Nellis.

Moved by Bart Bartley, seconded by Larry Rock to approve the 2019 GSDCA Budget as presented.

John Ayotte - yes
Bart Bartley - yes
John Bemont - yes
LaMar Frederick - yes
Laura Gilbert - yes
Joan Intersimone - abstain
Patty Korsch - yes
Erin Nellis - recuse
Larry Rock - yes
Joy Schultz - yes
Deborah Stern - no
Gail Stiefferman - no

In favor – 8

Opposed – 2

Recused/Abstained – 2

Motion passed

Motion by LaMar Frederick, second by Joan Intersimone to defer the 2019 Trust budget vote until tomorrow.
Unanimously approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm Central time

8:30 AM (CST) Saturday, April 27, 2019 – Regular Board Meeting – Via CONFERENCE CALL

Officers Present:

Gary Szymczak, President
Patty Korsch, Vice-President
Joan Intersimone, Recording Secretary
Gail Stiefferman, Corresponding Secretary
Larry Rock, Treasurer

Class of 2018: John Ayotte, LaMar Fredrick, Erin Nellis, Joy Schultz.

Class of 2019: Bart Bartley, John Bemont, Laura Gilbert, Deborah Stern

Visitors on the call: Cyndi Flautt, Seth Keida, Pauline Moon, Pam O'Dell, Suzanne Jambe, Mary Tripp, Michael Banks

I. MINUTES

Approval of Minutes – January 26 & 27, 2019

In Favor: John Ayotte, John Bemont, LaMar Frederick, Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone, Patty Korsch, Erin Nellis, Larry Rock, Joy Schultz

Opposed: Deborah Stern, Gail Stiefferman

Absent: Bart Bartley

Minutes approved by a majority of the members present.

II. REPORT OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY *No report*..... Joan Intersimone

III. REPORT OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARYGail Stiefferman

Request discussion and our resolutions of the concerns from GSDCA members in regards to the most recent ballot so I may respond.

IV. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Gary Szymczak

- Approved Tony Vanderdool as alternate Futurity Judge in the MA region because DD Ardoin accepted a judging assignment nearby
- Approved to print Gloria Birch's critique as submitted.
- Approve Review issues:
 - Denied reimbursement to a member in lieu of resubmitting an ad.
 - Overlap of salaries during transition from Susan Casey to Carole Schultz
 - Carole Schultz -First Issue is May
- Agreed not to endorse video proposed by Linda Bankhead
- Agreed not to allow Linda Bankhead to use a copyrighted video and recommended she discuss with relevant committee chairs.
- Approved Bob Drescher as insurance chair.
- Agreed to remove roster and By-Laws from April Review
- Approved Ad Hoc committee chair and committee for the AKC detection dog program.
- Agreed not to accept the Shumsky proposal as presented.

Motion by Gary Szymczak, second by Joy Schultz to ratify the actions of the Executive Committee.

In Favor: John Ayotte, John Bemont, LaMar Frederick, Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone, Patty Korsch, Erin Nellis, Larry Rock, Joy Schultz

Opposed: Deborah Stern, Gail Stiefferman

Absent: Bart Bartley

Motion passed

V. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT..... Gary Szymczak

1. *In October 2013 the members approved electronic balloting. Over 70% approved 2019 ballots*
2. *May Review was sent yesterday. Electronic version will be posted today.*

VI. REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT – No report.....Patty Korsch

VII. REPORT OF THE TREASURER – Action Items..... Larry Rock

| <i>unaudited</i> | <i>Mar 2019</i> | <i>Mar 2018</i> |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Cash & equivalents | \$490,475 | \$496,541 |
| Revenue | \$88,448 | \$95,128 |
| Expenditures | \$87,985 | \$90,978 |
| Net profit | \$473 | \$4,150 |

1. 2018 audit underway and should be completed in time for July board meeting.
2. ASG work continues with its staff to embrace technology that may lead to cost reduction in 2020 and update the existing GL system.

Motion – I move the GSDCA Morgan Stanley investment account funds be transferred to Merrill Lynch and it act as the GSDCA investment funds manager. Actions will be taken by the Treasurer with approval of Budget and Finance Committee to have Merrill Lynch invest the funds based on its recommendations and take steps for the GSDCA to utilize a Merrill Lynch sweep money market account arrangement based on predetermined balances with our Bank of America operating account to the extent possible.

Motion by Larry Rock, second by Erin Nellis
 Approved unanimously by the members present. Absent: Bart Bartley

Motion – I move the GSDCA and Trust adopt these Financial Guides given each has a fiduciary responsibility to follow US GAAP, install appropriate controls to safeguard our significant cash balances and other assets plus each has a need to have qualified financial people handling the accounting and treasury activities

Motion by Larry Rock, second by LaMar Frederick
 In Favor: John Ayotte, John Bemont, LaMar Frederick, Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone, Patty Korsch, Erin Nellis, Larry Rock, Joy Schultz
 Opposed: Deborah Stern, Gail Stiefferman
 Absent: Bart Bartley
 Motion passed

Motion – I move the Trust appoint Pam O'Dell Treasurer and that she begins those duties immediately. Documentation required by Wells Fargo Bank for her to gain access to the Trust bank account will be provided as necessary.

Motion by Larry Rock, seconded by Erin Nellis
 In favor: Patty Korsch, Larry Rock, John Ayotte, John Bemont, LaMar Frederick, Erin Nellis, Joy Schultz
 Opposed: Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone Deborah Stern, Gail Stiefferman
 Absent: Bart Bartley
 Motion passed

VIII. REPORT OF THE AKC DELEGATE – No report..... Carmen Battaglia

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Budget and Finance – Report – Action ItemsErin Nellis

*Awards presentation by Pam O'Dell & LaMar Frederick regarding awards
 Even 10 years ago, we could manage the awards this club was giving out supporting our members. As more performance titles are offered by the AKC and the SV Program and additional GSDCA Specific awards are added; continuing increases in postage, increases in the cost of the awards, we needed to take a deep analysis in the total cost to our club.*

Please review the attached spreadsheet. (It is collapsed, but can be expanded to give you the Chairman and contact information for each of them). You will note that in 2018, we spent in hard costs over \$30,000 in awards verified by the committee chairmen. This does not include the review pages we provide at no charge. Many of the costs are imbedded throughout our general ledger making it difficult to find where the costs are posted. Going forward, we are making an attempt to breakout the awards within the General Ledger and budget to manage these significant total costs going forward.

A number of recommendations were made. (see the complete Award Presentation report)

Approval of the Trust Budget

Move by Erin Nellis, second by John Bemont to refer the Trust Budget back to B&F to review and align with the trust documents.

Unanimously Approved by the members present. Absent: Bart Bartley

2. By-Laws LaMar Frederick
Ballots were sent covering the items discussed in January relating to electronic ballots and the Treasurer requirements. We are awaiting the final tabulations.

3. Awards:
Awards Committee – Report – Action ItemCindy Bartley
Please approve the following committee members: Patty Szymczak, Georgia Miller, Channing Sheets, Vickie Belmont, Sandy Anderson

Moved by Patty Korsch, second by Bart Bartley

Approved unanimously

R.O.M. – No Report.....Chris Carter/Dee Laufer

Award of Excellence – No report Laura Gilbert

ATAA – Report – Action Item..... Cynthia Binder DVM
Since we are limiting the title submissions to AKC titles, the vast majority of these dogs ARE being judged at some point by AKC certified judges---they just may be performance judges and not breed judges. However, I am sure that they would be able to read our short list of disqualifying faults, look at the dog presented to them, and sign off on the attestation form. In addition, any licensed veterinarian would also be able to do the same thing which would cover ALL dogs, even SAR and LE dogs since every dog has a veterinarian.

Current wording: *In order for a progeny to qualify to earn points for their sire and/or dam, they must have no disqualifying faults. To this end they will need to have been awarded a placement ribbon in a breed conformation class at an AKC or SV breed show, or submit a letter from an AKC judge licensed to judge German Shepherd Dogs that the dog is free of any disqualifying faults (spayed/neutered dogs may qualify)*

Proposed change: *In order for a progeny to qualify to earn points for their sire and/or dam, they must have no disqualifying faults. To this end they will need to have been awarded a placement ribbon in a breed conformation class at an AKC or SV breed show, or submit a letter from any currently licensed AKC judge (for breed or performance) or any currently licensed veterinarian that the dog is free of any disqualifying faults (spayed/neutered dogs may qualify).*

Moved by Joan Intersimone, second by Deborah Stern

Approved Unanimously

Dual Award – No report..... Amber Turley

Performance Award of Merit – No reportLori Nickeson

4. Education – Report Vicki Roye

5. Ethics and Breeders Code – No reportMichelle Wallis

6. Futurity – Report - Action Items Cyndi Flautt

1. Approve the addition of Christine Leeka-Snyder to the Futurity Committee.

Moved by Joan Intersimone, second by John Bemont.

Larry Rock recused himself

Approved Unanimously

2. Approve the following to be added to the Futurity premium list beginning in 2020.

"Prize money checks are made out to the first owner on the entry form and mailed to the address listed on the entry form. The responsibility of division of the prize money is up to the co-owners in accordance with their co-ownership agreement. The responsibility of providing the correct address on the entry form is that of the person making the entry. Prize money checks must be cashed within ninety days and will not be reissued."

Moved by Joan Intersimone, second by Patty Korsch

Approved Unanimously

3. *The Futurity Committee received a donation of two beautiful 15" silver platters from Gloria Birch. Both are engraved "Futurity, 1st Place, GSDCA 1971." We would like to award these platters to the Best In Futurity and Best In Maturity at the 2019 National, in memory of Cappy Pottle. 2019 win information would be provided on the platters, by engraving or by an added plate, whichever is feasible. The Board of Directors or the National Trophy Committee could decide if these platters would be given in place of or in addition to the awards they provide.*

Moved by John Bemont, second by Deborah Stern

Approved Unanimously by the members present. Gail Stiefferman, Absent

7. **GSDC of Canada Liaison – No report** Jack Kilgore

8. **Health & Genetics – Report** Carolyn Gerganoff

9. **Historical Preservation – Action Item** Patty Korsch/Travis Scarlett

The Historical Preservation Committee requests action on the following items: We would like to commission the creation of a logo for use on the Historical Preservation website, Facebook, Instagram and other future social media/internet promotion material. The logo could also be used for merchandise or other promotional/fundraising material in the future. Funds needed to secure the creation of logo would be \$100.

Tabled until July

10. **Internet – No report** John Ayotte

11. **Juniors – Report - Action Items** Nick Hodge/Nancy McDonald

a. We request the Board approve Tiffany Bartley as an additional committee member

Moved by LaMar Frederick, second by John Ayotte

Approved Unanimously

b. Our committee is requesting 4 pages for the review for the year if we need them all. These pages would include quarterly reminders for awards and national items (how to apply for these awards) plus pages for juniors talking about their experience at Westminster and the AKC National Championship

This was referred back to the Juniors committee to confer with B&F

c. We are requesting a budget of \$500 to put on something for the juniors at the national such as a movie night and other miscellaneous items throughout the year.

Motion by Deborah Stern, second by Bart. Motion by John Ayotte, second by Laura Gilbert to amend the motion.

Amended motion: Approve a budget of \$500 to put on something for the juniors at the national such as a movie night, coordinating with the National committee for scheduling. The \$500 to come from the Trust.

In Favor: Larry Rock

Opposed: John Ayotte, John Bemont, LaMar Frederick, Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone, Patty Korsch, Joy Schultz, Deborah Stern, Gail Stiefferman

Abstained: Bart Bartley, Erin Nellis

Motion failed

Motion – Juniors request \$500 to put on something for Juniors at the national such as a movie night, to be coordinated with the National chair for scheduling and the \$500 will come from the National budget.

Motion by Joan Intersimone, second by Deborah Stern

Approved Unanimously

- a. *For the junior stipend we would like to place some more guidelines and would like them approved by the board. These go as follows...*
 - i. *The junior may claim up to 1,000 in a calendar year. So, if they go to the AKC National Championship and Westminster their reimbursements can only total \$1,000 for both and not \$1,000 each. If they only go to one then they may have up to the \$1,000 to cover all costs.*
 - ii. *The junior must submit all forms to be reimbursed within 60 days of the end of the show*
 - iii. *The junior must be in the top 5 juniors per Canine Chronicle Standings*

We need clarification on this item (iii)

- iv. *The juniors must also submit along with those forms 2 pictures and a paragraph about their experience for the review*

We welcome hearing additional guidelines for the stipend from the board as well

Motion by Laura Gilbert, second by John Bemont to approve items i, ii and iv

Approved unanimously

- b. *Michael Metz and the German Shepherd Dog Club of Minneapolis and Saint Paul raised almost \$2,000 to support juniors in going to the national. Mike Metz was a part of our committee conference call and presented the idea that all regional futurities do something like this and we wanted to bring it to the board to discuss. The money raised will be distributed to juniors to help them financially afford to make it to the nationals which can be a very costly trip for many. This won't only up junior participation at the national, but also junior participation at the futurity weekend shows as the juniors have to compete in junior showmanship to be eligible for the money.*

Referred back to the Juniors committee

12. Legislative Liaison to the AKC – Report – Action Item..... Stormy Hope

At the Boards direction (July, 2018 board meeting), I attempted to create a position statement regarding the consequences of legislation that bans sales of dogs or the breeding of dogs. After much thought, I find that the AKC Canine Legislation Position Statement 'BREEDING REGULATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS,' is adequate and expands the statement to cover more that is needed. It is my recommendation that the AKC position statement be incorporated as the first GSDCA position statement, with others to follow. Other position statements should be considered and created.

"The American Kennel Club® strongly supports and actively promotes a wide range of programs to educate the public about responsible purebred breeding practices and the responsibilities of dog ownership. The AKC® supports reasonable and enforceable laws that protect the welfare and health of dogs and do not restrict the rights of breeders and owners who meet their responsibilities. The AKC opposes the concept of breeding permits, breeding bans or mandatory spay/neuter of purebred dogs, specifically those based on the number of dogs owned or maintained. The AKC expects responsible dog owners and breeders to know, understand and obey laws that apply to them."

Replace American Kennel Club and AKC with German Shepherd Dog Club of America and GSDCA in the above and adopt this as the first GSDCA position statement.

Tabled until the next meeting. Stormy Hope was asked to get approval from AKC to use their statement.

13. Marketing, Review Marketing, Products - Report – Action Items..... Seth Keida

The Marketing Committee requests the following Action Items be considered and voted on at the April Board Meeting:

- a. *Approve Jackie Smith and Timothy Maddox as members of the Marketing Committee*

Moved by John Ayotte, second by Deborah Stern

Approved Unanimously

- b. *Approve a budget for website Search Engine Marketing*

Marketing committee to meet with John Ayotte to discuss what terms should be used before paying for a search engine.

- c. *Approve budget and contract for Shumsky for managing products and promotional items*

We need a revised contract to add profit sharing and analysis of the worth to the club.

- d. *Approve the marketing committee to have admin access to the official GSDCA Facebook page*

John Ayotte and Marketing committee to talk with Ken & Kathy Tank as PR Committee to discuss.

e. Approve boilerplate submitted as official GSDCA boilerplate

The German Shepherd Dog Club of America (GSDCA) was founded in 1913 and has nearly 3,000 members globally. The club provides a venue that encourages breeders, owners, handlers, and judges to contribute freely any information relevant to the breed and provides a network to connect likeminded people who are dedicated to the preservation of the German Shepherd Dog.

The goal of the GSDCA is to encourage, promote, and improve the breeding of quality purebred German Shepherd Dogs, to educate the fancy, and to do all that is possible to bring the natural qualities of the German Shepherd Dog to perfection.

The GSDCA urges members and breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by the AKC as the only standard of excellence by which the German Shepherd Dog shall be judged and does all in its power to protect and advance the interests of the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, performance events, and tracking tests.

For more information about the German Shepherd Dog Club of America, visit www.gsdca.org.

Motion by John Ayotte, second by Bart Bartley

In Favor: John Ayotte, Bart Bartley

Opposed: John Bemont, LaMar Frederick, Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone, Patty Korsch, Erin Nellis, Larry Rock, Joy Schultz, Deborah Stern, Gail Stiefferman

Motion Failed

14. Membership – No Report Laura Gilbert

15. National Specialty Gail Stiefferman

2019 National Show report highlights

- 1) All conformation, obedience, rally and tracking events are processed.
- 2) The GSDCA has been approved for scent work events for this year’s national.
- 3) Planning for the gold page luncheon to be ringside.
- 4) No Lure coursing 2019

Agility - No Report Rhonda Meath/ Karen McKee-Bendtsen

C.A.T. – No Report Gail Stiefferman

Dock Diving – No Report Susan Condreas

Herding - No Report Val Manning

Obedience

Rally

Tracking – No Report..... Kathy Lester

Scent Work – No report.....Hallie McMullen

16. National Trophy Donations – Report Deborah Stern
\$22,000 budget, \$5,392 Pledged or paid to date

17. National Site Selection – No report Patty Korsch

18. Nominating Committee – No report John Bemont

19. Parent Club Office – No report..... Laura Gilbert

20. P & P Manual – No report Myra Shear

21. Products – No report..... Butch Stiefferman
30+ boxes packed, need to get to FedEx

22. Public Relations – Report Kathy & Ken Tank

23. Red Book – Report – Action Items Kim McNamara

1. Request the Board approve that we give a Red Book to every Junior Showmanship participant at the National again this year, and make this a P&P item that we will do this annually.

Motion by Deborah Stern, second by Bart Bartley
Unanimously approved

2. Request new pricing for the Red Book. Recent years we have charged \$28 for National pick up, \$33 for early orders mailed at or before the National, \$38 for orders mailed after the National. USPS Priority mail has increased to \$7.35; I think it was \$5-something a couple years ago. I propose no change to National pick up, \$35 for early mail orders, \$40 for subsequent mail orders. Those are the domestic prices. International I recommend we leave at \$58.

Motion by Deborah Stern, second by John Bemont
Unanimously approved

24. Regional Clubs – Report – Action Items Mary Tripp

It is proposed that as an incentive to regional clubs to increase parent club membership that 50% of first years' membership (of the new member) in the parent club be returned to the Regional Club. The funds will be transferred to the regional club within 30 days after the new member is approved. Controls for this proposal would include: New member must be on the roster of the individual club prior to publication in the review and notice sent to the Regional club liaison prior to membership submission. The attached form will need to be submitted to the regional club liaison in order for the refund to take place. This is the responsibility of the regional club. The form must be signed by the President and Treasurer of the regional Club.

Form
Regional Club _____
President _____
Treasurer _____
Name of New Member _____
Date Submitted _____

Referred back to the committee as a great idea but we need more detail and guidelines. Suggested an amount instead of a percentage.

25. SV Office – No reportJoy Schultz

26. SV Programs - Report - Action ItemCharlie Starr

The GSDCA SV Youth Program is in the development stages. We are asking board approval to run a yearly Youth Championship. The championship would include performance, conformation, and universal (both performance & conformation) and be broken down by age category. Kids will be awarded trophies and recognition for achievements throughout the year as well as the championship itself.

For 2019 we already have a regional club that has agreed to co-host the event with the GSDCA. This will enable us to keep the first-year cost down. In the future, we are hoping to make this a yearly National event in conjunction with another event unless we run into a problem that it becomes too big, that is a good problem however.

Motion by Joy Schultz, second by John Bemont
Unanimously approved

27. Temperament – No report..... Laura Gilbert

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS

By-Laws revisions voting results not yet complete.

Awards recap and recommendations by LaMar. (presented under B&F)

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Nominations and voting for National conformation judges.

Forms need to be downloaded and filed out and sent to Gail Stiefferman by May 8th. A meeting will be called to vote for National judges.

Regarding the ongoing issue with the recent ballots, I make the following motion:

That an opinion be obtained from a qualified N.Y. attorney familiar with 501(c)(7) corporations who has reviewed our By-Laws and letters sent from members who oppose the way the ballots were handled from inception through count. This opinion will be needed if the issues raised by the members remain and the ballot is not invalidated; the AKC has an arbitration process through which we will have to go if the members so demand and a proper legal opinion would be absolutely necessary for these proceedings.

Moved by Deborah Stern, second by Gail Stiefferman

In Favor: Deborah Stern, Gail Stiefferman

Opposed: John Ayotte, Bart Bartley, John Bemont, LaMar Frederick, Laura Gilbert, Joan Intersimone, Patty Korsch, Erin Nellis, Larry Rock, Joy Schultz

Motion failed

July Board meeting. In person or by conference call/video meeting?

Conference Call Unanimously Approved

Recommendation for GSD Judge at the Eukanuba show.

Bob Slay & Carmen Battaglia nominated from the floor

9 votes for Bob Slay

3 votes for Carmen Battaglia

Bob Slay will be recommended

The next Town Hall meeting date will be sent in a constant contact.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM central

Joan Intersimone, Recording Secretary