

DALMATIAN CLUB OF AMERICA FOUNDATION, INC.
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
February 28, 2010; O'Hare Hilton Hotel; Chicago, Illinois

I. Call to Order.

The annual meeting of the Dalmatian Club of America Foundation Board of Directors was called to order at 2:55 PM CST on Sunday, February 28, 2010, at the O'Hare Hilton Hotel, Chicago, IL, by President James W Smith. DCAF Directors present in addition to President Smith were Mrs. Sharon Boyd, Mr. John Cramer, Dr. J. Charles Garvin, Mrs. Meg Ispas-Hennessey, Ms. Laura Lightholder, Mrs. Diana Skibinski, Mrs. Connie Wagner and Mrs. Sheila Wymore. President Smith welcomed Mrs. Paula Olcott, newly elected DCA board member, to the meeting.

II. Minutes.

Minutes of the November 7, 2009 Foundation Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma were distributed by e-mail and regular mail. No corrections were received at distribution. **There being no further additions or corrections, Mr. Cramer made a motion to approve the minutes as distributed; seconded by Dr. Garvin, the motion passed.**

III. Reports from the Officers.

B. President's Report - James Smith.

Mr. Smith remarked that the prospect of seeking out researchers and projects that may be helpful to Dalmatians is an exciting concept and one we have held in abeyance for too long. He expressed his excitement about the groundwork that Greg Hanley has done to move this process along and looks forward to seeing some positive results from this action.

The President also noted that the Foundation is on very sound financial footing, as the attached financial reports will indicate. He stated that there are many items for review at this meeting but most do not require any action.

As a last remark, President Smith again stressed to the board that he is serious about stepping down from his office at the end of his third term, and the board should be actively seeking his replacement.

B. Vice-President's Report - Meg Hennessey. Mrs. Hennessey reported that she had been charged with the task of setting up a Foundation account with EBay. She stated that has been accomplished, and that we also have an approved account with Missionfish, which is EBay's not-for-profit arm, by which we can accept donations and which will reduce our EBay fees. She also set us up with a Paypal account for EBay. She has turned the paperwork over to the secretary.

C. Secretary's Report - Sheila Wymore.

The report details the activities of the DCAF secretary between 11/5/09 and 2/21/10.

Correspondence sent

- November meeting minutes compiled from audio files and emailed/mailed to the board members
- February meeting notice sent to the Officers and Board of Directors by e-mail or regular mail.
- Corresponded with treasurer regarding 2009 donation records
- Compiled complete list of 2009 donations records and sent them to Spotter for publication in statistics issue
- Emailed Julia Soukup with photos of the Darcy Best quilt, to be placed on the DCA specialty web page with a notice that it will be auctioned at the Specialty - hopefully to generate interest and high bids

Correspondence received

- Emails from board members approving minutes as distributed

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- Emails/mail from the treasurer with information input for the donor lists as now maintained by the secretary
- Email from Darcy Best donating a quilt she had made, intending it as an entry in the Top Twenty catalog cover contest. Since she did not win the contest, she is donating the quilt to DCAF for a fund raising auction at the 2010 Specialty
- Email from Margie Doane and follow up phone call from Anna Hamann regarding a donation of an encaustic wax painting of a Dalmatian to DCAF for possible auction at the 2010 Specialty

D. Treasurer's Report - Rob Lawson.

Mr. Lawson submitted two reports, both an annual and a year-to-date. The Annual Balance sheet for year end December 31, 2009 showed Assets/Liabilities of \$377,003.94. The income statement for the same period showed revenues of \$64,974.40 and expenses of \$22,221.78, for an excess of \$42,752.62 income over expense. The Balance Sheet from January 1, 2010 through January 25, 2010 showed Assets/Liabilities of \$377,053.94. The Income/Expense detail for the same period listed revenues to date of \$50.00 and no expenses for a total of \$50.00 excess of income over expense.

Mr. Cramer made a motion to accept the reports of the officers. Seconded by Ms. Lightholder, the motion passed.

IV. Election of DCAF Board and Officers.

President Smith then turned to the next point of order, election of the 2010 Board of Directors. All 2009 directors have indicated a willingness to serve in the coming year, as has Mrs. Paula Olcott, recently elected to the DCA Board. **Dr. Garvin made a motion to appoint Paula Olcott to the Board of the Dalmatian Club of America Foundation. Seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the motion passed.** The 2010 Board of Directors will be comprised of Norma Baley, Sharon Boyd, John Cramer, Margie Doane, C.E. Flock Jr., J. Charles Garvin, MD, Meg Ispas Hennessey, Mary-Lynn Jensen, Ph.D., Robert Lawson, Laura Lightholder, Paula Olcott, Georgiann Rudder, Hal Shorr, Diana Skibinski, James Smith, Julia Soukup, Kathy Szomoru, Connie Wagner, and Sheila Wymore.

At this point in the meeting, President Smith relinquished the chair to Vice President Hennessey for the election of a president for 2010. Mrs. Hennessey opened the floor for nominations for the office of president. **Mrs. Boyd nominated Mr. James Smith, seconded by Mrs. Wagner. There being no further nominations, Mr. Cramer made a motion to close the nominations and direct the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Smith as President. Seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the motion passed.** Mrs. Hennessey then turned the chair back over to Mr. Smith.

Mr. Smith opened the floor to nominations for the office of Vice President. **Ms. Lightholder placed the name of Mrs. Meg Hennessey in nomination for the office of Vice President, seconded by Mrs. Wymore. There being no further nominations, Mrs. Wagner made a motion to close the nominations and direct the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Mrs. Hennessey as Vice President. Seconded by Ms. Lightholder, the motion passed.**

Mr. Smith opened the floor to nominations for the office of Treasurer. **Dr. Garvin placed the name of Mrs. Sheila Wymore in nomination for the office of Treasurer, seconded by Mr. Cramer. There being no further nominations, Mrs. Boyd made a motion to close the nominations and direct the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Mrs. Wymore as Treasurer. Seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the motion passed.**

Mr. Smith opened the floor to nominations for the office of Secretary. **Mrs. Hennessey placed the name of Mrs. Sheila Wymore in nomination for the office of Secretary, seconded by Ms. Lightholder. There being no further nominations, Mrs. Wagner made a motion to close the nominations and direct the secretary to cast a**

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unanimous ballot for Mrs. Wymore as Secretary. Seconded by Ms. Lightholder, the motion passed.

V. Development Committee Report - Julia Soukup.

DCAF Christmas Cards: - Julia Soukup.

Cindy set up the Christmas cards on eBay. Unfortunately the timing was a bit late in the season and we did not receive a single sale from this venue. The project is in the black, but the committee would like to sell the remaining inventory from this project.

Online auction: - Cinda Haff.

Ms. Haff reported that during the holiday season a number of online auctions were executed that were very successful. She has noted a pattern of purchase of older publications, unique one-of-a-kind handcraft items, and collectibles. She suggested that an alternate method of sale be used for toys, stuffed animals, and plastic figurines as these do not sell at auction.

As a result of recent donations the DCAF available auction inventory is over 100 pieces including unique figurines, dishes, antique trophies, etc. Ms. Haff extends her appreciation to those who have donated items for the auction.

Decorated Dal Figurines: - Toni Linstedt.

A proposal has been submitted to the board describing uniquely decorated Dalmatian figurines, to be executed by DCA members and donated for silent auction at the national specialty. The project funding requested is simply the cost of the figurine plus mailing to each volunteer decorator. Two DCA members have already pledged \$200 each to underwrite this project.

Discussion followed regarding how much support the project would get from club "artists". Decision on funding was suspended and Mrs. Linstedt will be asked to poll the membership to determine how many people would commit to decorating a figurine.

"If Toto Was A Dal" Quilt: - Darcy Best.

Artist Darcy Best has created a quilt for auction during the Top Twenty intermission, proceeds to benefit DCAF. The quilt will be shipped to the show chairman prior to the show.

Gala: - Robert Lawson.

Music and decorations for the event have been confirmed with the hotel. Hors d'oeuvres will be plentiful. Tickets to the event (with two free drink tickets) will be included in the group package of tickets to other DCA events, to be handed out during the specialty, alleviating any wait in line for admission to the small ballroom. The Gala will start ½ hour earlier, to give everyone ample opportunity to enjoy the event. Early access to the Top Twenty seating will be provided for those holding TT tickets.

Mr. Lawson reminded the board that in the previous two Gala events the DCAF board donations have underwritten the cost of the event, leaving all ticket sales as profit. Board support pledges were elicited from those attending the meeting.

VI. Investment Committee Report - Rob Lawson. No report.

VII. Grants Committee Report - David Doane.

Greg Hanley has proposed a pro-active approach to finding appropriate projects to fund, and a letter will be sent to the Deans of Research at the universities with a veterinary program. He has provided a list of those contacts, and suggested that

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the letter describe the dollar amount of funds we are capable of providing.

It was suggested that the letter also mention that the Foundation works in cooperation with the AKC Canine Health Foundation and supports many of their approved research projects. If a proposed research study is intended for submission to AKC CHF and the Dalmatian Club of America finds the research valuable to the breed, a letter of recommendation and intended support could be furnished to the researcher. Each research project is always evaluated on it's merits specific to the breed.

VIII. Other Committee Reports.

A. Website - Julia Soukup. Ms. Soukup reported her activities with regard to maintaining the web site.

Additions or Updates (since last report in February):

- Online Auction Rounds
- Update Email Forwarding for all accounts
- Add new ebay@dcaf.org email account
- Update Health Clinics page
- August Meeting Minutes
- Reformat Minutes menu page to new design
- April Meeting Minutes
- Add 2010 Gala page, forms, banner and links
- November Minutes

Projects in Progress

- Redesign web site - ongoing. Redesigned Meeting Minutes page

The board discussed various aspects of the web site, including but not limited to the necessity of maintaining one and updating it in a timely manner. Discussion ended with the consensus that at this time the board is happy with the services rendered.

B. Heritage - Carol O'Brien. Ms O'Brien reported that at this time it is unclear whether the estate legislation will be altered this year. Federal estate taxes are at their most favorable (many state estate taxes remain unchanged, often at far less attractive level), but next year the federal taxes will revert to the higher rates from earlier years, unless new legislation is introduced and passed. Bequests to non-profits are most attractive when the estate tax rates are high because they reduce the person's taxable estate. Given that scenario, Ms. O'Brien will monitor the estate policy and recommend to the DCAF Board a good time for the mailing proposed earlier. If, due to the economic issues and federal deficit, the estate legislation gets stalled, it could be that a later time would be more productive.

Mrs. Skibinski made a motion to accept the committee reports as presented. Seconded by Dr. Garvin, the motion passed unanimously.

IX. Old Business.

The board discussed supporting one or more of the Canine Health Foundation current projects, with no specific decision made. Mr. Lawson will be directed to consult with his tax firm to determine if the IRS has a specific amount/percentage of assets that a 501(c)(3) must donate yearly.

Ms. Lightholder brought a request before the board from the DCA, seeking funding for another year of blood draws for the DNA project. After very short discussion, the board agreed. **Mrs. Hennessey made a motion that DCAF fund the DNA**

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blood draw project, as requested by DCA, for another year effective July 1st.
Seconded by Mrs. Boyd, the motion passed.

X. New Business.

There was no new business to bring before the board.

XI. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Mr. Cramer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:04 PM CST. Seconded by Mrs. Wagner, the motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Wymore
Secretary