

AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
Delegates Meeting
June 11, 2019

Mr. Sprung, President in the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Mr. Sprung reminded the Delegates in attendance to sign in at the computer stations outside the meeting room.

The Chair introduced the persons seated with him on the dais: William J. Feeney, Chairman; Patricia M. Cruz, Vice Chair; Joan Corbisiero, Professional Registered Parliamentarian; Gina DiNardo, Executive Secretary; Todd DeSimone, the Court Reporter.

Mr. Sprung reported the passing of Louis Auslander on May 6, 2019. Lou was a Miniature Schnauzer and Whippet breeder. In 1969, he became a Judge. He held various officer roles with the International Kennel Club of Chicago, including being Delegate from 1982 to 2009. An advocate for benched shows, Auslander believed in this opportunity to educate the public about dogs. Mr. Auslander joined the AKC Board in 1983. He was Chairman from 1987 to 1992 and also was President in 1991 and 1992, the only person to ever hold both positions.

The Chair offered condolences for the passing of Dr. Robert Smith on May 25, 2019. Bob was the Delegate for the Huntington Kennel Club from 1996 to 2002, then for the Memphis Kennel Club from 2008 to 2013 and most recently the Virginia Kennel Club since 2018. He was a breeder of American Foxhounds and Welsh Terriers, and he won several Owner-Handler Best in Shows. He was actively involved with local clubs across the country, as well as the American Foxhound Club, the Welsh Terrier Club of America and the American Brussels Griffon Association. Dr. Smith was an All-Breed judge since 1969, he served two terms on your Board of Directors from 1997 to 2002 and 2009 to 2013.

The Executive Secretary read the names of Delegates seated since the last meeting:

Paul Bodeving, Cave Junction, OR, to represent Rogue Valley Kennel Club
Nancy Bougher, Sacramento, CA, to represent California Airedale Terrier Club
Elizabeth A. (Betty Ann) Brown, Asheville, NC, to represent Hendersonville Kennel Club
Joan Church, Easton, PA, to represent Garden State All Terrier Club
George H. Falkner, Wantage, NJ, to represent St. Bernard Club of America
Lucy A. Heyman, Spring, TX, to represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America
Terry Hilliard, Alburtis, PA, to represent American Brittany Club
Prudence Hlatky, Rosharon, TX, to represent Borzoi Club of America
Barbara C. Ioia, Hurley, NY, to represent Butler County Kennel Club
Carol Lynn Johnson, Caledonia, MI, to represent Grand Rapids Kennel Club
Audrey Kotaska, Akron, OH, to represent Medina Kennel Club
Dr. Michaelann Cox Mako, Norwalk, CT, to represent Longshore Southport Kennel Club
Shirley Petko, Lockport, NY, to represent Havanese Club of America
Tammy Russell-Rice, Henderson, NV, to represent Silver State Kennel Club
Margaret (Peggy) Wolfe, Princeton, KY, to represent United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club
Nancy Zinkhan, Owings Mills, MD, to represent Dog Owners' Training Club of Maryland

The following Delegates, who were attending their first meeting since approval were introduced from the floor:

George H. Falkner to represent St. Bernard Club of America
Lucy A. Heyman to represent Bedlington Terrier Club of America
Prudence Hlatky to represent Borzoi Club of America
Terry Hilliard to represent American Brittany Club
Nancy Zinkhan to represent Dog Owners' Training Club of Maryland
Barbara C. Ioia to represent Butler County Kennel Club
Joan Church to represent Garden State All Terrier Club
Cathy Sumeracki to represent Border Collie Society of America
Elizabeth A. (Betty Ann) Brown to represent Hendersonville Kennel Club
Shirley Petko to represent Havanese Club of America
Margaret (Peggy) Wolfe to represent United States Neapolitan Mastiff Club
Dr. Michaelann Cox Mako to represent Longshore Southport Kennel Club
Kathy Driggers to represent West Volusia Kennel Club
Kelly D. Reimschiessel to represent Utah Valley Kennel Club

The minutes of the March 12, 2019 Delegates meeting were published in the online April 2019 AKC Gazette and the complete transcript was posted on the Delegates Portal on AKC's website. There were no corrections and the minutes were adopted as published.

Champlain Valley Kennel Club was duly elected as a member of the American Kennel Club.

Mr. Sprung advised that the Chairman's report which highlights AKC's successes and positive messaging would be distributed to the Delegates via e-mail immediately following the meeting. He noted it would also be available on the Delegate Portal on AKC.org.

Mr. Sprung delivered the President's report in which he called upon Brandi Hunter, our Vice President of Public Relations and Communications, and Melissa Olund, Director of Digital Marketing, to share firsthand information with you on the Chairman's message.

Ms. Hunter: Thank you and good morning. Can everybody hear me? I am Brandi Hunter, Vice President of Public Relations and Communications for the American Kennel Club, and it is a pleasure to be in front of you guys yet again. Today I wanted to just share with you some of the ways we have increased our messaging, our audience and our value in the media space. So just a little bit about what we do. The Communications Department, we execute media pitching, we get our story to the proper media outlets, a various amount of outlets, so it would be print, television, radio, online, digital, and we really carry our story to the media and the public and we also do reputation and strategic management, i.e. crisis management. We keep some of those stories way down low. Some of our key messaging is the work of the AKC and how it benefits all dogs, value of the purebred dog and registration, the importance of breeders in choice of pet acquisition, promoting the sport and its value to dog owners, the benefit of our expertise to dog owners and responsible dog ownership, are our flagship messaging. These are some high-level stats for 2018. We did 22,937 clips. That is a lot of volume for the AKC. We are up about 4.5 percent year over year. We are about 4.5 percent higher than 2017. Our media value is appraised at \$20 billion. That is from our independent media monitoring service, Cision, which is an international corporation. They do a lot of Fortune 500 companies and we are one of their clients as well. Our audience has grown in the last 10 years from an average of 1.3 billion to an average of 17 billion. There are not 17 billion people on the planet, but the average news consumer goes between three to five outlets per day, if you are a high news consumer like me, I'm at 12 to 20 a day, to seek out their news. They are seeing us in various spaces, not just traditional news spaces, but lifestyle spaces. If you go on People.com or you

like Rachael Ray or O Magazine, we are also in those spaces, which are important to dog owners. And our sentiment for 2018 was about 46.5 percent positive, 51 percent neutral, and 2.5 percent negative. The neutral is not a bad number. It could very well be counted to positive but for transparency we will call it neutral. That is when we are being cited. They want our expertise. They want a quote from our chief veterinary officer. They are citing the breed if they are talking about particular breeds and stories. So, they are still using our information in the stories. This, please don't try and read it, it is not going to be beneficial to try and read it, but this is what I look at and our team looks at on a regular basis. This is what for Q1 of 2019 our sentiment looked like. We are a little higher in our positivity and our neutrality. Our negativity is very low. That red line you see across the bottom means that we are not being targeted, we are not being written about in a negative space, we are not being accused of anything, so we are not seeing a high volume of media talking negatively about the AKC at all. This is another view of sentiment. As you can see, the bulk of our stories are specifically about the AKC and then we have our most popular announcement which gives us a lot of traffic. The Museum of the Dog which has done really well this year and we are happy to have that back, Canine Health Foundation, government relations, compliance, and other topics make up the remainder, but for the most part people are writing about the AKC. That's where most of our clips are coming from specifically. Here are some high-level numbers for some events. As you know, we hold three major ones, well, two major ones really and that's a major announcement for us. So, our numbers are really high. Over 3 billion impressions for national championship, our media value is high, our clip volumes are high. By contrast, if you look at the average nonprofit or not for profit, they are mentioned about 31 times per day nationally in a high news cycle. We average about 63 at this point. So, we are doing well above the curve. We are doing it in a positive manner and we are getting our information out there and our expertise out there to the proper audiences. Here are some of the places we are being seen. This is just in about the past 90 days as a matter of fact. New York Times, CNN are really high level, but we also do a lot of local and regional press as well, specifically around shows, legislation, we help GR out a lot to ensure that our message is reaching down and we are going down the funnel. So, if you are not consuming these at a high level but you are consuming it at a regional or local level, we are still making an impact. Here are some of the ways in which we are being covered. Again, don't try and read this. But we honored George W. Bush's dog Sully for the Paw of Courage. We got a lot of high-level national press on that. It also put us in some different conversations about how we celebrate working dogs which was really great. Pet disaster relief trailers are always excellent stories of how we are out there for dog owners in times of turmoil. The Museum of the Dog got a lot of coverage, and the Southern Living clip you see in the bottom here, that is a lot of how we get covered, how often should you feed your dog, how often should you wash your dog's bowl, best leashes for your dog, best practices, how do I train my dog. We get a lot of requests like that that come through our experts, so we are able to add ourselves to a very useful conversation for dog owners who are not necessarily in the sport. So far in Q1 we have had our national championship winner on Good Morning America for the second year in a row. They have already invited us back for a third. We are really excited about that. We have executed a major press campaign for the Museum of the Dog, over 1,500 articles on the museum in 14 different languages around the world and we are still counting. We are still seeing an average of 15 to 20 clips on the museum a day. So, we are really excited and we are about to start full court press for the next exhibit. We are up almost 3,000 clips from this time last year. So last year we were at 9,223. This year we are at over 12,000. We are trending ahead for the year. We announced new breeds and had the largest number of clips surrounding AKC Meet the Breeds in 2019. We were up about 7 percent there. We began to syndicate our content with our Chief Veterinary Officer, including him in our McClatchey, which is an article we create every week and serve to 600 media outlets. He is being viewed as an expert there and solidified him as a trusted resource in all things dog. He

has actually told me he has 20 or so requests a week and he is trying to get through them as fast as he can, so he is doing a lot of good work for the AKC. Built new relationships and working with national outlets. There were some roadblocks we had before. We don't have them now. We have seen a lot of volume with places that two years ago even we weren't able to get a response from. We are very encouraged there. AARP was one of them, The Today Show was one of them. So, we are breaking some good ground. Other accomplishments. We distributed over 110 press releases and media alerts for the year 2018. This year we will be a little bit higher. We will be at about 140. 52 weekly articles to over 600 newspapers. We create a weekly newsletter that goes to 86,000 people and helped developed content for The Nibble which goes to over 1,000,000 users per month. And we also manage media relations for the AKC Humane Fund, Museum of the Dog, and Reunite, as well as building content with our chief veterinary officer that goes on our social properties, AKC.org. And we are increasing his presence at veterinary conferences, so we are adding our voices to those conversations as well. And that is all I have for you guys today. Now I will turn it over to Melissa Olund, our Director of Digital Marketing, for her presentation.

Ms. Olund: Hello. This is my first time speaking to a room this large of dog people, so a little positive reinforcement at the end would be lovely. I'm speaking to you today about AKC Marketing and what we do. We have three key goals in the AKC Marketing Department. I'm just going to go ahead and read them to you. Number one, we want to increase ownership and registration of purebred dogs. We want to increase awareness and participation in AKC sports and events. And we want to improve dog lovers' perception of the AKC, generally, both part of the fancy and the average person who has a pet dog at home. There are three key things that we do in order to sort of advance those goals, one of which, probably one of the most important, is breed education. So, sharing our breed expertise as the AKC is key to driving that ownership and registration of purebred dogs. We want to engage people with messaging that connects them, spurs them to action, when it comes to the world of purebred dogs. We want to reach them while they are searching for the right breed for their lifestyle and educate them and connect them to responsible breeders and inspire them to do more with the dogs that they end up acquiring. AKC.org is one of the key ways that we do this and that is our website for everybody who has been there. We average 8 million users per month and that's a lovely number that is increasing. Our organic search traffic on AKC.org is up nearly 40 percent year over year. So that speaks to how we are really doing a great job of reaching people while they are in that behavior of looking for information about dogs and about breeds and about what to do with their dogs. And just a few examples of how we have kind of brought this great education to life, our puppy pack, we have two photos here, Gideon on top and then Nymeria on the bottom, they follow the lives of these puppies in their first year and show all the different things that go into raising a puppy of the different particular purebreds. I have a short clip here, there is no audio, but it is an example of how we are doing more on Instagram to really drive the breed of the day program that we run. That is a little trivia about Pembroke Welsh Corgis. So people, you know, who follow us on Instagram, they may not know that much about Corgis or they might feel they are an expert on Corgis, but either way, when they get done with our trivia they will have engaged with and learn information about Pembrokes and learn something new. Sports and events really allow us to bring some exciting and inspiring stories to our constituency, both the fancy and the average pet dog owner. It is a rich source of digital content for us, whether we are at an event, whether we are, you know, seeing things that people are posting on social media about their participation in an event. It really is one of those things that you can't really replicate. You've got to see it to believe it sometimes with dog sports and events. So, a lot of the video that we do on social media and on site is based on sports events, and we can see that, you know, with 28 million just year to date video views on Facebook alone, it is a really rich way for us to reach people and get them excited about doing

more with their dogs. Some examples of how we bring this to life, our videos, as Doug mentioned, there is explainer videos that kind of serve to demystify some of our different sports so that people can see something, say my dog can do that, you know, and learn how to get involved. I'm one of them. I just did my first Fast CAT over the weekend, so hooray. We also do some live coverage of our National Championships. We went to the Rally and Agility and Obedience championships and did live coverage with all the people who were participating, sharing the results and interviewing the winners as they came out of the ring. They were all very excited to be featured and shown to our social media audiences. So, I'm going to show you right here a quick, video of one of our junior handler spotlights. This is a program that we are also doing every month. We are featuring a different junior handler. This young lady, when we met her, she was 11 years old, she is 12 now I believe. Her name is Brielle. We met her at the Progressive Dog Club Toy Specialty Show. And I think you will enjoy this video.

[Video played]

Ms. Olund: I'm glad you enjoyed that. Brand perception is another key way that we in the Marketing Department are aiming to increase the profile of AKC. As we continue to expand our reach to dog lovers everywhere we are successfully communicating the value and the important work of AKC on a greater scale than ever before. I think one key thing that is really, really important for everybody to understand is that our social media reach is growing. It is bigger than it has ever been. We just broke the 4 million mark on total followers, and that's a huge number. But the key thing to know about that is that some social media platforms are actually plateauing. So, they are not growing at the same rate that we are. We are growing faster than their user base is growing. So that's a very positive signal as to how engaged people are when we are speaking to them on social media. Email also targets our core constituency. I know Doug mentioned this as well. Our email reach grew 10 percent in 2018 with 138 million emails sent across over 1,000 campaigns. Other areas where we are growing the brand perception is by increasing our social media community management. That means we are out there answering people's questions on social media, we are talking to people, we are giving them tips and tricks and making sure that they know how to find the things that they are looking for. So, we are not just letting people talk about us, we are actually talking with people, and we see a lot of great feedback when we do that. We are also expanding Facebook groups. That's a key part of how Facebook is moving forward and so we want to be on that cutting edge with them. That's all I've got. Actually, one more slide, my fault. Positive reinforcement. We know the Marketing and Communications Department impacts the AKC in many ways beyond our key goals. We have increased our brand awareness, we have enhanced our corporate reputation, and we have measurable public understanding of how AKC serves dog lovers everywhere. Just as a side example, our social media sentiment, the positive sentiment is 88 percent on average and that's an incredibly strong number. That means when people are talking about us, they are talking about us in a positive way, sharing things that they have done over the weekend, a new title that they won. So, it really has a great impact on that, you know, social sentiment that we see out there. And that's all I've got. Thank you so much.

Chief Financial Officer, Joseph Baffuto, gave the Financial Report as follows:

Good morning to you, the AKC Delegate body. It is with great privilege and pleasure that I present to you our unaudited financial results through April 30, 2019. It has been an efficient and productive first four months of our fiscal year and I am confident that we will be able to continue our successes moving forward through the remaining balance of 2019. Let's begin with a summary of our revenue and expenses. Our income statement reflects just under \$25.7 million in total revenue and \$23.8 million in total expenses, for an impressive operating income

of \$1.78 million. During the first four months of the 2018 year we recorded \$25.1 million in revenue, with \$24.3 million in expenses, for \$819,000 of operating income. From our summary, now let's reflect on our core registration volumes. We continue with positive upward trends for both litters and dogs at a 3 percent and 2 percent mark respectively. Thanks go to our remarkable staff supporting the registry and the mission of the AKC. Focusing next on the revenue side of our operational equation, we are representing a \$555,000 increase in total revenue as of the four months ended April 30, 2019. Subsequently, we can drill down into this 2.2 percent increase. With a concentrated and targeted focus from our Board of Directors and executive management, our registration programs are succeeding. Most particularly, dogs, litters and pedigrees have each had positive variances of approximately \$200,000 this year to date over prior year results. Also, our core concentration of sports and events have been highly successful to date this year, outperforming last year's revenue results by approximately \$347,000. Registrations and sports and events are what we do and in 2019 we are continuing to do it right. Transitioning to the expenses side of the equation, we have controlled our costs this year by \$414,000, in comparison to the period ended April 30, 2018. There are a handful of contributing factors to this 1.7 percent favorable decrease, so let's further evaluate. First off, payroll and benefits. Our current full-time equivalent head count of 354 has increased by 4 percent since last year. However, we have been able to decrease our total payroll and associated benefits by \$151,000 in 2019 measured against 2018 levels. Next, our consulting costs have decreased by \$515,000 in a year over year comparison. Several functions and programs throughout the organization have contributed to the year to date decrease, including our New York office relocation activities from 2018, along with the timing of some of our marketing and technology efforts this year. Next, our equipment and maintenance and rental costs. Equipment, maintenance and rental have dropped by \$129,000 or more than 30 percent in comparison to the same period last year. This can be attributed mainly to our purchasing efforts and technology operations team working hard to negotiate favorable maintenance contracts for services and equipment. Lastly, our postage costs have decreased by about \$75,000 or almost 8 percent below last year's level at the same time. We regularly conduct internal reviews of our division level spending and we expect to closely monitor our costs through the remainder of 2019. Observing our financial results independent of our operating activities, we can note our investment performance year to date which presented significant unrealized gains. The portfolio had a 10.7 percent rate of return in the first four months of 2019 which valued at approximately \$10.8 million and outperformed our benchmark for the period by a full 100 basis points. Our balance sheet indicates the long-term fiscal power of our organization. As of April 30, 2019, we are exhibiting total assets of \$180 million, with \$109.7 million in total liabilities. As we can see here, these are both significant multimillion dollar increases over the prior year. The difference between our total assets and total liabilities are our unrestricted net assets. Let's take a deeper dive into the composition of the unrestricted net assets. Our operating reserve of just under \$42 million represents approximately 50 percent of our operating budget, while solidifying the functioning continuity of our business if there were a significant disaster impacting our capabilities to operate the organization for an extended period of time. Our investment in property, plant and equipment of \$25.4 million represents the value of our technology equipment, furniture, fixtures and leasehold improvements. You will note this has increased significantly by more than \$15 million since 2018 due to the completion of our new headquarters at 101 Park Avenue in New York, along with completed renovations to our operations facility in Raleigh, North Carolina. The underfunded status of \$60.5 million for our pension and post-retirement plans represents the combined shortfall from our long-term liabilities to these benefit plans. Lastly, the \$63.4 million of our AKC Board designated funds allows us to make long-term decisions which will continue to help us succeed in supporting our core mission. The complete deck which I have presented to you here will be available on the Delegates Portal by the close of business tomorrow for you

to communicate to your clubs. Also, if there are any questions, please note my e-mail address and feel free to contact me. Have a wonderful summer season and we will see you again in September.

Mr. Sprung: Thank you, Joe.

The first vote was on Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 4 - Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dog Affecting Eligibility, which would only change the format of the section. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a vote with two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 12 - Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dog Affecting Eligibility, which would change the italicized portion of the section to be part of the rule. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

The Chair recognized Sue Goldberg, Delegate for the Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club, who spoke as follows:

Ms. Goldberg: Sue Goldberg, Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club. Before the vote is taken, I have been asked to read an excellent statement that is a clarification written by our own staff liaison, Gina DiNardo, that is designed to clarify and alleviate any misconceptions or misunderstandings. It reads in part: "There is no change to the verbiage, interpretation or the enforcement of the policy as it exists today. An individual serving as a show secretary is not a superintendent and is not held to the 30 days before or after a show restriction. The reference in Chapter 11, Section 12, references the eligibility of a show secretary or superintendent to exhibit as agent or handler for any dog owned or co-owned by them to be entered in the event." The last three paragraphs of this section are clear that they apply only to superintendents, employees of superintendents, and those household members of the aforementioned individuals. Thank you.

The amendment was moved to the floor. There was a vote with two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The third vote was on the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 11, Section 13 - Dog Show Entries, Conditions of Dog Affecting Eligibility, which would change the section to be gender neutral, changes the first two paragraphs of italics to become part of the rule and adds clarification. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a vote with two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The next vote was on the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 8 - Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellations of Awards, which would reword the section only. The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a vote with two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The fifth vote was on the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 16, Section 6 - Championships, which would change the italicized portion of the section to be part of the rule.

The amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors.

There was a vote with two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The last vote was on the Field Trial Rules and Standard Procedure for Retrievers Chapter 14, Section 4, which would end the possibility for dogs to run as the first dog of a series more than once at the same stake at the same trial. The amendment was proposed by the Retriever Field Trial Advisory Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. There was a vote with two-thirds in the affirmative and the amendment was adopted.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 7, Section 12 - Judges.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 7, Section 12 - Judges, which allows clubs to efficiently close out a ring on the day. This amendment was proposed by the AKC Board of Directors, endorsed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the September 2019 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously e-mailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 2 - Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellations of Awards.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 2 - Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellations of Awards, which would reword the section to incorporate broader language regarding the display of identification by a person or dog exhibiting. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the September 2019 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously e-mailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read the proposed amendment to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 14, Section 9 - Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellations of Awards.

Ms. DiNardo: This amendment is to the Rules Applying to Dog Shows Chapter 14, Section 9 - Measuring, Weighing and Color Determinations When Factors of Disqualification in Breed Standards or Eligibility Under Conditions of a Class or Division of a Class Cancellations of Awards, which permits move-ups to occur when an award has been disallowed in non-regular classes and also in groups; it further reiterates that this will occur when Best in Show is cancelled. This amendment was proposed by the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee and brought forward with approval from the AKC Board of Directors. It will be published in two issues of the AKC Gazette and you will be asked to vote on it at the September 2019 meeting. The full text is on the worksheet previously e-mailed.

The Chair called on the Executive Secretary to read a list of vacancies for the Delegate Committees that are to be filled in September.

Ms. DiNardo: These are the vacancies on Delegate committees that are to be filled at the September Delegate meeting:

All-Breeds Clubs Committee: Four, three-year terms.

Bylaws Committee: Four, three-year terms and one, one-year term.

Canine Health Committee: Four, three-year terms and one, two-year term.

Companion Events Committee: Four, three-year terms and one, two-year term.

Delegate Advocacy and Advancement Committee: Four, three-year terms and one, one-year term.

Dog Show Rules Committee: Four, three-year terms.

Field Trial and Hunting Test Events Committee: Four, three-year terms.

Herding, Earthdog, and Coursing Events Committee: Four, three-year terms and one, one-year term.

Parent Clubs Committee: Four, three-year terms.

Perspectives Editorial Staff: One, one-year term and six, two-year terms.

Mr. Sprung announced that the Delegates would be e-mailed self-nomination forms by the end of June. The self-nomination form must be returned to the Executive Secretary by Friday, July 19, 2019. Questions on the procedures to be followed should also be directed to the Executive Secretary.

Delegates may only self-nominate for one committee, except that a member of the Perspectives Editorial Staff may also serve on another standing committee. In August, the Delegates will be e-mailed the nominees for each committee and their qualification statements with the September Delegates meeting notification.

The Chair called on Sheila Goffe, Vice President of Government Relations, to make a special presentation.

Ms. Goffe: I am very pleased this morning to read to you a resolution honoring David Helming. Whereas, David Helming joined the AKC Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club Political Action Committee in January 2011 and served through March 2019.

Whereas, David Helming first joined the AKC Delegate body in 2006 representing the Hutchinson Kennel Club and was again elected as a Delegate for the Newfoundland Club of America in 2013.

And Whereas, David Helming has been active in the American Kennel Club for many years as a breeder of Newfoundlands, Portuguese Water Dogs and Norwich Terriers.

Whereas, in 2005 he was elected AKC Breeder of the Year after being chosen as the AKC Working Group Breeder of the Year in 2002.

And Whereas, David Helming is an honorary member and past president of the Newfoundland Club of America, served as vice chairman of the NCA Charitable Trust Management Board, and currently serves as of the NCA's Delegate to the American Kennel Club.

And Whereas, he is a member of the Somerset Hills Kennel Club, Westchester Kennel Club, Kennel Club of Philadelphia, Westminster Kennel Club, and the Morris and Essex Kennel Club, and has served these clubs in various capacities including president, director, show chairman, and treasurer.

And Whereas, David Helming's leadership, knowledge and experience in matters pertaining to legislation and public policy have been of great value to the AKC PAC Board.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Directors of the American Kennel Club Political Action Committee honor David Helming's service and dedication to the American Kennel Club and its Political Action Committee and extend to him their grateful appreciation and best wishes for his future endeavors. Thank you, David.

The Chair informed the Delegates that the Tuesday, September 10, 2019 Delegates meeting would be held at the Doubletree Newark Airport Hotel. The Conference and Travel Department will place the hotel information on the Delegates Portal when the block of rooms becomes available.

Mr. Sprung reminded the Delegates that lunch would be served following the meeting on the Terrace, and to leave their badges at the registration desk following lunch.

The following Delegate spoke during New Business as follows:

Frances Stephens, Delegate, Puyallup Valley Dog Fanciers:

Frances reported on the case of misconduct by the club's former treasurer who was convicted in April 2018 of felony theft, after the club filed charges with the county. She requested that AKC review the member/registration status of the individual and provide appropriate action.

Sylvia Thomas, Delegate, Kennel Club of Riverside:

Sylvia thanked the Delegates for their faithful readership and support of Perspectives. She reported that the June issue was very well received, as evidenced by the number of article reprint requests. She encouraged the Delegates to share the content with a wider audience and provided the instructions – the Delegate sends an email to her with the article(s) of interest, she gets permission from the author, she creates a PDF and returns to the Delegate for distribution. Recent approved republications were Carl Ashby and Carmen Battaglia's respective articles on *Sustainability*, Robin Foust's article on *Service Dogs*, Joyce Dandridge's article on *Ring Stewarding*, and Jon Green's wonderful article on *FSS Open Shows*, which will also be published in a future issue of the Gazette. Changes to the coordinator position for the upcoming issues were noted – Don James switched to the December issue and Gino Sisneros volunteered for the September issue. Articles for the September issue are due to Mr. Sisneros by the July 15, 2019 deadline. It was revealed that the baby in the June issue feature, *You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby*, was Dick Blair. Delegates were asked to discretely send a baby picture to Sylvia in order to be featured in an upcoming issue. Lastly, she offered hard copies of Perspectives to the attending Delegates at the meeting.

Herman Tietjen, Delegate, McKinley Kennel Club:

Herman expressed gratitude to the Delegates and "dog people" who offered condolences on the passing of his late wife both on social media and otherwise.

Jeffrey Ball, Delegate, Ramapo Kennel Club:

Jeffrey updated the Delegates on New Jersey Lobby Day at which a state dog for New Jersey, the Collie, was proposed. The selection was based on the history of the Collie in New Jersey. The New Jersey Federation of Dog Clubs had 20 people participate, and they met with 57 of the 120 legislators. The Collie resolution is now moving forward with bipartisan legislative support. He thanked AKC Reunite, represented by Megan Ault and the Philadelphia Kennel Club for their assistance. There are two current trailers, two more have been confirmed and work is being done for two more. A breeder of merit in attendance for the first time was impressed with the opportunity that the event offered: to speak to the legislators, to educate them and make a difference. Jeffrey urged the Delegates as those with the most knowledge, to use the programs that AKC has established to reach out to the public and educate them as leaders. Efforts of the Delegates at the local, county and state level are needed in addition to the media.

Glenda Stephenson, Delegate, Space Coast Kennel Club of Palm Bay:

Glenda stressed the importance of microchipping dogs/dog litters as she reflected on her experience approximately 12 years ago, of having one of her microchipped dogs returned to her after being lost in Texas. She was able to have the dog's sperm analyzed by Dr. Mary McDaniel, a fellow Delegate, for future breeding, which tested positively. The detailed account of her story is featured in her article *The Dreaded Telephone Call* in the June issue of Perspectives.

Betty Winthers, Delegate, Olympic Kennel Club:

Betty proudly shared details about Olympic Kennel Club's 75th Anniversary show in August, which will be a 5-day event including Conformation, Obedience, Rally, Dock Diving, Agility, Disk Dog, and Fast CAT. Three different group clubs will also be participating.

Dominic DiBalsi, Delegate, Lehigh Valley Kennel Club:

Dominic suggested an AKC sponsored program for children on Sunday afternoon before the Delegate Meeting, having noticed a large number of that age group at the hotel.

Karen Gunzel, Delegate, Trenton Kennel Club:

Karen offered an invitation to attend Trenton Kennel Club's 100th show in May 2020. Features of the event will be Conformation, Lure Coursing, Canine Good Citizen and Trick Dog.

Hearing no further business, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

[Time noted: 11:25 a.m.]

The opinions expressed by the speakers may not necessarily reflect those of The American Kennel Club.