

Portuguese Podengo Pequenos of America, Inc.

Minutes for Board Meeting of October 28, 2015

Board Members in Attendance –

Suzanne Faria – President, John Fitzpatrick – Vice President, Penny Schroeder – Treasurer, Nancy R. Hall – Secretary, Mary Ellen Barragan – Membership Committee, Stacy Faw – Media Chair, Patti Litchfield– Board Member at Large, Alice Mirestes – Webmaster, Rose Hidlay – Board Member at Large, By-Laws Committee Chair and 2015 National Specialty Co-Chair

Meeting was called to order by President Suzanne Faria, at ???PM PDT

1. **Minutes of the prior Meeting of August 26, 2015:** Minutes were approved by motion as submitted

2. **Report of the Treasurer of August 26, 2015:** Treasurer's report was approved by motion as submitted

There was discussion between Rose and Penny in regards to finalizing the expenses for the National Specialty.

3. Reports of Committees:

A. **Judges Education** – Suzanne emailed a contact in regards to judge's education to be in conjunction with the 2016 National Specialty.

B. **Health & Research** – Bud Hidlay emailed out a health report on October 28, 2015; Suzanne wanted to thank Bud for doing an excellent job with the report. There were no additional comments or concerns to return to Bud.

C. **Media** –

Status of Newsletter – Stacy reported with communication with the committee. She has set up a private Facebook page for better communication with the committee, Stacy also commented that she may need to revamp the committee. Stacy and Karen are selecting pictures and such from the Nationals for the newsletter.

Website – No update on the website at this time.

D. **Membership** - Mary Ellen Baragan reported that Jacqueline Zwirn was confirmed on October 8, 2015; the welcome letter has been sent to Jacqueline. Diane Conyers was reinstated as of October 14, 2015.

Nancy received an email in regards to a member application that was received at the 2015 Nationals from Nola and Bill Boyd. Rose mailed the application to Nancy; the application will follow club protocol for a new member.

4. Unfinished Business:

A. **Versatility Program** – A proposal outlining the Versatility Program was sent out to the board via email by Alice.

Alice explained, this is a basic program to get started until more Pequenos become active in other areas of the program. The dogs would need to obtain 3 titles, with no more than 2 of the titles from the same category. The outline currently suggests AKC titles at this time. It is outlined in the proposal there would be 5 categories that the titles could be earned:

- Conformation – Champion title
- Obedience – basic level CD
- Agility – novice agility or novice agility with jumper
- Rally – rally novice title
- Lure – junior coursing title

At some point additional areas could be added, such as Therapy Dog titles.

The owner would need to submit the application with proof of the obtained title for a certificate. Alice suggested we hold an awards ceremony at the annual banquet to recognize the accomplishments of the dogs and owners.

B. **2015 National Specialty Report** – Rose read the minutes from the annual meeting that took place at the 2015 National in Atlanta, GA. Rose stated that the minutes from the annual meeting would need to be approved. Rose stated there were ups and downs at the nationals, but overall it went very well. The board would like to thank Rose, Bud and Karen for doing an excellent job with the nationals.

C. **2016 National Specialty Report** – Susanne reported that the 2016 Nationals has been arranged to be in conjunction with the Mensona Kennel Club Show in Santa Rosa, CA. The tentative schedule for the 2016 Nationals will be as follows:

Thursday - arrival with a 7:00 pm Board Meeting

Friday - 8:00 am Judges Education in the Showcase Café

9:30 am National Specialty

4 to 6-month Puppy and Sweepstakes judge Carol Sowders

Regular and Non-Regular Classes – judge Vitor Veiga

2:00 pm Membership/Guest Education in the Showcase Café

6:00 pm General Meeting in the Showcase Café

Saturday - 8:30 am Judging starts

10:30am Regional Specialty – judge Gabriella Veiga

7:00 pm Banquet – tentatively at the Flamingo Hotel

Sunday - Mensona Kennel Club judging – show time to be announced at a later date

The host hotel is the Flamingo Hotel in Santa Rosa, CA. More information to follow.

D. **By-Laws Committee** - Chair Rose Hidlay reported the committee has not meet in October, but everything was moving along well.

5. New Business topics:

A. **Standing Rules** – It has been recognized by the board, standing rules for the club do not exist at this time. The suggestion was made to discuss and solicit any suggested standing rules that the board feels pertinent to the club be inserted into the minutes of the board meetings. An idea was also discussed that the standing rules be added to the website for the members.

B. **Sunshine Committee** – It has been suggested that the club form a Sunshine committee, that could communicate with members. To reach out to members in times of a death, illness or in joyous occasions, such as a birth of a child or grandchild. Rose will post on Facebook to lobby for committee members and a committee chair.

C. **Position Descriptions** – A suggestion has been made that we as a board make position descriptions for the officers, board members and committee chairs. Nancy will email out to the committee chairs asking for a synopsis of the committee, what the expectations are for the committee and what would be expected of a potential committee member. Also, it was asked for each board member to send Nancy a quick description of their position a what is expected of them as an officer/board member. Once these are received and reviewed they could be posted to the members only section of the website for interested parties to review if they are thinking about becoming a part of a committee or the board.

D. **Ethics Statement with Membership renewal** – Nancy made the suggestion that each member a copy of the Code of Ethics be sent out with the annual renewal of memberships. For each member to review and sign that they have reviewed the clubs Code of Ethics.

E. **General Discussion** – John has brought several topics for general discussion as listed below:

- Standing Rules – see new business section A for discussion
- Facebook Page – John suggested that we shut down the current Facebook page, feeling the page has no value and is not currently being monitored. The suggestion was made that we keep the page, as it is a good communication device for the club; but to have a delayed posting on negative comments in regards to the club and/or the board. The delayed posting would allow the Facebook administrator time to review the posts for damaging contents to the club and/or the board.
- The idea was brought up, when a communication is sent out by the secretary to request a delivery/read receipt, so we as a board know the intended communications are reaching the membership. Also, a suggestion was brought us to post items in the newsletter and on Facebook on upcoming events, such as the Nationals and Annual Meeting notifications.
- Why would I want to become or remain a member of the PPPA club? What do we have to offer the members. As a club can we/should we have a Pedigree database. It was suggested that we publish a booklet 2 times a year highlighting events for nationals or specialties, judge's critics, summary of the annual meeting and/or highlighting accomplishments of members and their dogs.
- We need a new updated website. A user friendly that catches the eye of members and prospective members. It has been suggested we form a committee and seek proposals to update our website.
- Board Meetings – As a board, how can we become more effective and grow as an organization. John has suggested that we make a change to the day/time of the board meetings. A few options, have the board meetings on the weekend or go meeting every month. This is open for further discussion.
- A question was raised by Patti if the club was looking into a Pedigree database. Possibly as part of the revamping of the website. Alice suggested that we include a link on the website to a Pedigree Database program for the global population of the club to add their information and share. Patti talked about a friend that might be interested in helping with the building of a Pedigree Database. Patti will touch base with her and bring additional information to the next board meeting.

6. **Adjournment** – **Meeting was adjourned at ?::?PM PDT**