

**Chinook Owners Association
Board Meeting Minutes
November 22, 2011**

ATTENDANCE

Ed Bigos, President; Penthea Burns, Secretary and Registrar; Leslie Donais, Historian; Jude Griffin, Rescue; Kris Holleran, Membership; Susan Kolukisa, CQ Editor; Kim Kramer, Vice President and Treasurer; Ruth Lind, CNE Rep; Corine Lindhorst, WDP and Past President; Joyce Maley, Bench; Donna Canfield, CrossBreeding; Donna Russell, Health.

COMMITTEE AND OFFICER REPORTS

Presidents Report - In the October 2011 meeting the COA Board voted to appoint Kim Kramer to the position of COA Vice President. I would like to congratulate Kim and look forward to working with her as the 2012-2014 President.

The COA Executive Board is working to seat a Nominating Committee for the 2012 election. The Committee will be chaired by incoming President Kim Kramer (Mid Atlantic region) and will include COA members from the other 5 COA regions. We are awaiting confirmation of those invited to serve on this committee and expect to be able to announce the committee members in this board meeting.

During the last month there has been an active discussion on COA-L of the Cross Breeding Program and the future of the Chinook. It has been informative and has given me more appreciation of the amount of work performed by the individuals who developed the existing cross lines and the Cross Breeding Committee. I want to thank everyone for their ongoing dedication to the breed.

Secretary Minutes - The "October Meeting Minutes" are posted on the board yahoo group in the Files Section in "Board Conference Calls 2011" in the "November 2011" folder. The Minutes from the October 18, 2011 Board meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

Treasurer's Report - The most recent Treasurer's Reports are posted on the board yahoo group in the Files Section in "Board Conference Calls 2011" in the "November 2011" folder.

Registrar - The Registrar has been trouble shooting difficulties with DNA-VIP certificates with the UKC. The Registrar has obtained a scanner (with thanks to the Treasurer for making the purchase). The scanner will be used to archive Registrar documents and CrossBreeding documents. The Registrar is requesting the purchase of Breeders Assistant initially for the CrossBreeding Program registry. She has forwarded some information about this to the webmaster to see about compatibility of a web based program with the COA website if we eventually would like to have on-line pedigrees available.

CrossBreeding Committee - The CrossBreeding Committee met via conference call to address concerns about Chinook genetic diversity and to consider a proposal submitted by Karen Hinchy which would allow third generation Chinooks to be purebred eligible. The Committee concluded it does not have enough information on which to base a decision about the 3rd generation proposal. The Committee unanimously agreed to:

- Work with the United Kennel Club to learn actions taken by other limited gene pool breeds (specifically learning more about the Canine Developmental Health and Performance Registry which is working in collaboration with the UKC and various breeds);
- Gather and organize (coordinating with the COA Health Committee) Chinook breeding information past and present; and
- Seek advice from geneticists and other experts in the field in order to create a thorough understanding of the problem which will lead us to the most effective solutions.

The Chair notified Karen Hinchy that her proposal will be tabled until the COA has enough clarity on the above issues and the support of the UKC to reconsider the merits of the proposal. The Chair posted an update to the COA-L about the Committee's plan for proceeding. Committee members submitted topics for the information that we need to gather from our membership (or other sources). The Committee established a yahoo group for the CrossBreeding Committee as a forum to conduct its work and to store its documents. We need the board's support for an outreach strategy to the United Kennel Club about the above plan.

NOTE: the conference call was conducted via a call-in-line, lasted over an hour, was recorded with the audio file downloadable, and cost around \$30. Thanks to Kim Kramer for setting this up.

Health Committee – The Health Committee plans on re-engaging the committee members, finding a resource to complete data analysis of the Comparative Health Survey, continuing to publish OFA/ CERF results and a “Health Flash” article in the CQ, and offering assistance to the CrossBreeding Committee as appropriate. I am glad to be back.

Rescue Committee – The Rescue Committee reports that revisions to rescue section are underway. They received two new rescue applications in past month.

Working Dog Program – The WDP has nothing new to report.

Code of Ethics – The CoE Committee has updated the survey and needs approval of funds to purchase a Survey Monkey subscription for Karen Hinchy who will design the survey. The webmaster has provided access to the membership list with email addresses to send the survey out.

CQ Editor – Production is beginning on the Winter issue of the Chinook Quarterly. Deadline for submissions is December 12th. I haven't set a theme yet but was thinking with all this talk about cross breeding, puppy placements, breed potentials, etc., I thought maybe a “The next step ... or the future of the breed” type theme. Ginger is working on an article about taking breed potential puppies (myths dispelled, etc.).

Membership – The COA welcomed 4 new members from 10/1/11 through 11/5/11. The geography of our new members is diverse - Arizona, North Carolina, Maine and Australia!

Membership is working on statistics of lapsed members, including those during the time of the CDCA merge. At this point in the year, any plan approved to reconnect with lost members might best be served by rolling the plan out with the 2012 membership drive.

Puppy memberships are a wonderful way to introduce new owners to the COA and COA-L. It is my understanding that the purchase of puppy memberships at the reduced rate is only available to those having a Breeder Membership. Membership would like the board to consider granting the ability to purchase puppy memberships, at this rate, to COA members who are actively breeding. Membership would also like to propose that stud owners may also purchase memberships in the case where a stud is used by a breeder who is not a member of the COA or is unable to purchase puppy memberships for the offspring of the stud.

Bench - The Show Secretary posted the budget from the 2011 Specialty which can be viewed at this location – <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/cc?key=0AsSzjmyuhesndHpsMTBsUDJZNkdyN29PUk1reWFmRFE>

Historian – The Historian posted the contents in Word form of boxes 1-7 to the Yahoo files for the members to have access.

Mid-Atlantic Chinooks - MACC had 2 significant challenges in October:

- The insurance for the club had DOUBLED to slightly over \$500. This is because the State of New Jersey has 'raised the floor' on the minimum price of insurance policies (to \$500), so the insurance company was unable to renegotiate the rate. The MACC Board decided to pay for the policy for six months while other options are researched.
- TD Bank changed their minimum balance policy and as the club's balance was considerably below the new minimum, a \$25-per-month fee was to be imposed. The account has been converted to from a business account to a personal account (still has the club's name on the statement). The new account has a \$100 minimum balance

In the meantime, the club has resolved to host some events and hopes to announce dates in the near future.

Chinooks New England - Chinooks New England will be participating in the 18th Annual Chinook Winter Carnival at the Tamworth Winter Carnival on February 11th, 2012. CNE members will be giving sled dog rides to kids weather permitting. The Winter Carnival events run from Friday February 10th 2012 through Sunday February 13th. On Friday evening there will be an informal dinner and get together for people who arrive the day before the event. Saturday there will be sledding on the grounds of the Remick Museum from 10:00AM to 1:00PM weather permitting. Saturday evening we will host the CNE annual dinner meeting. CNE members are strongly encouraged to attend the dinner and discuss CNE's agenda & plan for 2012. Sunday morning there will be sledding in the Hemenway State Forest. All members and prospective members are encouraged to attend all events. CNE would like to thank Rick Skoglund for organizing the event and the Remick Museum and the Tamworth Historical Society for inviting Chinooks back to Tamworth, NH.

Vacancies – Publicity and Advertising Chair; Secretary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Motion 2011-43 Appointment of Treasurer

I move that the Board appoint Vicky Delfino as the COA Treasurer.

Motion by Penthea Burns

Second by Donna Russell

Vicky's resume found in the board meeting materials. Vicky has extensive experience in creating financial systems and Kim Kramer is available to assist with the transition of Vicky into the Treasurer role. Vicky is exceedingly qualified to carry on the work started by Kim to create sound financial systems for the COA. We would be lucky to have someone with this experience. Further, Vicky owns a Chinook (Wild River Katie) a requirement for serving on the COA Executive Board.

Motion 2011-43 passed with a vote tally of 12-0-0. The Secretary will notify Vicky of her appointment and Ed will add her to the Board yahoo group.

Motion 2011-44 Purchase Survey Monkey 3 Month Subscription

I move that the Board purchase a Survey Monkey subscription for 3 months at a cost of \$72 in order to design and launch the survey on the proposed CoE.

Motion by Penthea Burns

Second by Kris Holleran

Motion 2011-44 passed with a vote tally of 12-0-0.

Appointment of Publicity and Advertising Chair

Jude and Penthea will conduct a search for a Chair to present to the board. Corine will update the current committee members.

Allocation of funds for data analysis – comparative health survey

Donna R asked that the board discuss finding a resource to conduct data analysis on the comparative health study (crossbred and purebred Chinooks). She discussed the background and need for this analysis. The Treasurer reported that the Chinook Health Fund has over \$2,000. Can we establish an honorarium? Can we create a page to solicit candidates? Donna may explore veterinary schools. Karen Hinchy is following up with Dr. Begovic. The Health Chair will work to identify the amount funds needed to conduct this analysis.

Board Vacancies – Secretary, Treasurer, Publicity and Advertising Chair

NEW BUSINESS

Formation of Nominating Committee

We have members for every region but have not found someone from the southwest who would agree to serve. Corine urges that we move forward with the nominating committee as it is composed. The board agrees. Kim Kramer, the appointed Chair, will convene the committee to plan out their work.

CrossBreeding Committee approach, outreach to UKC

The CrossBreeding Committee came to the decision that before we want to contact experts, we want to contact UKC to find out who they would recommend related to genetic diversity. Donna Canfield, CrossBreeding Committee Chair and Penthea Burns, Registrar, want the board's support for outreach to UKC. The board supports this approach.

Membership – puppy memberships, lapsed memberships

Purchasing discounted puppy memberships is listed as a breeder membership privilege. For the purpose of increasing club membership's, Kris would like to open this up to all membership by proposing opening this up to a wider audience. Motion 2011-47: I move that that COA approve that puppy memberships are available to any non-member with a UKC registered Chinook under the age of 12 months whether they purchase the membership themselves or it is purchased by another person.

Motion by Kris Holleran

Second by Corine Lindhorst

Motion 2011-47 passed by unanimous consent.

Motion 2011-45: Purchase Breeders Assistant software for the COA Registrar

I move that the Board purchase the Professional Edition of Breeders Assistant software for use by the COA Registrar at a cost of \$199.

Motion by Penthea Burns

Second by Corine Lindhorst

The Breeders Assistant software would enable the COA Registrar to move the CrossBreeding registry from an Excel spreadsheet to this pedigree program, provide pedigrees, be an asset with UKC registrations, and assist with other activities with the Chinook breeding population. The Professional Edition of Breeders Assistant is designed for organizations such as breed clubs and the license name would be under the club's name. The Registrar will clarify that the use of this would be transferrable when another Registrar is appointed and that the COA owns the data. It includes fully customizable printed pedigrees, text pedigrees, image pedigrees, HTML pedigrees, even circular pedigrees. It also includes UKC forms such (with consent of the UKC). To view this software program, you can go to the Breeder's Assistant website at this address - http://www.tenset.co.uk/ba/tt_fullprod_dog.html

Motion 2011-45 passed by a vote tally of 11-1-0.

COA Calendar

The calendar has been submitted for production. Hopefully they will be delivered by the end of next week. The calendars will be sold for \$19 each.

Motion 2011-48: Approval of November Meeting Minutes. Corine Lindhorst moves that the minutes be posted and approved by email vote within 24 hours of posting.

Second by Jude Griffin.

Items to be Moved to Unfinished Business in the December 27 Board Meeting

1. Motion 2011- 46: Member Synchronous Access to Board and Executive Board Meetings

I move the Board and Executive Board allow the membership synchronous access to both the Board meetings and the Executive Board meetings.

Motion by Joyce Maley

2. COA-L

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, December 27 at 7:00 pm Eastern time.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion 2011-48: Adjournment

Pentheia Burns moved that the November 22 board meeting be adjourned by unanimous consent following email approval of the minutes. If there are no objections by the conclusion of the vote on minutes the meeting will be adjourned. Second by Kim Kramer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pentheia Burns

COA Secretary (Interim)