WISCONSIN AIREDALE TERRIER CLUB

Board of Directors/Special Guest Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 10, 2022

On Monday, October 10, 2022 at 7:00 PM, the WATC leadership team held a strategic meeting. Our long-time president, Lisa Berglin, resigned on September 5, 2022. She resigned as club president and also as the WATC Specialty Show Chair.

Club Vice President, Craig Larrabee, stepped in as acting president. He called the October 10, 2022 meeting to order. Attendees included: President Craig Larrabee; Secretary Sara Walker; Treasurer Kevin McDermott; Board members: Sue Shannon; Dee Braaksma and Sandra Cooley; and friend of the club, Sue Zimmer.

**Old Business:**

Craig Larrabee asked for approval of the July 30, 2022 minutes

Motion made by Dee Braaksma, seconded by Sue Zimmer and approved by all

Motion made to formally approve new member applications: Dawn Bunkelman, Patricia Woynich. Both Dawn and Patricia’s membership were discussed during our July 30, 2022 meeting. They were formally approved on October 10, 2022 with a motion made by Craig Larrabee and seconded by Sara Walker and approved by all.

**Secretary’s Report:**

Sara Walker reviewed recent activity including the Madison Dog Walk on September 24, 2022. We had great attendance with 13 dogs (including a couple of non-Airedales). Dee Braaksma and Stacy Rudykh organized this really fun event at Picnic Point in Madison. Additionally, a leadership meeting was held at this event with Craig Larrabee, Kevin McDermott, Sara Walker, Dee Braaksma, Sue Zimmer and Rita Galetka in attendance.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Kevin McDermott was away from his computer, but he reminded us of the recent checking account balance of about $7,500.

**New Business:**

Motion made by Sue Shannon to name member Sue Zimmer as interim Vice President (filling the vacancy left by former VP, Craig Larrabee who has moved into the role of President given the resignation of former president, Lisa Berglin). Motion seconded by Sandi Cooley. Approved by all.

Nominations for 2023 officers/board members—Sue Zimmer and Dee Braaksma volunteered to serve as our Nominating Committee for 2023. They will be seeking and gathering candidates for board members and officers in 2023. Once they have a roster of nominations, a ballot will be prepared and ready for our December 2022 meeting.

The AKC requires breed clubs to conduct specific activities each year in order to hold shows, such as our annual Specialty Show. One of the activities that meets AKC requirements is a “meet the breed” event, which includes breed standards, breed temperaments, etc. Our 2022 event will be held in conjunction with a Barn Hunt event on November 27, 2022 at the “Oh Rats” Dog Training Facility in Sheboygan Falls, WI. We are fortunate to have Dee Braaksma, who is a multi-media graphic designer, prepare an electronic presentation with content and photos compiled by Sue Zimmer.

Hosting a Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test is another way to meet AKC requirements to hold Specialties. The good news is club members Dee Braaksma and Rita Galetka are AKC CGC evaluators! They are considering options for 2023 and are open for suggestions. Club member, Sandi Cooley, volunteered to talk to the AKC and ask if we could hold our 2023 CGC event in conjunction with another club, e.g., Badger Kennel Club.

Sandi Cooley also volunteered to talk with the AKC to see if our Facebook page meets any of the AKC requirements for compliance. She will also ask the AKC for an update on its policy re: advertisements, etc.

We also discussed our annual Specialty Show and the fact we must receive formal approval of this show from the AKC. We have historically held this Specialty Show during the weekend of the Waukesha Kennel Club’s annual Dog Show (last weekend in July). It was noted management of the Trophy Table at each year’s Specialty Show is a big job. We will need to recruit volunteers to host/monitor this table.

We have relied on our star website manager, Sue Reimund, to advertise our Specialty Show in the Airedale Terrier Club of America (ATCA) materials each year. Once the AKC approves our Specialty Show, we must submit the information to the ATCA for its blessing, and we must submit our Specialty Show Ad for publication in the ATCA American Airedale in February.

Speaking of the 2023 Specialty Show (to take place over the last weekend in July 2023), we need to find a Sweepstakes judge. Craig Larrabee will contact Barbara Brown to invite her to be our Sweepstakes judge in 2023. Kevin McDermott noted Carol Scott said she would be happy to be our Sweepstakes judge. Assuming Barb is able to be our Sweepstakes judge in 2023, we may ask Carol to be our Sweepstakes judge in 2024.

Other new business discussion included our process for new members. We do not have a specific welcoming process in place, and we need to fix that. We are grateful for our members! Dee Braaksma and Rita Galetka have volunteered to establish a Welcoming Committee and will work on a Welcome Packet. Their work with new members will help us fine-tune our process for receiving new member applications and dues as well as updating the membership list. The AKC requires that the WATC furnish an accurate list of members annually.

One last item of new business includes the WATC annual Christmas Party. It is set for December 11, 2022 at the Grafton, Wisconsin location of Water Street Brewery. This year we will have a separate room more conducive to conversation than prior years. Multiple save-the-date notices have been sent, and a specific flyer will be created and sent to members after the Thanksgiving holiday.

And, one last item of business to consider—let’s think about joining the 2023 Milwaukee Irish Fest canine event along with Irish Terriers and Irish Wolfhounds! Irish Fest is held each year in mid-August.

At 8:45 PM on October 10, 2022, our meeting was adjourned with a motion from Craig Larrabee, a second from Kevin McDermott and an approval by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara J. Walker

WATC Secretary

11/17/2022