

IWANE Membership Meeting Minutes
Conference Call ~ July 25, 2020

Call to Order:

The IWANE president called the membership meeting to order at approximately 1:00pm. The following board members were present: Andrea Dormady (AD); Colleen Brown (CB); Janel Milne (JM); Pat Campbell (PC); John Fitzgerald (JF); Karen Eberl (KE), and Joni Light (JL).

The following members were present: Lee Loebelenz, Sherry Mayo, Clary Healy, Sue Gilson, Stuart Gilson, Suze Craighead, Evie Jimenez, Lisa Forman, Kristol Ballard, Ross Moxon, Beverly Alba, John Kelley, Tricia Kelley

Agenda:

A meeting was scheduled in conjunction with the general meeting as per IWANE By-laws, Article II, Section 3. JL was recording the minutes. IWANE will be referred to as "The Club" henceforth. Agenda items include in slightly different order, board reports, sportsman award, new members, minutes approval, committee reports and new business.

Call to Order:

AD called the meeting to order at 1:10pm. She announced the 2020 recipient for the William Holmes Sportsman Award as Sue Gilson. Sue has offered her talent to many fund-raising efforts and works tirelessly on a myriad of projects for The Club.

AD announced the newest club member, Carole Silverthorne. She lives in NY and has helped in IWANE's heart clinic in addition to other IW events.

Additional announcements to members, AD reminded members to utilize the Amazon Smiles when making their online purchases. A percentage of their purchase totals can be donated to non-profit organizations. Please select IWANE.

AD announced a new position that was requested of the IWCA of regional clubs. IWANE appointed Sherry Mayo as the new IWCA liaison. We look forward to hearing more from Sherry in this role in subsequent months.

Officer Reports:

JM provided details on her findings for the unaccounted-for years, 2013, 2014 and 2015. She noted that 2014 was a heavy spend year. She is waiting for copies of cancelled checks for the entries as the bank statement copies do not provide. Once she can dig into those details more will be reported on the findings to the members. The current account balance for the Janney Fund is \$468,266.77 as of January statement. This is surprisingly decent considering the economic issues around the globe.

Suze Craighead (SC) spoke her concerns with how the trust has been handled in past and offered help in the analysis. She had several questions: Is The Club going to let go of the findings if it is determined that the trust was not used properly? Do we know yet if the funds were used properly during these years, and withdrawals were properly authorized? What payments were made on Donna Monahan's dogs and Chloe's care while with Rosemary?

JM noted that there is understandably confusion and emotion around the handling of the trust. She plans to get to the specifics once she obtains all records from the various banks to do some serious analysis as to where the trust funds were distributed. Everything will be communicated to the members. As for Chloe's care, it was paid for out of the rescue fund.

Lisa Forman (LF) spoke, and her concerns mirrored what Suze discussed.

JM explained further that anything that has transpired members should have been consulted to know where funds were going, what donations were being made on behalf of IWANE, etc. This board will be sure to consult with members and votes will be taken before any of these types of withdrawals are made. As IWANE is a 5013C it is imperative that we hold the accounting to a high standard as we answer to the state. JM is hoping that what she finds was done "by the books".

SC commented that she agreed but also wonders if anything needs to be done based upon the findings and if it does not go according to standard accounting principles. JM said all this will come to light after a deep analysis. Safeguards are being put into place whereby withdrawals will need two signatures of the board. Sherry Mayo (SM) added a comment in the chat box that this would be good if noted in the by-laws. AD confirmed that in the past members voted on any donation being made from the Janney Fund, and a committee was set up to recommend where donations would be made. This should be put back in place.

Regarding rescue, AD informed the members that Chloe (mentioned earlier) has passed at the age of 12. She received amazing care with Rosemary Wortman, and huge thanks go out to her.

Regarding the Irish Wolfhounds at the MSPCA Nevins Farms, they will not release the dogs to IWANE or IWCA. There are pictures on the website, and they are confirmed to be full breed Irish Wolfhounds and not mixes.

Meeting Minutes:

AD asked for comments on the meeting minutes from May 9, 2020. Hearing none the minutes were accepted unanimously by members.

Fundraising Committee:

JL informed members that the committee has several designs to be rolled out to members in fall. 2021 calendars that showcase Sue Gilson's artwork this past year are being printed. These will be advertised on our FB page, as well as the IWANE website. There will be a deadline for all orders to ensure people receive their calendars before the new year. JL is working to get additional buttons on PayPal so JM will see the funds and allocate accordingly. All proceeds will go to the operating account. JL is also looking into advertising on Etsy. In addition to the calendars the committee will sell Irish Wolfhound Note Cards. These will also be available on the FB page and website and can be ordered at any time. They include five notecards like the set that was sold at last year's Specialty Show.

JL explained that there is nothing further on the Fun Match except that it is scheduled for the 4H Fairgrounds in Westford, MA next June.

New Business:

AD told the members that the AKC is giving consideration to club by-law changes to include the newly approved medium of holding meetings via video conferencing. This is being allowed due to COVID-19

but the AKC wants to ensure by-laws are updated to include this new language. They are also considering other updates to be more flexible in by-law changes. This is an opportunity for The Club to make necessary changes that have been discussed the past year. AD is asking anyone who has suggestions to send them to Joni Light (jonilight1215@gmail.com) who will compile them for board review. All planned by-law changes, including the clause on meetings, will be reviewed by, and voted on by members at the November meeting. There is a deadline in which clubs can submit changes to the AKC, so this is time sensitive. **Please send suggestions no later than September 30.** Members must approve all changes with a 2/3 majority vote. All changes will be made at once.

JM shared her idea for The Club to provide annual educational scholarships to veterinarian students. The Janney Fund is an educational trust and should be used for the proper education of our breed. This will be beneficial to the IWANE community in particular as it will be made to a New England school, for example, Tufts, and the hope is that such students will be available to this community for better understanding and communication on the health issues that are predominant in our breed. A committee is suggested to put forth criteria and details of the scholarship. Bev Alba, Suze Craighead and Janel Milner will be on the committee.

LF asked that electronic voting be added to the by-laws. AD asked that this be followed up in detail to Joni in an email. JL noted this suggestion. Also, regarding PayPal, a trophy donation button will be added as recommended by those using PayPal. JM will appreciate the use of it to allocate donations.

SC asked that the by-laws provide more guidelines on rescue and how The Club will not remove dogs from owners in the case of death. This will be consistent in the language put forth in The Club's newly revised policies which are posted on the website. JF reiterated that by-law changes are time sensitive and suggestions need to be made within the next four months. (Note: This would bring us to November and suggestions need to be in the AKC by December.)

2022 Specialty:

AD explained to members that there has been discussion on the location for the 2022 show, as well as the need for a two-day show. If the members decide to hold a one day show some considerations need to be made such as when to have The Club meeting which is scheduled at this show. If we have a one-day show, there will limits to what can be done in a short timeframe. Such as no time to hold heart testing of which this club is committed to. Any plans to hold education discussions would be limited. The cost would be the same for a one day show v. two day show if we use the current location (Showcase for Dogs in CT.) If we choose to go to the Keene, NH location, that cost would also be the same, however it seems additional costs need to be considered if we move to this location. Those additional costs are for a dumpster, RV hookups, concession, tent rental and portable restrooms. LF did some research and provided membership with a pro and con review explaining additional benefits of moving the location to Keene, NH. This includes more shaded areas as the venue is surrounded with more trees, parking, more centrally located for others to attend, more hotels. Additional discussion was made if we hold a two-day event, should we try to maximize our entries by holding two back-to-back specialties? AD will work on a poll to send to members seeking more input to the location and two-day v. one day event. KE will also investigate costs around entries and additional judges. John Kelley (JK) offered help in researching past entries to get an understanding of where people are located who generally attend the shows. Further discussion continued around this topic with many questions being asked by members about logistics, location, etc. More to come on this topic.

In closing, AD mentioned that member, Paul Hayes, suggested certificates be sent to long term members of IWANE in recognition to their commitment to The Club. She said this would be nearly impossible to confirm the numbers of years each person has been a member due to lack of records. However, would members consider certifications on new titles, such as Rally, Championship, Obedience, etc.? Would this be something members would like to see in an annual newsletter? We no longer have the newsletter committee but perhaps it should be brought back. Send comments and suggestions to JL and the board will review for consideration.

The next member meeting is anticipated to be held in November; not yet scheduled. Conference call will likely be the medium.

Motion to adjourn was moved by SC and seconded by PC. Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:39pm.

Submitted and approved: NOVEMBER 7 2020

Joni Light

IWANE Secretary