**IWANE Board Meeting Minutes**

**Via Zoom Conference Call ~ April 29, 2023**

**Call to Order:**

The IWANE president called the meeting to order at approximately 11:00am. The following board members were present: Andrea Dormady (AD), Joni Light (JL), Colleen Brown (CB), Karen Eberl (KE), Beth Wimsatt (BW) and Janel Milner (JM). Lee Loebelenz (LL) joined at 11:12am.

**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. The items discussed on the agenda and may be in slightly different order as noted below.

Prior to discussing the agenda items, JM mentioned that a volunteer is needed to sell raffles at the specialty show in June. JL noted that she and Sue Gilson are operating the boutique table and have bandwidth to help with raffles. JM will contact Rosemary Wortman on the process.

**Nominations for 2023 Board:**

JL told the board that the annual survey links are ready to go for members to vote.

**Meeting Minutes Approval – November 27, 2022:**

KE moved the motion to approve the meeting minutes from November 27, 2022. BW seconded the motion. The motion was accepted unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:**

JM reviewed the accountant report which will be distributed to the membership. An extension was filed for 2022 taxes. JM resumed with her review the operating account. The Club’s gross profit for 2022 totaled $45,289.26 and total expenditures totaled $29,206.40 for a net operating revenue of $16,082.86. Included is the statement of financial position for Hick’s Trust which totals $589,366.74. JM confirmed that the $22,000 withdrawal approved by the board in November has been transacted.

JM suggested that the Club provide a donation letter to the IWF for the $7,000 covering the heart testing at the specialty, and letter will be signed off by the board. JL said she would draft such a letter for review. AD suggested that the Club communicate the testing for members and be clear that members are covered under this donation. JM said that $5,000 has been set aside for the scholarship and she has a scholarship application prepared based upon discussion with the scholarship committee. JL suggested that a meeting be set up for the board to review and document the process and to set goals on the program.

BW asked about the transition of treasurer duties and asked for an accounting audit. JM said that an audit was not done when she took over the position five years ago as there was not anything to audit! JM will send a letter to the accountant to have a review to transition the books over to BW. BW asked about a bank account and where the bank could be located. JM said that it should be in MA as the Club is headquartered in MA but a national bank would suffice. She will provide an inventory of all records to the accountant to start the transition. The annual specialty has historically been the place to have a physical transfer of records between board members. JM said she will have a second signatory set up at Bank of America for the transition, and Club insurance should be easier with a phone call making the change. JM will initiate such paperwork to add BW and CB onto the accounts, and to drop AD from the accounts. BW said she will pick up the records at the specialty this year or otherwise work with JM to collect them.

**Club Events:**

JL discussed the upcoming FCAT event in Exeter, RI in May of this year. Also, this year is a Fun Run that will be held on Saturday prior to the Specialty at the Showcase for Dogs. KE told the board about the change in trophy awards as we move away from traditional pewter cups and crystal objects. Leather leads, metal buckets, and show leads are a few of the newer items to be awarded. KE told the board that as the judge is coming from the UK, we may need help with transportation and dinner arrangements, and if anyone is available to help to let her know. KE did note that Susan Prokopenko offered to take her to dinner on Saturday evening. LL offered to help and will reach out to KE. CB said she may need transportation to the show as she is still not able to safely drive.

JL asked that the AB show sponsorship process be clarified as questions were brought to her attention. KE explained that IWANE members who are also members of AB kennel clubs put forth recommendations to the board for sponsorship of their club shows. The board votes and the expectation is that the show sponsorship will bring in enough entries to promote a major. If shows do not bring in enough entries they are usually dropped. The sponsorship includes a pewter trophy provided by the Club and the premium list must include our name and sponsorship details. KE continued that the IWANE member who recommended the sponsorship is usually the person to reach out to the club secretary and ensure all these details are accounted for.

JL also asked the board for a dues policy to coincide with the finance committee recommendation to have the dues payments sent to the secretary while the treasurer continues to invoice members for their dues and trophies. This was a new implementation for 2023 and it went well with only one member objecting to the policy change. JM said she would write up the policy.

**Approval of New Members:**

KE moved the motion to approve Kristol Ballard and Ross Moxon from Associate Member to Regular Member. JM seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

KE moved the motion to approve Michelle Martino, Ron MacKendrick, Melinda Mackendrick, Lisa Leblanc, Heather Dalbec, Jamie Theroux, and Frances Butler as Associate Members. JM seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business:**

JL brought forth a suggestion on offering a Family Membership to encourage more families to participate in the sport of dog fancy. Several board members voiced their opinions and noted that the current bylaws afford easy access for families through the junior membership, associate membership, and regular membership succession.

KE said she would provide to JM an itemized list of items from the estate of Sue Orr, and also from donation of items from Jane Donahue. Plans are to hold a private auction once pictures and prices have been recognized.

JL will include requests for sportsman award this year from members. The board will review and if ready, announce at the specialty for the award to be presented at the annual fun match. The fun match this year will be held at AD’s home as the votes from members were as follows:

Duxbury with 80% of votes in favor; Uncasville with 30% in favor, and Ashford with 25% in favor. The survey was set up for a first choice, second choice, and third choice selection.

JM moved the motion to adjourn the meeting. KE seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:23pm.

Submitted and approved: June 8, 2023

Joni Light

IWANE Secretary