July 16, 2017

ESSFTA Membership Meeting Minutes
Date: July 13, 2017
Location: Purina Events Center, Gray Summit, MO

Vice-President Peggy Presnall called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Member sign-in followed. Members present: Bev Sigl-Felten, Zippy Cooper, Kathy Patregnani, David Bronikowski, Cathy Pullian, Dick Burgess, Sue Burgess, Virginia Huxley, Kathleen Pierce, Billie Kerfoot, Erin Kerfoot, Peggy Presnall, Jennye Hansen, Elizabeth Davis, Sue Ellen Healy, John Healy, Clenencia Saavedra, Dawn Horock, Janet Warner, Lynda O’Connor-Schneider, Randy Capsel, David Hopkins, Nancy Johnson, Laurin Howard, James Porter, Brenda Bateman, Henriette Schmidt, Debbie Lipsey, Brenda Mills, April Leonetti, Tony Vasquez, Pat Snyder, Darin Cox, Rita Bakalar, Jean Hilbig, Susan Armstrong, Barbara Gates. Guest in attendance: Nancy Kolodner, Margaret Gates, John Ulman, Marlene Bonella.

While the membership was thanked for the large attendance, they were advised that there was not a quorum present to conduct official business.

Those present were advised that the minutes of the Annual Membership meeting were posted on the Parent Club website for their review. Any comments would be welcomed. Sue Burgess repeated the AKC Delegate report, as attached. Nancy Johnson also summarized the report of the English Springer Spaniel Foundation.

Further discussion of the proposal to modify the wording of our standard to specifically approve natural tails consumed most of the meeting. The survey of the membership showed that 327 members (50.39%) participated of 649 enrolled voters. The results of the individual options were:

“The English Springer Spaniel is a medium-sized sporting dog, with a compact body and, traditionally, a docked tail. A natural (undocked) tail is also permitted – neither is to be given preference.” 198 vote (60.55%)

“The English Springer Spaniel is a medium-sized sporting dog, with a compact body and, traditionally, a docked tail. A natural (undocked) tail is permitted but not preferred.” 66 votes (20.18%)

“No change should be made to the standard regarding tail length. 63 votes (19.27%)

It was explained by Peggy that this issue must be voted by the Board of Governors in order to be sent to the total membership for approval before it may be presented to AKC for their consideration/approval.

Sue Ellen Healy stated that there are minor changes to the current judge selection process that arose in the last round of voting. Specifically these related to the timing of the ballots versus membership renewals. The dates of voting will be delayed until approximately March 15th to ensure that all members that renew are enrolled in the voting process.
Judges and locations of future National Specialties were announced.

2018 – Purina Farms, September 3-8 following 3 days of all-breed agility. Breed judge Douglas Johnson and Sweepstakes judge Bonnie Watts.


2021 – Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth, MI.

Randy Capsel gave a demonstration of the Club Management Directory that is being developed for ease of communicating with the officers and Board of Governors. He also presented insights to understanding the ESSFTA lists and access through Yahoo groups.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.