Mark Haglin called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM. Roll call and sign-in followed.

Present: Mark Haglin, David Sanford, Peggy Presnall, Kathy Nestor, Barb Granatir, Susan Burgess, Sue Ellen Healy, Bev Sigl Felten, Elaine Vanderslice, David Hopkins, Mike Pollack, Bob Beauchamp, Amy Rogers, Carol Jansen, Randy Capsel, Jan Johnson, Larry Schwartz, Holly Boggess, Kathy Patiegnani, Don Mock, Laurel Fagg, Ray Ritchotte, Terri Bounty, Debbie Trueblood and Dean Reinke.

Mark opened the meeting and noted that in order to have a quorum, we need 7 Governors present which we have as evidenced by the sign-in sheet.

Old Business:

- Barb presented the 2017 BOG Meeting Minutes which was held in Collierville, TN and posted on Announce and the ESSFTA website. The minutes were approved as written.

- Sue Burgess asked for a volunteer to review the AKC Marketplace site for accuracy. Dawn Horrock volunteered and was approved.

- David Hopkins to review the By-Laws for updates on process and procedures, requested research into communication by e-mail as opposed to physical mailings; Meeting and voting for the NAC and for the Parent Club meetings.
  - NAC governing resolutions would be updated to recognize electronic meetings and voting. The Governors can make this process change to the NAC governing resolution. We noted that a straw poll would need to be required prior to the BOG making any substantive changes.
  - In order to allow electronic voting for the Parent Club, we would need to update the By-Laws as per David’s proposal. After a short review period by the Governors, David will take the proposal to the AKC for pre-approval. Once we have a final work product, this would need to go to our full membership for a vote. However, the AKC allows this to be done retrospectively and the membership vote for this issue could be done electronically. Electronic voting per Delaware Law and AKC requires a third party organization to administer the ballot process.
  - A motion was made and approved for David to proceed on the By-Law changes for electronic voting.

- Kathy Nestor reviewed the 2018 Budget. 2018 Budget was based upon previous years requests and expenses. 2018 Budget approved by the BOG. 2018 Budget will be sent out via Announce and posted on the Members Only section of the ESSFTA website.

- Terri Hallman was appointed to the Archive Committee for a second term.

Seating of the Officers - Mark asked the Secretary to cast the ballot for the nominated slate of Officers. With there being an uncontested ballot the Officers were seated. Officers were seated: President – Mark Haglin; Field VP – Dave Sanford; Bench VP – Peggy Presnall; Treasurer – Kathy Nestor; Corresponding Secretary – Barb Granatir; Membership Secretary – Danelle Oliver. AKC Delegate - Sue Burgess
Reports - Committee Reports which were reviewed during the Membership meeting were not repeated.

New Members - The following new members were presented by Danelle Oliver and approved by the Board:

Debbie Maheu
Tom Menzel
Cathy Flanders
Robert Wilson
Rebecca Wilson
Tami Morris
Jessica Robinett
Ralph Robinett
Jordanne Smith
Victoria Proulx
Judy Prala
Gary Prala
John Meyer

Unfinished Business:

- Based upon the 2017 survey results that solicited feedback on wording to change the Breed Standard, there was support to change the Standard to support natural tails. Based upon this and feedback from the Bench Community, Peggy Presnall made a motion to the full BOG to approve that we send a vote to the full ESSFT A membership to change the Standard to support natural tails being permitted by wording in our standard with no preference. The motion was not approved as the Field Governors and Community had concerns about changing the standard considering risk of injury to non-dock tails, and legislative trends to outlaw docking which can be seen in Europe and multiple states. There were also concerns raised that the membership information and data need to be verified prior to sending out a ballot for a vote and ideally we would want to use electronic balloting. To resolve the above, Peggy and David agreed to document the issues and concerns from both Communities so when this Ballot goes out for a vote, it represents all issues, pros and cons. We asked that all Governors work with Danelle Oliver, our membership secretary to review and update member information and everyone was supportive to send this out via electronic balloting if possible.

New Business:

- David Hopkins requested $2500 to complete the scanning of National catalogs for the Archive Committee. Motion was approved.
- Sue Burgess and David Sanford presented a proposal to purchase membership software (Club Express) which would link to the ESSFTA site. Motion to allow 5K to purchase the software was approved.
• A motion was made and approved to extend the membership renewal for 90 days to June 30, 2018 due to the technical issues with the current membership software.
• A motion was made and accepted to purchase a conference line for the Parent Line with an annual cost of less than $500. Sue Burgess will procure.
• Mark Haglin proposed the following individuals to comprise the 2018 Nominating Committee as President selections to the committee: Dean Reinke (Chair), Randy Capsel, Dave Granatir. Already proposed for seating on the committee are: Mike Pollack (F-Governor), Jerry Barrett (NAC), Bev Felton (B-Governor), John Pidde (National Specialty).
• Motion was presented and approved for $4500 for the Judges Education Committee to purchase services for a new Illustrated Standard.

Other Topics:
• Meeting dates for next year will be April 26th and 27th. The Board of Governors agreed to meet in Minneapolis and Mark and Kathy Patregnani agreed to make arrangements.

Motion to Adjourn at 11:33 AM was approved.