

**Minutes of the 2013 Annual Membership Meeting
October 25, 2013**

The 2013 HSDAA General Membership meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. on October 25, 2013, at the Wyndham Hotel, Virginia Beach, Virginia, with the president, Frank Conticchio, and the secretary in attendance.

Frank Conticchio announced that president Ann Carille has resigned from the board in order to tend to recent family commitments. We will miss Ann's service and dedication to the club and we wish her well. Upon Ann's resignation Frank Conticchio assumed the office of president. Additional changes to the board membership were needed to fill the office of vice president and the office of corresponding secretary after the recent resignation of Stephanie DeSimone. The board approved an early realignment of membership in accordance with the new slate of officers that was recently selected by the Nominating Committee. Those changes are:

Dionne Franklin, vice president – replacing Frank Conticchio
Anita Yeager, corresponding secretary – replacing Stephanie DeSimone
Suzanne LaCosse, director-at-large – replacing Anita Yeager

Minutes of the 2013 General Membership meeting:

Ann Carille moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as published in the Silk Road. The motion was approved.

President's Report

Frank Conticchio discussed our plan to bring the Havana Silk Dog into the AKC. Our club's objective is to urge the AKC to accept the Havana Silk Dog as a separate breed.

The membership discussed our current standard and the AKC registration of some of our dual registered dogs..

Tom Theisen addressed the Board and said he would like to see our club do three things over the next year:

- 1) The standard should be reviewed and possibly revised.
- 2) The club take a bigger interest in attending other shows outside of our own.
- 3) Publicizing our shows to increase attendance.

Discussion included adding a Best of Breed class for Junior Champions and changes to the judging of companion classes. Frank Conticchio asked the Show Committee to look into these suggestions. Mary O'Day stated that the committee will consider ways to implement the suggestions, send them to the Board for approval and then send them out for comment.

Further discussion included breed promotion. Suggestions included advertising in national magazines, dog walks in public areas, organized group attendance at ICKC shows, sending winners photos to local newspapers.

Frank Conticchio said that he greatly appreciates these comments and suggestions from the membership and hopes that members will continue sending more suggestions.

Evaluations

Evaluation procedures are still in planning. The evaluation process and the evaluation forms are still being revised.

Membership

Frank opened discussion about how to encourage new membership. Suggestions included Facebook, the Yahoo group lists and our website forums. Tom Theisen said he is working on a link on our website that will take members to a Facebook page.

New Business

HSDAA Gene Pool

There was a discussion about how to add diversity to our gene pool and about our current requirements for adding foreign dogs to our registry including: additional health testing (full blood panel and liver test); conformation evaluation; dog must be two years old before certification; all first generation offspring must be two years old before certification.

A motion was made for adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Debbie Ezzell, Recording Secretary