

Minutes of the HSDAA Annual Membership Meeting

November 4, 2016

The Annual Membership Meeting of the HSDAA was held on Friday, November 4, 2016, at the Wyndham Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach, with the President, Mary O'Day, and Recording Secretary, Gloria Sharrar, in attendance. The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:08 p.m.

A roll call was taken by the Secretary and it was determined that there was a quorum present for the meeting.

Minutes from the 2015 Annual Membership Meeting – December 6, 2015

The Recording Secretary projected the minutes of the 2015 Annual Membership meeting on a large screen, and members participated actively in the review of the minutes as they were scrolled through. President Mary O'Day moved that the minutes be accepted as read. The motion was adopted.

Report of the President

Mary O'Day reported that approval of the revised breed standard prior to the start of our 2016 show schedule led to re-training all judges for all shows, but that was a positive process and affirmed why we as a club wanted to change our standard. She highlighted the success of the ICE Show in Lakeland and how well all our dogs competed with the other breeds, and won top awards.

Report of the Secretary

Gloria Sharrar reported that during 2016, the Recording Secretary completed actions as directed by the Board as follows:

1. Prepared all ballot materials for the revised breed standard, mailed out the ballots to all regular members, coordinated with three regular members to perform the inspector duties to validate and count all returned ballots, and notified the Board of the results in writing with a signed report from the inspectors.
2. Ensured member lists were updated and corrected on a timely basis, and 2016 membership renewals were completed by the end of the first quarter.
3. Notified all members of the Annual Membership Meeting via emails on October 11-12, 2016.

The secretary attended and took minutes at all board meetings.

Report of the Treasurer

Sharon Martin reported our current financial status as follows:

Total Income	\$20,615.49
Total Expenses	\$18,487.23
Net Income	\$ 2,128.26

Checking account balance: \$13,241.14
Savings account balance: \$ 7,123.44
Total Assets: \$20,560.65

Committee Reports

Breed Recognition

Committee Chair, Helen Conticchio, reported the following: This year was good, not only are we now able to show at ICKC shows but ICE has accepted us also. That gives us three venues, which includes ours. Some of our members have attended some ICE shows and were impressed with the way they ran their shows. Our beautiful Silks also did a lot of winning at the ICE shows. The committee will be seeking admittance into the American Rare Breed Association, which will add more shows available to us. They're not an easy club to get into but, we will be working hard and communicating with them to accept the Havana Silk Dog standard and our precious dogs. The committee members are always open to any ideas and suggestions that you might have to get our breed out there. There was considerable interest and discussion among members on various ways to get the word out on our breed.

Health Committee

Agnes Szilagyi reported that the Health committee is not getting reports from anybody. Members can use the form on the club's website to report incidences of medical issues that have been diagnosed and/or treated by a veterinarian. It would be a good idea to put a reminder about the form in the *Silk Road*.

Membership Committee

Gloria Sharrar reported that she took over membership when Anita Yeager resigned as chair. Since then, she has been ensuring that the membership list is kept current. She reported the following membership statistics. Since 2007 Charter to Organize, the HSDAA has been blessed with 558 members. For the 2016 membership year, there are 289 current paid members, with 193 Householdmembers, and 96 Single members. Current paid membership is broken down into these categories: 212 Associate, 65 Regular, 11 Charter, and 1 international (Canada). There have been 53 new members year-to-date.

Registration Committee

Doc Baldwin presented a report of the HSDAA registry. The report detailed the number of active sires, dams, breeders, puppies born, and puppies registered by year. Doc suggested that breeders encourage their puppy buyers to register their puppies, or even complete and send the registrations in themselves. There were several questions and good discussion from members during this report.

Rising Stars

Gloria Sharrar is heading up the committee to revamp the Rising Stars program that the HSDAA sponsored in the past. The goal is to roll out the revised program in 2017, getting as much participation from the youth as possible at each of the club's specialty shows. The program's primary objectives are educational to provide youth with training on our breed standard, daily care, health, grooming, handling, and show ring procedures. The revamped program will allow youth to use (borrow) dogs from members for showing. The program will offer registration for each Rising Star, which will set up a tracking process for participation at shows (educational and showing). The members showed enthusiastic support for the re-introduction of the Rising Stars programs, and several members offered to help.

Show Committee

Mary O'Day reported that this past year we had shows in Florida, Chicago, Richmond, Pittsburgh, Colorado and Virginia Beach. If anyone would like to investigate other locations for our National Specialty in 2017 we welcome suggestions. Mary sought input from members present on whether we should have our National Specialty in Virginia Beach again next year and the feedback was positive and everyone reported they really liked the venue for our National Specialty. We partnered with ICE (International Canine Events) for the Florida show, and the club members who participated really enjoyed the venue and international format. Mary stays in contact with the ICE director to partner on other ICE shows that our club can attend. For 2017 we already have shows scheduled in Chicago in May and our National Specialty will most likely be in Virginia Beach again if the club's contract with Wyndham gets renewed. We are planning shows in Richmond, Colorado and Pittsburgh. One of the new members asked about doing a show in California.

Technology Committee

Tom Theisen asked for help with updating the website. Maintaining the website requires an HTML skill set. If any of our members have those skills or are willing to learn them, Tom would appreciate their help. Almost anyone can edit the website, but adding something new is more difficult. Cindi Lanigan, one of our newer club members, offered to help if trained. A few other members talked about how difficult it is for them to read text that is in colors and does not create enough contrast with the background. They requested that all the text on the website be converted to black font so that anyone can read it.

Show Records and HSDAA Championships

Doc Baldwin reported that in the past year, there have been 26 championships achieved (compared to 16 in 2015), ranging from JrCH to the highest level, DGCH. This reflects the increased participation of members in shows by starting with their puppies and continuing to show their dogs to advance them through the higher levels of championships. Club members should take advantage of our club's offering of shows around the country. It is great way to enjoy their dogs, meet other dog owners, and an effective way for the club to demonstrate how well our breed is meeting the standard. Doc explained about a form on the website to help members calculate their grand championship points. Thanks to Colleen Eagle for creating the new form.

Evaluators Committee

The number of evaluations done this year including today is 13 compared to the 9 evaluations done in 2015. At the July 12, 2016 Board Meeting, a motion was passed to allow Foundation Pending (FP) dogs to be evaluated within two weeks of their 18 month birthday to help make setting a date for FP dog evaluations a little easier. Please remember to send soaped photos of your dog's front, show side, rear and a dry picture to Doc prior to setting an evaluation appointment, for review. If they need improvement, we will let you know. If you receive an email that they are acceptable, please email Helen Conticchio for appointment date and time.

New Business

There was no new business.

A motion was made for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Gloria Sharrar, Recording Secretary