

*Pending Final Approval*  
Dalmatian Club of America Foundation  
Board of Directors Minutes  
Zoom Meeting  
Monday, March 14, 2022

**I. Call to Order**

The first quarter meeting of the Dalmatian Club of America Foundation’s Board of Governors was called to order by President Toni Linstedt at 7:01pm CDT on Monday, March 14, 2022, conducted via Zoom. DCAF Board of Governors in attendance were Mrs. Kris Benoit, Ms. Rosie Branaman, Dr. Kelly Flannigan, Dr. Charles Garvin, Mrs. Meg Hennessey, Dr. Ginger Iwaoka, Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett, Mrs. Barbara Lyons, Mrs. Carol O’Brien, Mr. Kevin O’Connell, Mrs. Stephanie Podejko, and Mrs. Michele Wrath. Those absent were Mrs. Ann Ball, Mrs. Deby Harber, Ms. Paula Olcott, Mrs. Betty Pirs, Ms. Julia Soukup, Mrs. SarahAnne Vancleeve and Mrs. Sheila Wymore.

**II. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting – December 9, 2021. Dr. Kelly Flannigan moved to accept the minutes; Dr. Charles Garvin seconded; motion passed.**

**III. Report of Officers**

**A. President’s – Toni Linstedt**

Mrs. Linstedt summarized the Foundations 2021 accomplishments and thanked the board for their contributions to those successes. She asked board members to consider DCAF activities that each might be willing to coordinate to bring fresh ideas and perspective. She also pointed out that the current global economic situation has the same impact on all our donors as it does on the Foundation and that we should be mindful of that as fundraisers are planned and executed.

**B. Vice President – Kelly Flannigan**

Nothing to report currently.

**C. Recording Secretary – SarahAnne Vancleeve**

Nothing to report currently.

**D. Treasurer – Meg Hennessey**

Mrs. Hennessey went over the Balance Sheet and the Income/ Expenses Sheet with an update on the Annual Campaign performance which had reached net income of \$4,037.49 as of 2/28/22. Our 2021 year end and YTD investment account balances:

Fund	Market Value 12/31/21	Market Value 3/6/22	Variance
Wellington Savings	\$362,289.52	\$333,410.12	(\$28,879.40)
Wellington Endowment	\$615,871.11	\$566,789.35	(\$49,081.76)
Total	\$978,160.63	\$900,199.47	(\$77,961.16)

As of 2/28/22 there is an additional \$19,948.66 in the checking and PayPal accounts.

The markets are in for a bumpy ride, but our Finance and Endowment Committees, after review of all alternatives, remain confident in the accounts we have for performance over the long term.

Mrs. Hennessey researched the original documentation from the IRS granting the Foundation 501(c)3 status which revealed that since we are not a “private” Foundation, we are not required by the IRS to donate 5% of our total net in support of our mission annually. DCAF has \$998,496.87 in total assets.

**Mrs. Hennessey moved that the Foundation annually invest in activities that directly support our mission with a target of 5% of the total prior year 12/31 value of our combined savings and endowment accounts. Dr. Garvin seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

The target donation investment amount for 2022 will be \$42,000. So far in 2022, we have invested \$11,350 in mission-oriented donations and expenses – primarily additional funding for the Copper Toxicity study and DCARE rescue reimbursements.

Mrs. Hennessey secured grants from Oracle NetSuite for a potential alternative to QuickBooks and from Microsoft. She will run both financial systems for 6 months before deciding whether to switch permanently to Oracle.

#### **E. Corresponding Secretary – Deby Harber**

Fifty-eight (58) acknowledgment letters were mailed between December 1, 2021, and February 28, 2022.

**Mr. Kevin O’Connell moved to accept the Officers Reports, Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett seconded, motion passed.**

#### **IV. Election of Officers/Confirmation of 2022 Board of Directors**

Mrs. Linstedt invited invitations from the floor in addition to the incumbent candidates and then turned control of the meeting over to Vice President Kelly Flannigan.

Dr. Flannigan requested additional nominations for each office. None were made.

**Mr. Kevin O’Connell moved to re-elect the incumbent Officers – Toni Linstedt for President, Kelly Flannigan for Vice President, SarahAnne Vancleeve for Recording Secretary, Deby Harber for Corresponding Secretary and Meg Hennessey for Treasurer. Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

#### **2022 Officers**

President – Toni Linstedt

Vice President – Kelly Flannigan, DVM

Corresponding Secretary – Deby Harber

Recording Secretary – SarahAnne Vancleeve

Treasurer – Meg Hennessey

Dr. Flannigan returned control of the meeting to Mrs. Linstedt.

There was a brief discussion regarding the number of board members.

**Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett moved to confirm the 20 board members for 2022 as listed. Dr. Ginger Iwaoka seconded; motion passed unanimously.**

- |                           |                      |                         |
|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1) Ann Ball               | 8) Meg Hennessey     | 15) Betty Pirs          |
| 2) Barbara Kaplan-Barrett | 9) Dr. Ginger Iwaoka | 16) Stephanie Podejko   |
| 3) Kris Benoit            | 10) Toni Linstedt    | 17) Julia Soukup        |
| 4) Rosie Branaman         | 11) Barbara Lyons    | 18) SarahAnne Vancleeve |
| 5) Dr. Kelly Flannigan    | 12) Carol O'Brien    | 19) Michele Wrath       |
| 6) Dr. Charles Garvin     | 13) Kevin O'Connell  | 20) Sheila Wymore       |
| 7) Deby Harber            | 14) Paula Olcott     |                         |

## **V. Committee Reports**

### **A. DCARE – Kevin O'Connell**

The Winter issue of the Spotter included a DCARE article regarding emergency and long-term planning for care of pets in the event of their owner's incapacitation. Mrs. O'Brien suggested that the Inventory/Pet Profile of Pets and Health Care Form incorporate co-owners. She also suggested that estate planning incorporate the disposition of frozen semen. Mr. O'Connell and the DCARE team will continue to offer an article for each issue of the Spotter.

He also reported a recent rescue situation in North Texas. DCARE provided \$2,000 toward support of 4 adults including 1 pregnant female that shortly after being rescued whelped 11 puppies.

### **B. Health Committees – Ginger Iwaoka/Kelly Flannigan**

1. All Topic Manager positions are now filled. Deanna Hayden volunteered to also be the Topic Manager for GI Disorders and Valerie Devaney volunteered to also be the Topic Manager for Neurological Disorders. The committee met via Zoom and made assignments for health-related articles for each issue of the Spotter. Work is ongoing to update the health pages on the DCA and DCAF websites with a goal to have completed them all by the end of 2022.

#### **2. OFA CHIC DNA Repository – Ginger Iwaoka**

Only a few litters have been submitted so far in 2022. Banners recognizing all the breeders who have participated in the initiative through 2021 will be displayed at DCA 2022. Dr. Iwaoka has contacted all those breeders who submitted more than a year ago to remind them to update health histories of dogs in the database as appropriate.

Dr. Iwaoka also followed up with OFA on reports of missing puppies from some full litter BAER result submissions. OFA is investigating.

#### **3. James W Smith Memorial Health Clinics – DCA 2021 – Kelly Flannigan**

MSU has increased the price for OFA Thyroid testing, but we will not need to raise the price for 2022. As of the meeting, there are 25 pre-registrations for the health clinics. Tentatively, the health clinics will run from 1-5PM.

#### **4. Copper Toxicity – Ann Ball**

Dr Mason requested \$7,668 to support bioinformatics analyses and candidate variant assessments to complete the Copper Storage study. Their plan is to take an additional 6 months to analyze the data from two rounds of sequencing performed on 16 dogs (13 Dalmatians and 3 Bedlington Terriers). Then using the DNA collections, they will check candidate gene variants from the whole genome sequencing data of additional copper toxicosis-affected dogs (comprised of relatives to affected and healthy controls). So far, the manual assessment of variants has ruled out several gene variants linked to CT in other breeds meaning it is probably a unique variant within Dalmatians.

The DCAF board approved the additional funding in January.

### **C. Development Task Force**

#### **1. Annual Drive – Kevin O’Connell/Barbara Kaplan-Barrett**

See Treasurer’s report.

#### **2. Endowment Fund – Betty Pirs**

The markets are in the midst of the downturn that has been expected for some time now. There are a number of reasons for this downturn - rising bond rates; the Russia/Ukraine situation, and the tech correction to name a few. The Vanguard Wellington Fund YTD performance is -7.06% vs the category which is -5.39% and the index which is -6.04%. This puts it in the 84th percentile. The 1, 3, 5, and 10 year performance numbers are still good. Vanguard’s economic outlook is for 4% global growth, inflation at about half its current rate, and higher interest rates. Investments are not expected to see the same rate of return going forward. Vanguard is forecasting lower stock returns - positive 2-4% - for the next decade. After much consideration of the above, the committee believes this mutual fund continues to serve DCAF well and recommends staying the course.

The board voted unanimously to leave the investments in their current funds.

#### **3. Fund Raising Events – Toni Linstedt**

Art Show at the Dog Show submissions are coming in. The FB remote auction will launch in mid-March. The raffles for the Hunting Horn original design pendant and the donated \$500 Visa card will take place during the week of DCA 2022 National Specialty. Tickets for the pendant will be \$10 each or 3 for \$25. For the Visa Cards, the price will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20.

#### **4. Heritage Society – Carol O’Brien**

One ongoing estate settlement is in process. There are a couple of additional long-time DCA members who are working on a trust that incorporates DCAF. Those should conclude within the next few months.

**5. Donor Recognition – Toni Linstedt**

The Donor Recognition committee will meet to make recommendations for changes to present at the Q2 meeting.

**D. Website – Julia Soukup**

The webmaster reported on routine work performed and fixes to problems.

There was discussion about recent and ongoing performance issues with the website – particularly the donation pages. Research will be done into the best e-commerce solutions for non-profits with a goal to have something as easy and seamless as CHF and Morris Animal Foundation pages.

**Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett moved to accept the Committee Reports, Mr. Kevin O’Connell seconded; motion passed.**

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**VII. New Business**

**A. UC-Davis Genetic Diversity Project**

A DCA member approached DCAF about supporting a current project at UC-Davis related to inbreeding coefficient. The board reviewed and discussed the project at length and unanimously concluded this is not something we, as a Foundation nor as a Parent Club, will support financially. There are two main reasons we made this decision: Breeders who don’t have access to a pedigree program that can calculate the COI of a planned breeding may already obtain such a test from Embark. Additionally, genetic diversity would not be best pursued by having DCA subsidize COI testing of member dogs. Unregistered, non-member, and foreign dogs would be excluded, making the subsidized tests less diverse than the general population of Dalmatians. We feel our funds could be put to better use.

**VIII. Announcements**

The Q2 meeting will be May 2 at the Founders Inn & Spa in Virginia Beach, VA. Schedule permitting, we will have a working lunch meeting. TBD once judging program is finalized.

**IX. Adjournment**

**Mrs. Meg Hennessey moved to adjourn. Mrs. Kevin O’Connell seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:23PM Central.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni Linstedt for  
SarahAnne Vancleave  
DCAF – Recording Secretary