

****DCAF February Minutes Pending Official Approval****

Dalmatian Club of America Foundation

Board of Directors Minutes

Zoom Meeting

Monday, February 19, 2024

I. Call to Order

The first quarter meeting of the Dalmatian Club of America Foundation's Board of Directors was called to order by President Toni Linstedt at 7:30pm CST on Monday, February 19, 2024, conducted via Zoom. DCAF Board Members in attendance were: Mrs. Ann Ball, Mrs. Kris Benoit, Mrs. Connie Brown, Dr. Kelly Flannigan, Dr. Charles Garvin, Mrs. Deby Harber, Mrs. Meg Hennessey, Dr. Ginger Iwaoka, Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett, Mrs. Vickie Mooney, Mrs. Carol O'Brien, Ms. Paula Olcott, Mrs. Betty Pirs, Mrs. Marie Slagle, Mrs. SarahAnne Vancleeve and Mrs. Michelle Wrath Those absent were: Mrs. Barbara Lyons and Mrs. Sheila Wymore.

II. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Board Meeting – November 28, 2023. Mrs. Meg Hennessey moved to accept the minutes, Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett seconded, motion passed.

III. Report of Officers

A. President's Message – Toni Linstedt

President Linstedt welcomed Mrs. Vickie Mooney and Mrs. Marie Slagle to the Board and thanked Ms. Rosie Branaman for her service to DCAF and to the Dalmatian breed.

DCAF had a strong year financially with net ordinary income of more than \$25k after investments of: \$33k in research, \$21.5K in rescue, \$4.4k in health testing and \$5.6k in education. In total, we spent \$61k in 2023 on activities directly related to our Mission Statement. That is 64% of our gross income for the year. Only 10.8% of our gross income went to administrative, operational and/or fundraising expenses. I feel very good about the stewardship we have given the funds our donors generously entrust to us. It is important that we continue to support our mission wisely.

We have a final CSD Phase II study payment due in March of approximately \$25k. While we have the funds to cover it, we need to look at year end and Q1 donations which feel soft. There could be many reasons for donations being slower than normal.

Here's to a productive and healthy 2024 for DCAF and the Dalmatians and their people that we serve!

B. Vice President – Kelly Flannigan

Nothing to report at this time.

C. Recording Secretary – SarahAnne Vancleeve

Nothing to report at this time.

D. Treasurer – Meg Hennessey

1. Income & Expenses Through December 31, 2023

a. Total Income	\$95,673.96
b. Total Expense:	\$69,869.32
c. Net Ordinary Income	\$25,804.64

2. Balance Sheet: December 31, 2023

a. Total Assets:	\$955,561.06
b. Liabilities	\$ 25,860.32
c. Equity	\$929,700.74
d. Total Liabilities and Equity	\$955,561.06

3. Wellington Account (savings) as of December 31, 2023

a. Market Value	
b. YE2022	\$310,621.93
c. YE2023	\$355,386.93

4. Endowment Account through December 31, 2023

a. Market Value	
b. YE2022	\$535,710.19
c. YE2023	\$613,682.86

5. Copper Storage CHF

Third payment due in March 2024.

6. The application to hold a raffle at DCA 2024 has been sent and awaiting approval.

7. Vanguard “Our mutual fund-only investment platform will be retiring soon. To continue viewing all your account details, you’ll need to transition to a Vanguard Brokerage Account.” This means that the savings account will be transitioned to a brokerage account.

8. Mrs. Hennessey brought up purchasing an Officers & Directors Insurance policy. Discussion, it was decided to shop around for rates.

E. Corresponding Secretary – Deby Harber

The following correspondence has been received and acknowledged from November 20, 2023 through February 12, 2024:

In Memory of Donors—10 canines

In Memory of Donors—2 humans

Acknowledgements — 16

General Donation — 8
 General Donations/DCARE – 1
 General Donations/Research - 1
 Litter CHIC Donations - 6
 Regional Club - 1
 Annual Drive - 15
 In Honor of - human – 3
 In Honor of – human/Rescue - 2
 Donations with Dues – 14
CSD Fundraiser Donations
 \$35 – 1 \$280 – 2
 \$60 – 1 \$365 – 1
 \$100 - 1 \$500 - 1
 Total correspondence—86

Mrs. Carol O'Brien moved to accept the Officer's Report. Mrs. Meg Hennessey seconded, motion passed.

IV. Election of Officers

Mrs. Toni Linstedt turned the meeting over to Vice President, Dr. Kelly Flannigan. Dr. Flannigan asked for nominations from the floor. None were presented.

President – Mrs. Toni Linstedt
 Vice President – Dr. Kelly Flannigan
 Treasurer – Mrs. Meg Hennessey
 Recording Secretary – Mrs. SarahAnne Vancleeve
 Corresponding Secretary – Mrs. Deby Harber

Mrs. SarahAnne Vancleeve moved to accept the slate of Officers as printed in the Board book. Mrs. Connie Brown seconded, motion passed.

Board Members:

Mrs. Ann Ball	Mrs. Barbara Lyons
Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett	Mrs. Vickie Mooney
Mrs. Kris Benoit	Mrs. Carol O'Brien
Mrs. Connie Brown	Ms. Paula Olcott
Dr. Kelly Flannigan	Mrs. Betty Pirs
Dr. Charles Garvin	Mrs. Marie Slagle
Mrs. Deby Harber	Mrs. SarahAnne Vancleeve
Mrs. Meg Hennessey	Mrs. Michele Wrath
Dr. Ginger Iwaoka	Mrs. Sheila Wymore
Mrs. Toni Linstedt	

Dr. Kelly Flannigan moved to accept the slate of Board Members as printed in the Board book. Mrs. Michele Wrath seconded, motion passed.

V. Committee Reports

A. DCARE – Cindy Bowman

The committee requested the removal of Kevin West. In his place, the committee would like to add Karen Hatfield. She has accepted being added and her computer knowledge will help us with any technology-related issues. In addition, she will be our representative from the southeastern United States which is an area not currently covered by the committee. **Approved.**

They also requested the approval to discontinue the use of the DCARE cell phone. The calls are very infrequent, and most people are now using email to communicate. Since the phone was not recharged, the number would once again need to be changed. The phone is currently in the possession of Toni Linstedt and she has agreed to destroy it if this approval is granted. **Approved.**

They would like approval to add a line on the reimbursement application form for the option of using electronic reimbursement payment (many rescues are preferring this option over snail mail checks) Our current form does not have this information. **Approved.**

Sharon Roy has agreed to chair the committee pending Board approval.

To date, the committee has received one request for reimbursement from the Dalmatian Rescue of Colorado.

The committee will continue to support rescue organizations through monetary reimbursement and will reach out to any new 501C3 Dalmatian rescues to make them aware of our program. We will update the DCA rescue page as needed.

Dr. Charles Garvin moved to set the DCARE budget to \$12,000 for 2024 with the option to review should the money run out prior to the end of the year. Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett seconded, motion passed.

Mrs. Michele Wrath moved for the DCARE committee to give a more detailed report on the financial expenditures on a quarterly basis. Mrs. Barbara Kaplan-Barrett seconded, motion passed.

B. Health Committees – Ginger Iwaoka/Kelly Flannigan

Nothing new to report.

1. OFA CHIC DNA Repository – Ginger Iwaoka

For 2023, 33 litters were submitted. This brings the bank total to 178 litters for 2023. A banner will be created for the 2024 National.

1. James W Smith Memorial Health Clinics – DCA 2024 – Kelly Flannigan

Beth Bauer is looking for an ophthalmologist. Microchips will cost \$25. Thyroid test will cost \$100.

Eye exam—unsure at this time what the costs will be, it depends if we can find someone local or if we need to pay travel expenses. If expense requires a cost higher than average AB dog show clinics, we will not offer Eye exams at DCA 2024. CHIC DNA will continue to be free for Dalmatians.

We have most of what we need for supplies in inventory. Dr. Flannigan will get the rest (needles, syringes, etc., etc.)

2. Copper Toxicity – Ann Ball

The CSD pamphlet has been updated. It will be uploaded to the website.

The research team reports that the current round of sequencing is approximately 50% complete, with a plan to submit more samples at the end of January 2024. New study recruits continue to support the notion, at least in part, that there is a strong genetic component to CSD/CAH in the Dalmatian. It also continues to follow an autosomal mode of inheritance. More Dalmatian recruits with a record of a previously performed liver biopsy that included an assessment of copper levels are needed. It does not matter if the results were positive or negative for copper accumulation, we need both. Based upon the recent recruitment efforts they are observing more interest from the Dalmatian community and hope this continues because data acquired from the new recruits is needed to support their findings.

Contact Dr. Gina MacIntyre at gm3@ualberta.ca if you have potential recruits for the study.

2. Development Task Force

1. Annual Drive – Barbara Kaplan-Barrett

Nothing to report at this time.

2. Donor Recognition

We will have Grand Patron+/Heritage Society posters on display at DCA 2025. They will be published in the summer issue of the *Spotter*.

3. Endowment Fund – Betty Pirs

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Vanguard Wellington Admiral Fund (VWENX)

DCAF Endowment Valuation:

Value at February 7, 2024: \$623,824.95

Value at January 31, 2024: \$616,863.01

8594.998 shares

\$71.77 share price

Value at December 31, 2023: \$613,682.86

8594.998 shares

\$71.40 share price

MARKET CONDITIONS/IMPACTS

Current market conditions (Jim Lyons)

End of 2023:

Overall we earned 14.41%

Category was 13.9%

Index was 16.75%

We were in the 42 percentile

As of the close of business for January 31, 2024:

VWENZ was up one half of one percent - up + .5(50/100)

Category was up +.35 (35/100) putting it in the 39th percentile

Most of the optimism was over the outlook that the Fed would cut rates in 2024.

Stocks were up 12.1% in the 4th quarter alone. The magnificent seven tech stocks accounted for over 50% of the years gains. 7 stocks out of 500 total had half the gains.

The outlook for 2024 seems to revolve around rate cuts, geopolitical tensions and equity valuations which according to Bob Doll (former Merrill strategist) are richly valued.

RISKS/CONCERNS

Continued volatility

Presidential election year

Interest rate cuts

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee recommends the DCAF Board stay the course with the Wellington Fund and not react to market fluctuations. The expertise of the Wellington Fund continues to serve our interests well.

ENDOWMENT PAGE FOR WEBSITE

Draft of descriptive text relating to the Endowment for the DCAF website
- In Progress

4. Fund Raising Events – Toni Linstedt

Leah Ackerson has joined the Fundraising Events committee. We met in January and determined the following fundraisers for DCA 2024:

1. “Who Owns Your Heart?” remote and live silent auction to conclude following Top Twenty. We’ve asked artists, artisans and craftsmen to donate a piece to the auction that shows their love of Dalmatians. So far we have commitments from 8 with 2 more maybe’s. Hopefully we will have at least 30 items for the auction.
2. “Big Heart” 50/50 Raffle (assuming license is approved) – We will sell 200 \$50 tickets and the winner will get \$5,000 assuming all 200 tickets are sold. Drawing to be held either after Top 20 or during the banquet.
3. “What the Heart Wants” Raffle (assuming license is approved – We will sell tickets for \$25 each for a chance to win one of 3 or 4 \$1,000+ prizes.

Prizes Secured:

- a. Four 1 Premium Page Full Color *Spotter* Ads to be used between the Summer 2024 and Spring 2025 issues. DCAF to pay the *Spotter* \$350 for the total of these ads.
- b. \$1,000 worth of entries to be used for DCA 2025 and/or DCA 2026. DCAF will reimburse the winner upon presentation of receipts for entries.

Several other ideas are being pursued.

4. DCAF Thrift Store

It was decided that for DCA 2026, we will bring back the Decorated Dalmatians. DCA 2025 will involve an auction of donated estate items that we still have, but also, we will look into an “event” such as Casino Night that we have traditionally done at Purina.

5. Heritage Society – Carol O’Brien

A short article was written for the *SPOTTER*. It should appear in the Spring 2024 edition. I continue to receive court documents about a foreclosed property for which we were supposed to receive a partial distribution. Because there was a

reverse mortgage on the property, the funds from the residence were legally committed to the asset management company that issued the reverse mortgage. DCAF will be the beneficiary of a CRUT (charitable remainder unitrust). I received and reviewed the annual report on the Trust. The investment performance on the trust was in line with the results we are seeing on DCAF's endowment fund.”

D. Website

There was an issue related to a GoDaddy legacy domain name issue that caused the site to go down late in December. Fortunately, it was caught and quickly addressed by GoDaddy and Digital Engage with minimal down time.

We have not done the job we envisioned of keeping the site fresh with new photos and updated stories/articles.

Hoping to improve on that this year!

VI. Unfinished Business

Nothing new at this time.

VII. New Business

Nothing new at this time.

VIII. DCAF Board Meeting

When available will be sent out at a later time.

IX. Adjournment

Mrs. Meg Hennessey moved to adjourn, Mrs. Marie Slagle seconded, motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:44PM CST.

Respectfully Submitted,

SarahAnne Vancleeve
DCAF – Recording Secretary