

Midwest Borzoi Club Board Meeting
Agenda
October 16, 2023 7:30 pm EST / 6:30 pm CST

,Attendance:

Anne Midgarden	X	Liz Duncan-Burge	X
Tina Wismer	X	Amy Balthrop	X
Rebecca Drollinger		Pam Leichtnam	X
Amy Sikula	X	KC Artley	X
Frank Zajac	X	Jamie Bobrowski	X
Kristen Suhrenbrock	X		

1. Meeting began at 7:35PM EST. Board members present (see above). Board members absent: Rebecca Drollinger
2. Minutes from last Board meeting (July 2023).

Motion to Approve July 2023 board meeting minutes – Pam Leichtnam
Second – Kristen Suhrenbrock
Motion passed.

3. Report of the Recording Secretary – Amy Sikula.

July meeting minutes are available on the website and were emailed/snail mailed to the membership.

Almost all the dues are in. Our current membership count is 122. We have 61 life members.

Motion to Approve Recording Secretary report – Amy Balthrop
Second – Kristen Suhrenbrock
Motion passed.

4. Report of the Corresponding Secretary – Rebecca Heighton Drollinger.
 - Here are the approved specialties and judges for 2024-2025:
 - May 25, 2024 - Kalamazoo, MI (Saturday)
Sweepstakes – Judy Dennis
Regular Classes –Robin Casey
Show Chair – June Mintchell

Trophy Chair/Judges Gifts – Jamie Bobrowski
○ October 12, 2024 - Lima, OH (2 Specialties on Saturday w/ picnic)
Sweepstakes – Joyce Law
Regular Classes 1 – Chris Neale
Show Chair 1 – Sandra Hilbert
Trophy Chair/Judges Gifts 1 – Amy Sikula
Regular Classes 2 – Patti Neale
Show Chair 2 – Sandra Hilbert
Trophy Chair/Judges Gifts 2 – Amy Sikula
*Site is reserved and AKC has approved both specialties.

Jamie Bobrowski and Tina Wismer are trying to put on a LGRA trial on 10/13/24. There may be a conflict with that date, or we need to find a different licensed LGRA secretary.

- May, 2025 - Kalamazoo, MI (concurrent, date TBD)
Sweepstakes – TBD
Regular Classes – Daniel Dowling (pending signed contract)
Show Chair – TBD
Trophy Chair/Judges Gifts – TBD
- August, 2025 - Caledonia, WI (concurrent, date TBD)
Sweepstakes – TBD
Regular Classes – Amy Sorbie
Show Chair – Jennifer Morgan (?) or Pam Leichtnam
Trophy Chair/Judges Gifts – Diane Bilak

Motion to Approve the Corresponding Secretary report – KC Artley
Second – Kristen Suhrenbrock
Motion passed.

5. Report of the Treasurer – Frank Zajac. Attached separately.

Motion to Approve the Treasurer's report – Tina Wismer
Second – Kristen Suhrenbrock
Motion passed.

6. Report of the Committees.

- **Annual Awards** – Tina Wismer.
- **Digital Archive** – Amy Balthrop & Amy Sikula. Amy Balthrop will be reaching out to Lynne Bennett to get access to the physical archives. Amy Sikula found a company to quote us a price for the work.

- We need to provide estimates on the amount of material to be scanned in order for these companies to quote us a price.
- Amy & Amy spoke with Lynne in Kalamazoo about picking a weekend to go through the physical archives this summer. Amy S. has reached out to Lynne because she will be in MI on 11/2, to see if they can arrange a visit to the unit.
- **Document Proof Reader** – Christiana Hartenstein. (no report needed).
- **Hall of Fame** – Barbara Tyler-Lord. Next Hall of Fame mailing will be in July of 2024.
- **MBC Bulletin Editor** - Claire Breen.
- **MBC Website** – Jamie Bobrowski. The new website is in process. Shen Smith still owns the midwestborzoiclub.org domain, and hasn't had time to transfer it. Jamie paid for a domain name as part of the package for the new site.

[Jamie made a motion to use midwestborzoiclub.net as our new domain.](#)

[Second – Kristen Suhrenbrock](#)

[Motion passed.](#)

- **NBRF Delegate** – Liz Duncan-Burge. They have taken 24 borzoi in the USA into rescue. Their veterinary expenses have exceeded \$48K for these dogs.
- **New Membership** – Diane Bilak. We need to write up a description of these duties.
 - 1)Standard notification of acceptance
 - 2)Membership booklet
 - 3)List of events
 - 4)List of people in their area with borzoi
 - 5)Standard notification of denial – not a part of the New Membership
- **Chair responsibilities**
- **2024 Nominating Committee** - Anne Midgarden. Sandra Hilbert is chair of the nominating committee. Members remain the same for 2024.
- **Ribbons** – Jamie Bobrowski. We need to order ribbons for three 2024 specialties. Pam will do all the plaques for spring and fall 2024 and bring them to Kalamazoo. Frank is trying to order more medallions and Jenni Steele is helping him. Lynne needs to send Pam 3 specialties worth – 24 total (BPB, Best Opposite, WD, WB, Best Sweeps Puppy, Best Opposite Sweeps Puppy, Best Sweeps Veteran, Best Opposite Sweeps Veteran. We have enough medallions for the next couple of years.
- **Statistics, Conformation** - Lynne Bennett.
- **Statistics, Lure Coursing ASFA** - Amy Sikula.
- **Statistics, Lure Coursing AKC** - KC Artley.
- **Statistics, Obedience & Rally** - KC Artley.
- **Sunshine** - Michelene Nash.

- **Supported Entry Committee** – Amy Sikula. Amy is looking for members from each state. Interest expressed by: Jennifer Morgan (WI), Gale Snoddy (OH), Mia Paletta (IL), Kaley Ross (MI), Angela Campbell (IN), Tina Pickett (IN). Amy will be reaching out to members directly by phone to try to drum up interest in mentoring. Offers to mentor in their region include: Pam Leichtnam (WI/IL), Jill Zamowski (any – currently in AL), Amy Balthrop (MI). Amy is working on setting up a conference call to discuss supported entries for 2024.
- **Ways & Means (Fundraising)** – Jamie Bobrowski. MGA uses a company called Big Frog. They do not use paypal and are an independently owned franchise. The company will write MBC a check and provide that to us. They will let us use our own designs, and have different options for shipping.

Motion to Approve the Committees' reports – Amy Balthrop
 Second – Frank Zajac
 Motion passed.

7. Membership – Amy Sikula.

New Applications – 1st reading:

- Danielle Bartosiewicz
- Jammie & Isaiah Cole
- Hannah DeRezza
- Elizabeth and Thomas Mayer
- Erin and Tom O'Brien, Moira O'Brien (Junior) Seamus O'Brien (Junior)

Members whose dues came in post 10/1: Robin Clancy

We have not received dues for Kayla Fields, Colin Kennedy, or Delores Swan. Colin has told me he mailed them, but they have not arrived yet.

Motion to allow Robin to continue as an MBC member – Anne Midgarden
 Second – Amy Sikula
 Motion passed.

Motion to Approve New Members – Pam Leichtnam
 Second – Tina Wismer
 Motion passed.

8. Old Business.

8A. 2025/2026 Committee Report

BCOA: 2025 we will be in Region 1 (Northeast) but no location has been determined.

No BCOA National specialty site has yet been proposed for 2026. BCOA is going to be reviewing proposals over the next few months.

Discuss options for Fall 2026 specialty. We need someone to make a proposal for spring and fall locations.

Motion to hold our spring specialty in Kalamazoo, MI in 2026 – Amy Sikula

Second – Frank Zajac

Motion passed.

The board discussed having another independent specialty in Crown Point. Pam will look into weekends for the fall to see if there is still a conflict in September, or if we would need to move into October.

8B. Health Clinics in 2024.

- Could we have a health clinic in Illinois? As long as a state licensed vet is in charge, Anne could do thyroid blood draws. Someone would need to find a location and find local vets for echocardiograms or eye exams. Tina will look into this.
- Do we want to sponsor another clinic in July 2024 with Lima Kennel Club?

Motion to continue to partner with LKC on the July clinic in 2024 – Frank Zajac

Second – Amy Sikula

Motion passed.

8C. Fundraiser discussion.

- We didn't do a second fundraiser in the fall with black logo and different colors. Are we doing one this winter/spring? Amy Balthrop & Rebecca Heighton-Drollinger

Jamie is looking into Big Frog, as stated under the Ways & Means committee report. It works the same way as the other site we used, except that Big Frog collects the money and then sends a check to the club with our profits. She will gather more information and provide it to the board.

8D. Annual Club Picnic, 2024

We have held picnics in OH, IN and MI. Where do we want to do the 2024 picnic? The board decided not to have another picnic separate from the Lima independent specialty in 2024.

8E. MBC Member Education Series.

Long standing members and Breeder making presentations at MBC events on subjects like their breeding program, starting a breeding program, improving the breed, kennel design, feeding, etc. could be stand-alone event or part of a Specialty or picnic.

Tina will call Nancy Reimer to see if she would be interested in doing a presentation, or write something for the website.

Amy Balthrop/Jamie Bobrowski are looking into putting together an education panel for members, with experienced breeders and the opportunity to put their hands on multiple dogs.

Dr. Erin Runcan from OSU Theriogenology will present for us at our 2024 fall specialty on care of the bitch during pregnancy and whelping. Amy will coordinate with Dr. Runcan. We will need to tell her when the presentation will be given and how much time she will have. The presentation will need to be between the specialties, so 1:00PM is a good time, and she will have one hour.

Final discussion: We will have 2 presentations at the Lima independent specialty: 1) Dr. Runcan, Theriogenology @ OSU will present on care of the bitch during pregnancy and whelping. 2) Liz Duncan-Burge will put together and handout on how to select a good home. She will present if her schedule allows.

8F. Write/update procedures explaining how to put on MBC events.

Rebecca will start updating the show committee guidelines starting in January 2024.

8G. Tabulator discussion. Judy Collopy has been MBC's tabulator for many years. KC no longer has a current address for her. KC wanted to let us know in advance, before we have to send out judges' ballots. We need to find a person who is not involved with borzoi to be the tabulator. We pay the tabulator \$50.00 to sort through the votes and provide the results to the recording secretary.

Amy will asked some of her non-borzoi friends if they would be willing to do this.

Kai Tarot has relevant job experience, is retired, and has reviewed the description of the job. She has agreed to do this if the board would like her to handle it.

Her address is:

Kai Tarot

840 Sheridan Ave

Bexley OH 43209

614-235-3409

kaatmouse@yahoo.com

Amy made a motion to use Kai Tarot as tabulator in 2024.

Motion to Approve – Amy Sikula

Second – Frank Zajac

Motion passed.

8J. Do we want to continue to mail minutes to the membership? Fewer and fewer people are receiving paper copies, and the cost of printing and mailing the minutes is increasing. We should talk to any of our acquaintances about this and discuss again at the next board meeting. Then we can decide if we want to add this to the agenda for the next membership meeting in May, 2024. The board agreed we do not want to make this decision at a board meeting.

Amy S. will send a letter to any members who are still receiving paper minutes when we send these meeting minutes out, explaining the challenges and asking that members pay a fee for paper meeting minutes. We currently have 23 members receiving minutes via US mail. Of those, only 4 do not have an email address on file with MBC. This letter will be presented to the board for review prior to mailing.

9. New Business.

9A. Michigan Hound Club (Jon Steele) would like us to support the entry for Carol Spritzer on Saturday, July 8th.

I have been working with the Michigan Hound Club and have hired Carol Spritzer and Randy Tincher for our panel next July. Ann Arbor KC is using Carol on Saturday for Borzoi.

It would be great if MBC would support the entry for Carol on Saturday the 8th. This year we had 278 hounds at just the Hound Show, one of largest LB hound entries in the country. Jenni and I will take care of all the trophies. Is there a form I need to fill out for the request?

When is the next MBC board meeting to see if we can get approval from the club? Carol doesn't judge often and I think supporting a life member of MBC would be a great gesture. I think so far Afghans, Saluki, Dachshunds, Basset, and several other hound breeds are supporting either Friday or Saturday. The show is turning into a premier hound event in the Midwest.

Motion to Approve Jon's supported entry with MHC – Amy Sikula

Second – Frank Zajac

Motion passed.

9B. Jill Zamowski will be joining Paper City KC when she moves to WI. She would like to get approval from the board to propose a supported entry with them in September 2024, once she officially joins their club and can propose one. She would like our approval to make that proposal at their meeting in January.

Motion to Approve Jill's supported entry – Amy Sikula
Second – Frank Zajac
Motion passed.

9C. There is a Chicagoland Hound Show in Shaumburg, IL (no sweeps but there is Best Puppy) and an All-Breed show on Friday, January 19, and additional all-breed shows on Saturday and Sunday. They also have a 4-6 puppy competition every day. Pam proposes a supported entry on Saturday, January 20, with sweepstakes. This site has an attached hotel.

Motion to Approve Pam's supported entry – Amy Sikula
Second – Frank Zajac
Motion passed.

9D. Amy B. was going to talk to the Monroe clubs to see about doing a Saturday supported entry. Update? No update this meeting.

9E. Should MBC apply to be a 501c3 organization? This would make fundraising much easier, and would allow us to use PayPal for electronic payments. Frank will do some research and bring information to our next meeting.

9F. Review of documents for January mailer, including 2027 judges nominations. No comments from the board. Rebecca pointed out that some of the nominees were judging upcoming specialties, and Amy needs to remove those names since they are not eligible.

9G. Discussion of the board meeting schedule for 2024. Do we want to change days of the week or times?

Amy proposes that we set up calls for 2024 following this schedule; the third Monday of January, April and July, and the second Tuesday of October at 7:30PM EST.

Motion to continue with the schedule above – Amy Sikula
Second – Kristen Suhrenbrock
Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn – Pam Leichtnam
Second – Tina Wismer
Motion passed.

*Meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.