Prior to the official meeting, Diane Brown spoke to the Committee about the Tick-Borne Disease Initiative. She wants this group to go out and make people aware of this serious canine health issue. Educational materials were passed out. The bottom line is to get grant proposals and contributions to move forward with research and education.

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Chairman David Hopkins. The Committee and audience introduced themselves. Committee members present: Jeff Drogin, Karolynne McAteer, David Hopkins, Jim Corbett, Chris Sweetwood, Colleen McDaniel, Florence Duggan, Lynn Worth-Smith, Fred Kampo. Guests: Joan Tabor, Vacationland Dog Club; Tim Carrion, American Chesapeake Club; Susanne Burgess, English Springer Spaniel Field Trial Association; Treva Faires, Wichita Kennel Club; Lynn Garvin, Marion Ohio Kennel Club; Charles Garvin, Dalmation Club of America; Mary Curtis, First Dog Training Club of Northern New Jersey; Harold Brizee, Idaho Capital City Kennel Club; Linda Ayers Turner Knorr, Greenville Kennel Club; Gail LaBerge, Atlanta Obedience Club.

The December 2015 Committee minutes were approved.

Two vacancies exist on the Committee. Three delegates expressed interest in serving: Joan Tabor, Tim Carrion and John Russell. A paper ballot was distributed to Committee members. Joan Tabor and John Russell were elected to fulfill the current vacancies.

Doug Ljungren, AKC Vice-President and Staff Liaison, reported on 2015 year end entries:

- Pointing breed events: flat
- Retrievers: down 2%
- Spaniel events: up 2%
- Beagles: down 3%

Ljungren brought up territories and how they apply to Performance Events. He suggested that territorial restrictions should be removed that apply to Field Performance Events clubs allowing new licensed clubs to apply for membership as long as the new club has a majority of their members who are not members of adjacent AKC Performance Clubs.

A motion to remove territorial restrictions as suggested was made by Chris Sweetwood and seconded by Karolynne McAteer. Motion approved.

Karolynne McAteer discussed breed flyers focusing on Sporting and Hound breed flyers. Many breed flyers are old and out-dated on many levels. Some have no flyers. All flyers should be sent to breeder when registrations are requested and to breed parent clubs. Flyers should encourage the purchase of purebred dogs. Final report from 5 members on the sub-committee will be formalized and presented to AKC Board. Charlie Garvin gave some history to early flyer production. Karolynne McAteer said website visitation should be encouraged. Gail LaBerge said the biggest reason to send to breeders was encourage purbred dogs and education. She thanked the Committee for the idea.
Colleen McDaniel and Florence Duggan discussed the revision of the Questionnaire Survey. The Survey questions were edited from 47 down to 21. In regard to the presentation to clubs, only 50 field trial and hunting test clubs belong to AKC and some clubs are not included due to how clubs are listed with AKC. A discussion took place as to a resolution for inclusion in the survey. Some minor suggestions for editing were made. Jeff Drogin suggested the survey go out to secretaries of events when AKC sends material to event secretary as well as club secretary. Lengthy discussion took place.

Lynn Worth Smith read an offer from Nance Skoglund, Gordon Setter Club of America, to assist with the finalization of the survey. A short resume was given.

Survey questionnaire will be sent to Stephanie Smith. Jim Corbett made a motion that no more editing take place, put together for submission as is. Passed.

David Hopkins asked Charlie Garvin to explain Achiever Program. A certificate sent for those who get 3 placements in events. Garvin said essentially it is put together to encourage new competitors to continue. Hopkins said he thinks Committee members agree there should be a focus on who the newcomers are – real novices? This proposed program has not, to date, been presented to the AKC Board.

Jeff Grogin said the issue of dogs competing on the same grounds all the time for their titles needs to be looked at. A discussion took place. This will be placed on the June Committee agenda.

Possibilities of reaching out to veterinary students will be forwarded and placed on the June agenda.

David Hopkins asked Charlie Garvin if there was any information for us from the AKC Board. Some questions were asked about the Tick-Borne report for Diane Brown. How can money be donated to funding this program? A lengthy discussion took place re ways of getting funding to support this program.

Meeting adjourned at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Worth Smith,
Secretary