

## Minutes of the Annual Delegates Meeting of the International Leonberger Union on the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012

### Links to attachments:

[President's report](#) [LPN1 report University of Minnesota](#) [LPN1 report Bern University](#) [LPN1 answers Bern University](#)

Location: Leonberg, Amber Hotel.

Date and time: 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012, 10.00 am. – 6 pm.

**Represented were:** the member clubs from: Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Great Britain, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Austria, Russia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and USA.

**Apologies were received from the member clubs in:** Canada, Italy, and Ireland.

All member of the ILU board were present.

Chairman of the meeting was: Willi Güllix, president of ILU

Minutes were taken by: Hein Sibrijns, secretary of the ILU

#### 1. Agenda:

Welcoming introduction / check on presence of quorum / approval of the agenda / approval of the minutes 2011.

2. Election of the keeper of the minutes / election of electoral commission.

3. Reports:

a. By the President / what was achieved, what needs to be worked on in the future

b. By the treasurer

c. By the secretary

d. By the auditors

4. Discussion of the reports and discharge of the committee

5. Election of a new committee

6. Election of the auditors

7. Budget 2013, Membership fees 2013

8. News from the member countries (reports from the member countries)

9. Breeding problems in the Union

10. Miscellaneous.

11. Closure.

### 01 Welcome:

The President, Willi Güllix, opened the meeting at 10.10 am. He welcomed those present.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2012 Waltraut Zieher, president of the Leonberger Health Foundation passed away. She was honored with a minute's silence.

It was established that the invitation for the (ILU) delegates meeting had been sent out on time and correctly worded, thus enabling the implementation of decisions to be made at this meeting.

It was later found that a letter from the Norwegian Leonberger Club about election proposal was missing, see under point election.

The president didn't receive requests for adding points to the agenda.

Contributions raised by member clubs via email are discussed under "miscellaneous".

The president asked if there were objections against points on the agenda or the order of points on the agenda. The representative of the Finnish Club, Kaj Lindstedt, asked which contributions of member clubs will be discussed under Miscellaneous.

The president answered that they consist of emails circulated by the clubs from Italy, Russia, France and USA.

The President asked if anyone wanted a reading of the minutes 2011, the reading was not required, the minutes were approved.

### 02. Election of the keeper of the minutes / election of electoral commission.

The board proposed Hein Sibrijns as minutes keeper, he was unanimously elected. The board proposed Thomas Walker (A) as chief of the elections office, he was unanimously elected.

The Assembly proposed Wilma Kroon (NL) and Såde Crivelli (CH) as election helpers, they were elected unanimously.

### 03. Reports

**a. President Willi Güllix:** The very extensive report of the President was read in German, English and French, its full text is [annexed to these minutes](#).

**b. Treasurer Peter Cejnek:** The balance sheet was handed out at the meeting.

The UK hadn't yet paid their membership dues 2011, they'll pay today.

The total number of members of the member clubs is 9710

The financial balance on 31.12.2011: was 6462.34 Euros.

At the end of this year, the amount of money available will be € 7000.

This is sufficient for the organization of a judges seminar in 2013.

**c. Secretary Hein Sibrijns:**

The Union's website has averaged 3000 visitors per month, which together generate 280,000 hits per month.

The site is regularly updated. The delegates of the member clubs were asked to review the page on their club and send an update if necessary.

Of the 2612 PN1 tests performed in Bern 1480 are registered on the Union's PN1 list.

Of the more than 1200 tests from Minnesota only 174 are registered with the Union.

**d. Report of the Auditors:**

Såde Crivelli (CH) and José-Maria Ituralde Perez de Aranaza (E) had checked the accounts which closed 31-12-2011, as well as the accounts for the current year. They were satisfied that everything is in order and they thanked the Treasurer Peter Cejnek for doing a good job. They proposed that the meeting accept the accounts and discharged the treasurer and the board. The proposal was not discussed and was accepted unanimously.

### 04. Discussion of the reports and discharge of the committee:

There were no requests to speak for discussion. The Board was unanimously discharged.

### 05. Election of the board:

The representative of the Czech Republic, Mr. Milan Pavlovsky, remarked that it would be advantageous if the President is committed to let the list of candidates and the offices they run for circulate to all clubs at least 10 days before the meeting. The list shall include also members of the board that stand for re-elections.

On the meeting, every candidate shall present in a short speech his/her vision on what he/she aims for and how he/she wants to reach success in this task, and what he/she is going to improve in the activity of the IULH.

The Norwegian Leonberger Club proposed a candidate for the office of vice-president by email. The letter sent by the Norwegian club with the proposal and the declaration of consent of the candidate was not received by the president of the Union.

Owing to the fact that it had been stated in the invitation for the meeting that proposals of candidates should be sent in writing by post (snail-mail) to the

president of the Union, the president deemed the proposed candidature invalid because he had received an email, but the letter hadn't been received. The president explained that according to German law candidates cannot be proposed by email.

But the secretary of the Union confirmed on order of the President the reception of the proposal in an email to all member clubs dated 11<sup>th</sup> September 2012, 18.56 h.

In this email the Norwegian club was asked to let know for which office Mr. Andersen was proposed.

In the invitation it was not clearly stated that one must propose a candidate for an office and not "for the board". According to the constitution the board cannot be extended, the board consists of a president, a vice-president, a treasurer and a secretary. The assessor of the German Leonberger Club is chosen by the German Leonberger Club.

The delegate from the United States, Beth O'Connor, pointed out that this being the case, the delegates meeting should establish a clear election procedure supported by all by next year.

The President replied that this was already discussed in 2008 and 2009, the assembly in 2009 determined:

**"10 Paragraph "Elections" as part of the constitution.**

*The board has discussed this item.*

*If elections are better prepared and announced before the meeting in the invitation for the meeting, when the agenda point elections is divided into a few sub points and when the invitation clearly states which board members can be re-elected and how one can propose candidates, the constitution doesn't have to be changed. The meeting agreed with this proposal."*

On the basis of this decision, the President had established an election process according to and abiding by German law and stated in the invitation for the meeting the procedure for proposing candidates.

It was remarked that a decision of a meeting may be replaced by a new decision in a next meeting. The Board had had a long discussion during the board meeting about the proposal of the Norwegian candidate, because the nomination had not been received by the president in proper form by mail, but by email. Furthermore, lacking the required written consent of the nominee to run for the vice-president (see invitation).

The board proposed to let the members vote if the candidature could be accepted as valid.

The members accepted the candidature as valid with 16 votes in favor and 1 vote against. Thus Mr. Per Kristian Andersen was nominated as candidate for the office of Vice-President.

The chairmanship of the meeting was taken over by the election supervisor Thomas Walker (A).

It was elected by secret ballot. 17 voting members were present. The result of the elections was:

President: Candidate Mr. Willi Güllix, 13 in favor, 1 against, 3 abstentions.

Vice-President: Candidate Anita Treichler 8 in favor, candidate Mr. Per Kristian Andersen 9 in favor.

Treasurer: Candidate Mr. Peter Cejnek, 15 in favor, 2 abstentions.

Secretary: Candidate Mr. Hein Sibrijns, 13 in favor, 2 against, 2 abstentions.

The new board is thus composed of Willi Güllix, Per Kristian Andersen, Peter Cejnek and Hein Sibrijns.

The President and the delegate of Austria, Mrs. Michaela Wolf, thanked Anita Treichler for her excellent work.

The Delegate of France, Mr. Denis Vernon, noted that the election process and the way of proposing and introduction of candidates is not correct.

The President replied that owing to the German law, there is no other way.

**06 Election of the auditors.**

Säde Crivelli (CH) and Jose-Maria Perez d'Itturalde Arenaza (E) were re-elected with 16 votes in favor and 1 abstention.

Mr. Anderson thanked the delegates for the confidence displayed in him and that he feels highly honored by his election. He believes that the election process needs to be improved in the future and that he will work to the best of his ability for the welfare of the dogs and the Union.

**07 Budget 2013, membership fees 2013:**

The financial situation is good. The membership fee is left unanimously to the basic amount of € 50.00 plus € 0.20 per club member.

**08 Reports from the member countries:**

Several clubs distributed their report at the start of the meeting in writing in English.

The **Austrian Club** presented Thomas Walker and Sissy Fessl as new Austrian special judges.

In 2012, the club show was held in conjunction with the FCI World Dog Show in Salzburg. The number of entries for the club show exceeded the number of entries for the WDS (119) with 132 dogs.

Next year, the club show will be held in conjunction with the IHA Salzburg on 27-4-2013. The decision in favor of this date rather than a date in conjunction with the WDS 2013 in Budapest was taken only on 28-9-2012; therefore invitations are not yet distributed. Currently, there are no appreciable problems in the Austrian breeding.

The **Swedish Club** has 932 members. There are about 50 active breeders. The club has started breeder's meetings around the country to establish a better environment whereby breeders should hopefully begin to talk and be more honest with one another.

This will lead to an update of the Specific Breeding Strategy that should be updated by 01-01-2014, which will encourage the breeders to seek new goals to work on over the next 5 year period. These goals need to be developed together so that everyone knows which goals with which we can live and those with which we need to breed against.

The club has also had a breeder's seminar on health and now works hard to get the information out to everyone by offering education in various forms.

Hopefully this can lead to a healthier breed.

The club is taking part in a scientific project on cancer research. Emma Ivarsson at Uppsala University is responsible for the project. We have now been asked if it is of interest to get blood samples from Europe. We'll ask Emma if she is interested.

2013 is the year the club will target the breeders as they manage the breed.

More lectures and educational promotions are planned. The work has started and will hopefully continue for many years.

An ideal profile for Leonberger temperament will be worked out as the existing profile was a profile for working dogs. This should be accomplished by 2013.

The **Russian Club** organizes several regional club shows, more Russian dogs go to shows in Europe and the breeders are working on a professional level.

The **Finnish Club** has now their first ever Water Rescue Champion. Currently they have approx. 25 teams in training and it seems that the results achieved by Leonbergers are on average better than the results in the traditional breeds. This is partly because the Leonberger needs to take an aptitude test before it is allowed to compete.

We have also our second alert ready trailing dog this year.

The Finnish Club is paying for testing of the DLA haplotypes for 50 dogs. The samples have been submitted by end of September and we should get some results in November-December. Purpose of screening the haplotypes is to give our breeders another tool to make sure that we have maximum amount of variety in the DLA-area and thus we hope to improve the resistance to autoimmune diseases.

The **Norwegian club** has organized five club shows. The Leonberger Club organizes an annual exhibition for all breeds in which all groups are represented. This provides a good income for the club.

A breeder's meeting was organized in autumn 2011 regarding breeding regulations.

A water training/water competition was held in southern Norway in the summer of 2012.

8 Teams attended, all achieved the SoR prize.

Later in summer a water competition was held, 3 Leonbergers attended in grade 1, they got 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> place. 1 Leonberger in grade 2 moved up to elite grade.

The club has agreed to arrange a double Leonberger club show together with the Swedish club in 2013 in Morokulien (border Sweden/Norway).

There were 10 litters born in 2011, with a total of 33 males and 32 females. There were 8 dogs imported into Norway.

Membership is approx. 365 members. The club has a rather strong economy thanks to the shows they organize. The economy in the club makes it possible to arrange courses etc. for the Leonberger owners in the regions.

The club has registered a total of 62 LPN1 test results. More dogs have been tested, but not everyone has sent the result to the breeding committee.

There is a concern regarding the identification of the test results:

6 D/N, 27 without reg. no., 1 with micro chip no., 2 without name and reg no., 2 without names but with reg no.

The club continues to refund the veterinarian costs of taking the blood samples.

In the **Danish Club** water work is done on New Foundland level.

The Danish Kennel Club has revoked all breeding regulations, the Leonberger now negotiates to put breeding regulations for Leonbergers in place.

According to a survey 22% of dogs die from a form of cancer.

Because of the increasing number of Leonbergers bred without papers, the club asks to investigate whether or not the name "Leonberger dog" can be registered as a trademark.

The **Leonberger Club of Great Britain** had a very productive year holding its 10<sup>th</sup> Championship Show in November 2011 and an open show in March 2012.

A number of working groups meets regularly undertaking both draught tests from level 1-5 and water tests at all levels. These events are very well attended and members are very committed to working their Leos who really enjoy the opportunity to work with their handlers.

A number of fun events were also held during the past year in aid of our Leonberger Welfare and Health funds.

A small contingent of Leonbergers attended the Austrian Club Show and World Dog Show in May 2012. We would like to thank the Austrian Club for their help and hospitality.

The health seminar this year concentrated on diseases of the eye in Leonbergers. There has been some concern regarding the incidence of Glaucoma and Goniodysgenesis in the breed and further investigation into this subject is being planned.

A breed specific seminar was also held earlier this month to encourage the development of new judges within the breed. We currently have 71 judges able to award Challenge Certificates with several more due to be assessed in the coming year. Seven of these judges come from Europe.

There are currently just over 500 individual members. During 2011 a total of 358 puppies were registered. In the first half of 2012 165 dogs were registered. Four dogs were exported during 2011, 2 to France, 1 to Finland and 1 to Japan. The 10 year period 2002-2011 saw 3,716 puppies registered which given an average age of 9 years equates to a UK population of approximately 3,348 Leonbergers.

With the relaxation of rules on 1-1-2012 regarding importing dogs into the UK this year has seen an influx of puppies from abroad. By May this year the club was aware of 21 dogs being imported. This can only be good for the breed in terms of widening the gene pool. It also makes it easier for European dogs to attend shows in UK, in particular Crufts. Anyone wanting assistance is welcome to contact the club secretary.

The **French Club** cordially invites to the club show in Cluny, 300-400 entries are expected.

There are now many initial registrations in the studbook.

Many breeders don't test their dogs on LPN1 because the blood samples must be sent abroad.

It is preferable that dogs used for breeding have assessment level 4.

The regional club shows are well attended with 50-80 entries, one sees there regularly excellent dogs that you don't see elsewhere, that are better than some international champions.

The club celebrates its 50-year anniversary with the club show in October 2013 in Cluny. Many foreign entries are expected. It is unanimously decided to award the Union Awards on this occasion. The club may also apply for the German CAC-club.

A committee for the promotion of working with dogs is being formed. Working with dogs is very important, the Leonberger does it very well. Many dogs have been imported, but the club is working not to loose the "French Type".

The **Leonberger Club of America** has 1200 members. The Leonberger Health Foundation supports several health researches. Mary Anne Rugiero-Smith and Agi Hejja are installed as breed specialist AKC judges.

The **German Club** had a very successful year. There are approximately 2500 members in 12 successfully working national committees with lots of leisure facilities are being looked after.

The stable number of members is an assurance for the lively program in terms of dog shows.

The club organizes approximately 30 shows and nearly 10 regional club shows per year.

The Leonberger is often one of the top five in the registration numbers in the all breed dog shows.

The financial position of the German Leonberger Club is good.

The modernization of the clubhouse in Leonberg will be in the centre of future efforts.

Last year the fight against polyneuropathy was in the centre of efforts again, the following results were received from the University of Bern so far:

LPN1 N/N 543 dogs, LPN1 D/N 100 dogs, LPN1 D/D 4 dogs.

736 puppies were born in 91 litters in 2011.

Hip scores of the birth cohort 2009:

HD-A 59 dogs, HD-B 19 dogs, HD-C 9 dogs, HD-D/E 4 dogs.

The club is making a big effort to usefully regulate the breeding at different stages:

Mr. Krebs is being trained for special judge, training courses for new breeders are offered, ZTP's and Young Dog evaluations are organized..

The President of the **Belgian club** is in hospital. She has appointed the second delegate of the club, Metha Stramer, to vote for the re-election of Anita Treichler, because of Anita's respect for the dogs and because of her knowledge of the French language.

She likes Mr. Andersen and his knowledge of Leonbergers very much, but French is a world language, if the board only speaks English and German, she sees no place for the Francophone countries in the Union.

She had a little dispute with Hein Sibrijns because the Minutes of the 2011 meeting, the small report of Belgium was not reproduced in full, although what she said was translated into English and German on the spot by Anita and Metha.

*The remark wasn't included in the minutes. The President could not agree to a modification of the minutes after publication. A change of the minutes is only possible in the next meeting.*

She suggested that you give summaries of the reports directly to Hein in order to guarantee faithful translation and transcription.

6 dogs have got the water work certificates.

The events committee organized 9 hikes.

In 2011, the 13th ZTP was organized, 3 dogs were entered. For a Young Dog Evaluation on the same day 14 dogs were entered.

For the club show 2011 161 dogs were entered, for the club show 2012 it were 140.

The club has 209 members.

The **Spanish Club** Congratulated the newly elected Vice President. The President of the Spanish club, thanked the Union for offering the Union Awards at the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary show and Anita Treichler for bringing the awards to Spain. He congratulated France with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the coming year and with getting the German club CACs on that occasion.

The **Slovakian Club** is the smallest club in the Union. Only LPN1 N/N dogs are approved for breeding. In the past year 41 puppies were born. All are invited to visit exhibitions in the Slovak Republic.

The most important news in the **Czech Club** is that all breeding dogs must have a LPN1 test. Those who have successfully passed the breeding ability checks in the past and do not have an LPN1 test result are excluded from breeding until they have passed the test.

The Clubs AGM in May 2012 decide unanimously that breeding with LPN1 carriers (D/N) is not allowed for the next two years. The assembly adopted the thesis that LPN1 is a very serious disease and carriers are not desirable in breeding. In 2014 the decision will be discussed again and will either be prolonged or suspended.

The Czech Leonberger Club celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. You are cordially invited to the jubilee club show held on 20.04.2013 in Mlada Boleslav. More information will be published on [www.leonberger.cz](http://www.leonberger.cz)

The delegates from the **New Zealand Club** are especially welcomed by the president. The club works well with the breeders and organizes several events. The Gene Pool is small, and since 1.1.2012 one cannot even import under the age of 10 months from the UK, Norway or Sweden, or any other country, which makes it harder to find dogs abroad. Therefore, the delegates will use this weekend to talk with breeders.

The **Dutch Club** organizes the next club show on 22.09.2013. All are cordially invited. An independent agency has held a health survey for the club. The feedback was very big with a return rate of forms of 59%.

According to this survey the overall health of the Leonberger is well within the normal range.

The complete survey report is on

<http://www.leonberger.nl/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Leonberger-gezondheidsonderzoek-2011.pdf>

The club offers free blood sampling for LPN1 on club shows and young dogs days.

The **Swiss Club** has a new president for the breeding committee.

The problem of bitches not conceiving still remains in evidence. In 2011 there were 13 bitches mated, 5 remained empty, 8 had litters, which means that 38% of the matings were unsuccessful.

In total we had only 48 puppies to register in 2011. So the question arises if this has not to do with inbreeding.

Therefore we try as much as possible to recommend our breeders not to use the famous champion dogs but to be aware of the genetic variety.

Therefore we do not consider the elimination of LPN1 D/N dogs from breeding as long as the researchers don't advise it.

Since a couple of years we demanded all dogs that were presented for ZTP to not only x-ray the hips but also the elbows.

Until now the Elbow score was registered without consequence.

There were not many bad elbows, but the ones that were bad were very bad.

After consulting Prof. Flückiger, who explained the rather high heredity of the disease and also the almost impossibility to treat this very painful disease, the question was presented to the agm and now only dogs with elbow score 0 or 1 are admitted for breeding.

Some dogs that had been tested LPN1 N/N showed later symptoms of LPN.

Therefore we are preparing, in cooperation with Bern University, a questionnaire to be sent to all owners of tested dogs, in order to know their current health situation. Before doing this we will send you all relevant information asking you to inform your club members and to ask them to collaborate, for the health of the future Leonberger generations.

### **09 Breed problems in the Union.**

Reports on the research and testing of LPN1 from the universities of Bern and Minnesota and answers from the University of Bern as well as from Minnesota to question raised by the Russian club have been sent via email prior to the meeting to the delegates. They are added as an annex to these minutes:

[LPN1 report University of Minnesota](#) [LPN1 report Bern University](#) [LPN1 answers Bern University](#)

An invitation from the Animal Health Trust to join a study on genetic risk factors for bone cancer was distributed at the beginning of this meeting, just for information. It was emphasized that it is now easy for everyone to calculate the inbreeding coefficient of a breeding by means of one of the two Leonberger databases ( [www.leonberger-database.com](http://www.leonberger-database.com) and [www.ileodata.com](http://www.ileodata.com) ). It is clear that breeders must breed towards an as low as possible COI, but much more information and education is needed, too many breeders go for the famous champion stud without taking the pedigree and the degree of inbreeding into account. The more generations one includes, the higher the COI.

A brother / sister mating have a COI. 25%, yet one still finds too many matings with a too high COI when calculated for 10 generations.

### **10. Miscellaneous.**

The Russian Club has sent emails about problems with testing and naming Polyneuropathy and LPN1 via email prior to the meeting to the member clubs, Anita Treichler has transferred the questions to the University of Bern, the University of Bern has answered the question, Anita transferred the answers to the member clubs. Sharon Springel has asked on the occasion of the Russian Clubs questions an opinion from the University Minnesota. The answers of Minnesota were also sent via email prior to the meeting to the member clubs.

Herewith, the real problem is not solved for Russia. In consequence of the recommendation of the Union, all breeding dogs are tested for LPN1 and only N / N and D / N in combination with N / N is recommended for breeding. Almost all breeders have their dogs tested worldwide.

Exception: testing in Russia is still not possible because the test protocol has not yet been released. For breeders from other countries, although it is impractical that the blood samples have to be sent abroad, it is possible to have the blood samples tested in Minnesota or Bern. But in Russia, it is forbidden to export biological material like blood samples and swabs. The two universities have no good answer to this problem, but it is hoped the study will soon be published so that the test protocol can be released and the test can be done not only by a laboratory in Switzerland and a laboratory in Minnesota but by labs in other countries as well. It is clear that the problem of Russia is only solved if the test can be done effectively in a Russian laboratory. On the question whether in the name of the disease the word "Leonberger" can be omitted because the naming suggest incorrectly that only Leonbergers are prone to have Polyneuropathy, whilst we know that forms of polyneuropathy occur in all dog breeds, Minnesota answered that one isn't happy with name giving either, but as far as they know now the forms of polyneuropathy in other dog breeds aren't caused by the same gene mutation as the LPN1. By using the name LPN1 veterinarians are able to find information on this disease, just like one can find specific information on Greyhound Polyneuropathy or Alaskan Malamut Polyneuropathy by using these names.

The President noted that the communication between the universities themselves and with the ILU is not going well. He asked the University of Bern to add a box for the micro chip number on the result sheet, which was refused without good reason.

Sharon Springel and Anita Treichler communicate each year reports of the universities to the Assembly.

The Board has discussed this in yesterday's board meeting, the President proposes to format a LPN1 Committee with the purpose of coordinating the research and the communication between the universities and the clubs. The result of the discussion in the meeting is that one doesn't want a specific committee for only one disease, but a general health committee is very much wanted.

It was unanimously decided to form a health committee. The delegates proposed Sharon Springel, Anita Treichler, Wilma Kroon, Metha Stramer and someone from the Leonberger Health Foundation to be named later. The President says that it is difficult to appoint now on the spot all the members of such a committee, the board will install the committee.

The French club sent a letter via email prior to the meeting to the President and to the member clubs. Points for discussion are revision of the statutes, uncertainty about the number of forms of PN, and the variation in type.

On the question of type the French club proposes to do a survey between the member clubs to determine what they think in the terms of the standard and what their goals are. Each club could propose 2 special judges that should be validated by the Union. These judges could then be invited for club shows, regional shows, ZTP, etc. by all member clubs. The Union could make a kind of union ZTP, dogs who have passed an Union ZTP would automatically be breedable in all member countries of the Union.

In the discussion it was determined that one cannot make a difference in a country between the Special Judge, like "special breed judge in country X validated by the Union with siege in Germany" and "special breed judge in country X not validated by the Union with its siege in Germany". However, some clubs have on their page on the Union's website a list of breed specialist judges that work with the club. If all clubs send a list of their specialist judges to the Webmaster this can be put on the clubs page and eventually we can make a page of recommended judges on the website. This proposal was adopted unanimously.

A Union ZTP, owing to the large variation in regulations by the different national kennel clubs is not feasible.

The statutes will be discussed at the upcoming post from USA.

Italy sent prior to the meeting via e-mail, a letter to the member clubs, in which they suspend the membership of Italy because of a dispute on the invitation/cancellation of the invitation made in 2010 to a the Italian judge Guido Perosino to judge at the Swiss club show 2011.. About this case the Italian club already sent a letter to the FCI, the Union and several clubs and kennel clubs in September 2011.

The Union Assembly 2011 has unanimously decided that this was a private matter that cannot be a theme for the Union meeting, it is a dispute between a person from Italy and the club from Switzerland and that this does not concern Union business. The Assembly unanimously confirmed the decision from 2011.

The Italian club also asked for the reading of the Millennium Awards 2013, they will be awarded to Caroline Bliss-Isberg, Natalia Romanova, Michaela Wolf and Hein Sibrijns. Michaela Wolf announced that she doesn't accept the award as long as the Italian club doesn't participate in the meetings of the Union.

Prior to the meeting, by means of an email to the member clubs, the Leonberger Club of America proposed the formation of a committee of 5 persons,

presided by Glen Ferguson, to work out a proposal for amending the constitution with rules for the election of board members.

The Board had discussed the proposal. We are happy with a compact constitution.

The president has made as a follow up of the decision of the 2009 meeting, an election procedure according to German law on associations. The German law on associations is very complicated, even for Germans. The Union was founded and has its headquarters in Leonberg, Germany.

One acts in accordance with the German Civil Code and German regulations for associations.

Applications for the meeting were not sent in accordance with the Union's constitution paragraph 13. 6. *Suggestions for topics of discussion and requests from the members must be received by the president of the IULH at least eight weeks before the meeting. The president shall then relay all submissions, along with the agenda to all members.*

before the deadline by normal mail to the president. Applicants do not read the constitution before sending an application. The German civil code is different from law in other countries, a committee with members who are not used to working with German law will have big difficulties.

The president made an election procedure on order of the Assembly 2009.

Beth O'Connor said that it is now 2012, it was clear that the election process is not clearly defined, the Assembly may take a new decision. Glen Ferguson is a lawyer, he understands German and has access to the German legislation. Denis Vernon from France said that the election process was not correct, the constitution should be reviewed.

Just in case the meeting would at all costs add a paragraph on the election procedure to the constitution the president had a concept which he distributed among those present. A 10 minutes reading break was held.

After reading of the proposed concept, the delegates still wanted to form a committee as was proposed by the USA. The President cut the proposal from the United States in 3 pieces: a vote for the chairmanship of the Committee. As a candidate Glen Ferguson and Willi Güllix were proposed. A secret vote was requested. 13 member clubs voted in favor of Glen Ferguson, 3 Clubs voted in favor of Willi Güllix, 1 ballot paper was Blank.

The President proposed the number of persons in the Committee to be 3. This was adopted unanimously. Willi Güllix and Denis Vernon were proposed as members of the committee. They were elected unanimously.

The delegate of Switzerland, Mrs. Waldmeier, wanted to put on record that the decision to allow Mr. Andersen as a candidate had been an exception due to the situation and does not constitute a precedent

#### **11. Conclusion.**

The President thanked all those present for their attendance and for their positive contributions. It was discussed operational.

The meeting closed at 6 pm.

Leonberg 29th September 2012

Willi Güllix, Chairman of the meeting, President of the ILU

Hein Sibrijns, minutes taker, secretary of the ILU