

Saluki Health Research, Inc.

2014 – 2015 Annual Meeting and President's Report

The annual meeting of SHR, Inc. was held at the MSU Livestock Pavilion, East Landing, MI at 5 PM, Fri Nov. 27, 2015. Officers and board members attended either in person, by telephone or via the internet. Various discussions and actions included:

The corporate records for the year June 2014 thru May 2015 were approved. All board members (Vicky Clarke, Linda Scanlon and Kathy Morton) and officers (Jim Steckley, Bill Schall and Linda Scanlon) agreed to continue in their positions and terms of office.

The Treasurer's report for the corporate year ending May 31, 2015 was approved.

The secretary's report stated that, unfortunately, Vicky Clarke has not had time to update the SHR web site. The domain name and hosting of the web site was renewed. The web site has been partially updated by an IT student who will continue working on the web site until all pages have been updated. The SHR website has facilitated dissemination of information much more quickly and with less mailing needed.

President's report:

Update of current projects:

Cancer DNA studies:

We continue to accept tumor samples from Salukis for histological examination by Dr. Stefichek and inclusion in the cancer bank. However, only 10 biopsy samples were received this year.

Twenty banked Saluki mammary tissue samples were sectioned, immunohistochemically stained to assess the hormone receptors and "malignancy" tendencies as is done with human breast cancers. DCPAH funds were used and the researcher presented the results in a PhiZeta poster presentation.

Heart studies:

The results of Dr. Sanders Saluki Holter study, the Saluki ultrasonography study and proBNP assay are in the process of being statistically validated, and manuscript revisions are being finalized and will be submitted for publication in peer reviewed Veterinary Journals.

AKC/Canine Health Foundation Grants:

Progress reports were received for cancer Grants #1759 and #1131 and #1429. Cardiac grant progress reports were received for #1760 and #1753. These summaries were published in the SCOA Winter 2014 Newsletter and ASA Newsletters.

\$7500 was transferred to SHR's CHF Donor Advised Fund to support Grants #2052, #1994 and # 1889G.

New business:

We need further discussion on how to more widely disseminate information on SHR, Inc. studies; whether a presence at the National Show as well as regional shows would be of benefit. I keep hearing of Salukis that have either been diagnosed as having some form of cancer or the mass was confirmed to not be cancer, but tissue samples have not been sent to SHR. We need make it more widely known to Saluki owners and their veterinarians, that biopsy samples will be analyzed and a histology report will be sent at no cost to the owners. Also, fund raising possibilities at Saluki specialties need to be considered.

Dr. Sanders presented his findings (both electrocardiograph, echocardiograph and Doppler) in the Saluki Holter Study and other Salukis that he as examined at the National Show in June. He has enjoyed working with the Salukis and their owners and will try to arrange another echo clinic at a reduced rate at the National in 2016.

The board voted to fund CHF Grant #1771: Defining the Unique Genetic Markers in Dogs that Define Immune Function, Disease Resistance and Tissue Transplantation and Grant #1426: Personalized Medicine for the Treatment of Mast Cell Tumors in the next grant cycle.

Julian Bivins has graciously reviewed SHR's non-profit status and assisted with completing the needed paper work. We have discussed changing the corporate year to align with the calendar year which would make records and accounting easier. When the web site update is completed, the renewal application will be submitted.