

BREED COUNCIL SECRETARIES' MEETING
Thursday, June 15, 2006

Breeds and Standards Chair Annette Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the following Breed Council Secretaries and Breed Committee Chairs (or their representatives) present, in addition to the CFA Board of Directors:

Aby – Norm Auspitz; American Curl* - Diane Clark; American SH – Bob Zenda; Balinese – Terrie Smith; Bombay – Sig Hauck; British SH – Catherine Dunham; Cornish Rex – David White; Devon Rex – Gary Amundson; Egyptian Mau – Melanie Morgan; European Burmese - Ann-Louise Devoe; Havana Brown – Norma Placchi; LaPerm* - Erika Fetz; Maine Coon – Martha Auspitz; Manx – Sande Willen; Norwegian Forest Cat – Dawn Shiley; Ocicat – Neil Quigley; Russian Blue – Rob Miller; Scottish Fold – Mary Fran Marron; Siberian* - Wendy Heidt; Siamese – Debbi Stevenson; Singapura – Nicki Ruetz; Sphynx – Paul Patton.

I. Welcome and Introductions

[6/15/06 Tape 1, Side A] Wilson: I apologize for my voice which will probably give out, so this meeting is for breed council secretaries to speak to the board, or to speak to breed council secretaries so I'll try not to do too much speaking. I'm sorry if I don't have enough agendas for everyone. If someone needs one, there's a few up front. Help yourself. What I would like to do first is start down there and if everybody could just give us your name and what breed council you are secretary or representative for. Diane Clark, American Curl; Kathryn Silvia, American Bobtail; Bob Zenda, American Shorthair, celebrating our 100th anniversary; Virginia Wight, American Wirehair; Laura McIntyre, Oriental Shorthair; Linda Martino, Tonkinese; Rob Miller, Russian Blue; Sande Willen, Manx; [inaudible, applause], Dawn Shiley, Norwegian Forest Cat; Cheryl Coleman, Korat; Melanie Morgan, Egyptian Mau; ?, Ragamuffin; Neil Quigley, Ocicat; Tammy Roark, Somali; [inaudible]; Karen Hooker, Turkish Van; Iris Tanner, Turkish Angora; Isabelle Bellevance, Ragdoll; [inaudible]; Mary Fran Marron, Scottish Fold; Debbi Stevenson, Siamese, also celebrating our anniversary; [inaudible]; Gary Amundson, Devon Rex; Norma Placchi, Havana Brown; Martha Auspitz, Maine Coon; Norm Auspitz, Abyssinian; Catherine Dunham, British Shorthair; Paul Patton, Sphynx; [inaudible]; David White, Cornish Rex; Susan Cook-Henry, Persian. **Wilson:** Yesterday, I learned that if you were over 55 you could get a card for a discount, but I think whatever breed has been in CFA for over 100 years should probably get one, too.

2. Communication Project – BC members to CFA judges and vice versa

Wilson: The first item on our agenda is the communication project. This is something that came up I believe a couple of years ago. We were looking for a way where exhibitors, through their breed councils, could share comments or ideas or complaints or issues with the judges, and vice versa. It has gone back and forth a little bit and we have come up with some ideas. Carla Bizzell has actually written up a communication project. I'm going to have her just discuss it a little bit. The procedure we have kind of had an informal process in place now, but Carla wanted to talk about it. **Bizzell:** It's on. So far, as Annette mentioned, this has been working fairly ? cases and has been working fairly well, I think. When you get down to the actual ? of how this is supposed to work, it gets really more complicated. What we do want is

that for the breed council secretaries that wanted to use that communicating with the judges and vice versa, when the judges have a message to go back, it goes through the breed council secretary. It also needs to be an issue that relates to the standard. You know, not the current type of cat that is being shown. It needs to be a standard issue and not just what someone thinks the standard ought to be, which again is completely another issue. We do have a draft set of procedures to go through, which we need to finalize, but I think so far it has been working very well. Maybe some of the breed council secretaries aren't aware that you can get a message to the judges' list, but Annette, who should people send? **Wilson:** So far, they have been sending it to me. The breed council secretary would send it to me, or the judges' list. Put something on the judges' list and send it to the breed council secretaries. Actually, we did that with cracked eye color of Persians with Susan Cook-Henry and she took that to her Persian list and got some input, which then we consolidated and give back to the judges, and it was really a helpful discussion, even though both groups aren't directly talking to each other. I really think it has facilitated an understanding of how that isn't really discussed in the standard, how it should be handled, so if everyone is comfortable coming to me with it, that's fine. If you're not, we can certainly find someone else for you to go to. Just since I am working with the breed council secretaries and also on the judges' list, but if somebody would like to have something brought to the judges' list and would rather – if you are a breed council secretary and a judge, of course. Does anyone have any questions about that or wished it worked better or is thinking about it? **Cook-Henry:** I don't know how appropriate it is for information to come back to the breed council in return. That's the only thing. There have been some issues posted to the judges and there has not been feed-back in return from those postings. Not that there is always meant to be some, but it would be sometimes kind of interesting to know what the judges are thinking about posts that are made to the list. They can be anonymous, for that matter. Nobody has to be identified or the identity of the writer can be stripped, because it's sometimes nice to have feed-back from the judges, as well. I don't know how the rest of you feel about that. I kind of, when we discussed this last year, I think we were thinking of it more in terms of being a two-way street. **Wilson:** I agree, and if I didn't close the loop on that, that's my fault for not being ? but you're right. In that particular case it was just everybody was, this is a good way to look at it, but it should work both ways. I would then take a compilation of the judges' responses and send it back to the breed council secretary. Feel free to remind me. **N. Auspitz:** Just a note. Norm Auspitz, Abyssinian Breed Council Secretary. The note is that the CFA Judges' List is fairly quiet and sometimes something is posted to it and sometimes there is a plethora of responses but normally it's not, so it's not like the CFA List. It certainly ? **Wilson:** Even then, the response back to the breed council secretary ? there wasn't any. Susan is absolutely right. There should be. We should close the loop on that. Do any board members have comments on that? Any other breed council secretary? Any other discussion on that? When Carla formalizes this it a little bit more, maybe we could send it out to everyone so that you have an idea of what types of issues to bring up. If you have a question of what type of issue, just let me know. **McIntyre:** I do have a comment ? of the issue. A lot of times, I think the judges are confronted by a breeder who might interpret the standard in their own set way and try to bring to the judge that oh, the breed council wants it this way. I am hoping that judges will be made aware if they are not already that there's a forum for this, to go through the breed council secretary and then to the judges' list, rather than a personal one on one from one breeder's point of view. **Wilson:** Thank you. I think it's very important that any of these issues go to the breed council secretary, and from the breed council secretary to their members to get some kind of consensus or even just to qualify the issue. Is it

something you want to handle internally in your breed council or do you really want this brought forward? We've had some examples of where this has worked very well, that exact procedure has been followed so helps to clarify it also before we go to the judges' list, so that's a good point. Anyone else like to speak on this issue?

3. *Common Color Description Project - a reorganization of color and pattern descriptions within the CFA Breed Standards – scope and impact*

Wilson: I think there is maybe some misunderstanding out there about exactly what this is. This is not going to have anybody change their color descriptions. It's not going to force anybody to do anything or a breed council to do anything. I did ? a lot of copies of this, so there's a few copies on each of the tables for you to look at. Cheryl Coleman has put together this Excel spreadsheet because I came up with an idea and had no idea how to execute it. It's just such a big project. What she has done is listed all the colors on the left hand side and then she has indicated which breeds have the color, the same color description for that color. For every breed that has a different or slightly different color description, she has – it's not a footnote, what do you call it? Superscript, and then on the two pages attached to the end has put the color description for each of those breeds. Now, there are some breeds, Havana Browns, Russian Blues, Korats, where you have one color and the color description is extensive. We didn't include those in here at all because it's very different and is the only color in that breed. There are some other breeds which we didn't address yet – Somalis, where they have a color description between the two of them, it's only two breeds. No one else has the color description, so we leave that alone for now, so what we're trying to address are the colors that are common among more than one breed and take the most common description. Ideally, we will put these at the front of the standards. For the breeds that has a common color description, it will just say, for example, white, black, blue. The description will be in the front. For any breed that has a different description from any one individual color, it will still be printed under that breed. This is a work in progress and it's quite a project. First of all, I would like to thank Cheryl for putting this together, because she did it quickly and she did a really nice job. I would like some input on this. I don't want anybody to think that we're going to make you change your color descriptions. That's certainly not what my intention is to do here. At some point, if your breed and your color description isn't exactly what the one is in the front that you think is accurate and you want to change that, no one is going to force you to do that. We will then also look at pattern descriptions and just kind of this will grow as it goes along. Does anyone have any comments?

Representatives have any comments? **DelaBar:** Just to let you know, the World Cat Congress has also taken this on, so we can compare the descriptions of color and pattern in each of the 9 associations that make up, comprise the World Cat Congress. Kitty brought back a copy of the FIFE color descriptions and that just gave us something to go on. Once again, this isn't just a CFA thing. We're looking at this worldwide. We're becoming a very, very small world now and more and more judges are coming to judge CFA shows and vice versa, so it's quite an undertaking. I wanted you to be aware that it's just not us. **Wilson:** Any questions or comments? **Cummings:** Annette, what about if a color's not listed on here? **Wilson:** This is just a start. Not every color is listed on here. We were going to start with the solids and Cheryl got through the solids, but certainly not every color is on here. There are going to be colors that go beyond the first draft when it's finished anyway, just because it's not on there right away. Just because it's not common across more than a couple of breeds. We're trying to do this in baby steps. **Willen:** What if you see a color or pattern on here that your breed has but it's not listed as having it?

Who should we contact? **Wilson:** Ghost busters. Cheryl is right there and you can ask her. **Coleman:** If you should find on the listing that your cat has a particular pattern or color, it's cross eyed. This is a very educational experience. ? different color descriptions in the breeds and patterns ? so if I did miss it, it wasn't because I didn't have it. ? feel like you're saying the same thing all the time. **Wilson:** On Cheryl's next revision, I would like to send it out to everybody for that type of review. We don't want to go a little bit crazy right away, so you can certainly look at this. You can let her know and she'll take care of it. Obviously, before anything is ever printed, it will be reviewed by ?, it will be reviewed by me. We'll have to have it proofed very carefully obviously. Any other comments or questions?

4. *Outcross Extensions (list of with outcross cut-off dates listed below)*

Wilson: OK, the next item on the agenda is the outcross extensions. Several breed council secretaries have contacted me asking a couple things; whether they could have permanent outcrosses with no extension and no date for cut-off. How soon if they want to request a date for ?, how soon they had to request that. Should they wait until the year before it's up or should they do it 5 years before. I don't know if I have the answers for that. My gut feeling was, don't wait until the last minute but also we need a rationale as to why this is needed. I also don't have an answer on permanent, breeds with no cut-off dates but there are some at least in the standard, there's not a cut-off date. There may be in the registration rules. So, does anyone want to talk about that? **Patton:** The Sphynx is coming up. We're 5 years out so I asked when we should ask because the board is saying we want this additional information ? If it gets passed at next February's board, it wouldn't go into effect until '08 so we're already out within three years of our cut-off. If we go one more year and it doesn't go straight through the board, then we're at the limit. So, I was asking for some kind of guideline from you as far as where to start asking for an extension. **Wilson:** Actually, if it's passed by the board in February, it will be in effect May 1st of that same year. **Patton:** So, if they want one it will be '08 and I think ours is up in 2010. **Wilson:** I can't tell you when to put it on your ballot. You could put it on this year. You have to have your ballot ? **Patton:** Is that going to be too soon for the board to look at. That's the guidance I was asking from you. **DelaBar:** We have a little difference of opinion here. Annette doesn't think it's too soon. I think that you've got more than enough time because what you're going to have to come up with is to show the board that you need further genetic diversity in your gene pool, and give a rationale why you want to increase the cut-off date for your outcross. Basically, the board will probably look at it and say hey, you've got a couple more years to add to your gene pool. Just the same, I would feel like that's basically what happened in the past. **Eigenhauser:** Let me just add one thing. We have never considered outcrossing to be part of the show standard, so it does not require the 60% vote, so if you do it close to the last minute and ask for 10 years and the board says, well, we really don't want 10, you don't have to take it back to another breed council vote and wait year after year after year to get it approved. If you wait until a couple years out and ask for 10 and the board thinks 5 will be better, they could approve 5 at that meeting without having to go back to your breed council, so that gives you a little bit of breathing room. On the other hand, some breeds have huge gene pools and still lack genetic diversity. Some breeds are fairly small in number and never have genetic diversity. Some breeds may need permanent outcrosses and that's just a fact of life. If that is the fact of life, it's a fact of life 2 years, 3 years or 4 years before the cut-off deadline, so I don't think there is a too soon, in my book. **Patton:** The thing on what you were saying about the breed council vote. In turn, we had to have our outcross breed council vote to stay, like American Shorthair. We had to have

their 60% approval. **Eigenhauser:** Once again, this is not part of the breed standard. It does not require anybody to give it 60%. We could rule without you giving it 60%. This does not require breed council approval. The breed council vote on this is advisory. We would certainly look unkindly if you didn't ask the other breeds, but it is not a jurisdictional matter. It is not automatically ? **N. Auspitz:** My understand is that the cut-off date is part of the WIAB policy that was accepted a number of years ago, and the policy is not cast in concrete. Therefore, the ? says there may be a requirement that you have to go back to the parent breed for various and sundry purposes. For something like that, I think we need more codification, a little bit more guidance for breed council secretaries. [inaudible] **Wilson:** I think that having the parent breed p it on the ballot, I don't think there's an issue with that and if you're going to put it on your ballot advisory or not advisory, then that parent breed would also put it on their ballot. I differ from Pam on how soon that should be done. I think you should put it on when you think you have reason to support an extension, and if you have that reason 3 years before your date expires and you can make a case for it, that gives time for input from your parent breed, it gives time for input for the board to discuss it and it gives you feed-back if the board doesn't extend it on what else you need to gather together. So, while I'm not crazy about seeing breed standards all the time, I think this is one of those things where you shouldn't wait until the year before. I think 2 or 3 years out isn't a bad idea if you have information to support it and I think that's what the ? to look at is why do you need it. If you can make an issue with that, then I don't see an issue with it. Does that help, Paul? **Zenda:** When Paul first came to me and asked me could I put it on the American Shorthair breed council ballot, I said sure but you need to give us some reasons ? feed-back. It's just advisory. **Wilson:** Right, and I think that's a good point. The rationale needs to be explained to the parent breed also, so if you work together on it, that's the best way to handle it. Does anybody? **Simms:** That's a question I had and I asked Bob about too – the protocol for going to other breeders and then putting it on the ballot as an advisory only for that just seems like the complete process. **Wilson:** And it certainly would be helpful if you alert the other breed council secretary also, and that is something that we would also advise them to do, too. You said in your ballot or you contact me and ? contact the breeders or Central Office would, and let them know so they can also put it on their ballot. **Simms:** So if we can show that we had a very slight increase in our registration numbers and our breeders have actually increased in the last 6 years, would that be a good platform? **Wilson:** How then that translates to an outcross extension. You might need the American Shorthairs.[inaudible] OK, I'm sorry. I couldn't remember what you said your breed was. So basically, you need to relate that to the reason for having any outcross extension. Why you need to use that breed. Why you need an extension. Why you need to use that breed and convincingly explain it to them and to the board. Any other questions, comments? **Miller:** Many years ago, the only way we had as a vehicle for expansion was mainly to outcross to another breed but now there are some other options coming along. We have our International Division that didn't exist then. There are some breeds that do exist in other parts of the world that could help expand a gene pool. There are DNA tests that will be available. That means we can possibly use cats from other associations within America to expand the gene pool and determine whether or not they are carriers of an undesirable color or something else, so there are some other options that I think the breeds can look into, other than just continuing to outcross to another breed. Think about outcrossing or expanding the gene pool by an outcross within the breed in some other area of the world or other association. **Wilson:** Any other comments from board members?

5. *Definition of Longhair Domestic Cat and Shorthair Domestic Cat (breeds that outcross to these: American Curl, LaPerm, Sphynx)*

Wilson: Next item on the agenda, Paul Patton again brought this issue up ? to have a definition for those breeds that outcross to non-pedigreed cats, to have a definition of longhair domestic cat or what a shorthair domestic cat is. He brought a suggestion of what I should read and it was discussed briefly at the board meeting yesterday. The suggestion, domestic longhairs, domestic shorthairs, any cat belonging to *felis domesticus* not registered nor readily identifiable as a recognized breed by any registering body. Some of the discussion at the board meeting yesterday was, *felis domesticus* isn't the right term. It's now *silvestris* or something like that, but *felis catus*, *felis silvestris*, whatever, and that maybe we did not want to say in any registering body, just CFA. I think this is an item that maybe should be discussed among the breeds that it applies to, but I did get some feed-back from the board and it was positive that we do have some kind of definition like this. If anybody has any comments on it, or suggestions. **Clark:** I believe we probably should leave the other associations in there, because otherwise we're going to have people leaving cats recognized by other associations. [inaudible] You might want to leave the other association in there, just so you won't get people outcrossing to breeds that we don't want to bring in right now. **Wilson:** I think the feeling was that by specifying *felis catus* it would eliminate the wild blood. Then we have the Munchkins or cats that might be *felis catus* but aren't registerable here but are registerable elsewhere. I have that same situation. Any other comments? Any board members? **Bellevance:** When people do outcrosses like this, is there not a need or desire for the outcross breeds, or F1, F2 or F3 generations, to be evaluated in some way. I know ? When people do an outcross program, there is actually a committee that looks at the resulting generations to make sure that it's going in the right direction. Is this not done in CFA? **Wilson:** Certainly, there's no formal process to do that, but if you want to speak ? Sphynx, Paul? **Patton:** [inaudible] the F1 generation is registered as a Sphynx in CFA. There is no limitation [inaudible]. **Clark:** With the American Curl, we have no ? CFA. All we have to do is, we send the registration form in for a domestic. It should say "parent unknown" and it comes back as a registered cat. **Sylvia:** The American Bobtails require the Breed Council Secretary, one Allbreed judge and the Standards Chair to approve a cat coming into the program. That way, the cat must sufficiently meet the standard. ? breeding Bobtails to domestic shorthairs and domestic longhairs. We require three people to sign off. **Wilson:** Is that for your F1 product, or [inaudible]. **Sylvia:** Absolutely. ? **Wilson:** Right, that's for the domestic, but then, the first generation? **Sylvia:** Is American Bobtail. **Bellevance:** The first outcross actually [inaudible] anybody can take any cat from any breeder in any association ? as domestic longhair ? and just deny whatever ancestry the cat can have. **Patton:** This definition that we're talking about is ? Central Office asking for a little bit more in registration requirements for domestic shorthairs. Right now with the Sphynx, all you need to do is, once the litter is born, an F1 litter is born, send in \$20 with no requirements or photographs or anything. I have had members of the breed council put pictures of F1 Sphynx that were ? domestic outcrosses that should have been registered as Sphynx on the website. [microphone] What I was saying is, this is part of the original email ? of an email I sent to Allene to put in writing a little bit more, the requirements as far as the registration of shorthair domestics. There is no guidance. There is no written policy right now, and I think it's too cheap for \$20. **Wilson:** Well, Paul, if I could just make a comment. Obviously the American Bobtails have a different registration policy in place. I think that's something you could probably work out in the registration rules for your specific breed, but I don't know, other than defining domestic longhairs and shorthairs across the board. We don't want to make registration rules for

every breed, based on what you need for your breed. **Patton:** How did she establish hers? Where are they written so that we – **Wilson:** They are in the rules for registration. I actually found them on the website, but Central Office can provide the rules for registration for you. It's similar to the import policy for Egyptian Maus. They have a whole process they go through. A number of breeds have different rules for registering their cats. **Patton:** What does it say on the website? **Wilson:** On the website I found under What Is a Breed, I found some additional information by breed, but the registration rules for every breed are something that is kept in a breed book in Central Office. **Angell:** Actually, I was looking at this and we're down now to the American Curl, LaPerm, Sphynx as far as using domestics. I would hope that in the future we get to the point where we use no domestics, because I think that this is going against everything that we're trying to stand for, especially when it comes to fighting animal rights. I think we want to stay as far away from domestic cats in breeding programs as we possibly can, so to be frank with you, I'm looking for the day when these cut-offs come because I personally don't want to see any more domestics used. **Miller:** I find one exception to that. What Kitty says I agree with, except and it's not listed here, but American Shorthair has a limited outcross to domestics. It is I believe \$100 and they do require photographs. \$200? **Zenda:** Yes, it hasn't been used in over 10 years. **Miller:** Now wait a minute. I saw the one that Gail Hand went to Canada. She was very excited about going there. She found a barn cat. She found a mother that delivered a litter, 13 years old, healthy, strapping. It was a relatively contained gene pool, so they knew what the genetics were. There were no pointed cats and there hadn't been for 30 years in that barn group. She brought in a beautiful black female and added it to her bloodline and she went through the process. I am familiar with what she had to do and I thought, this is a real model. When we are considering the American Shorthair, which is our American cat, I still think all of the domestics have gone so far away from the body type of the Americans. There are still barn colonies that might exist if the American Shorthair breeders wanted to do it. I don't see anything wrong with it. **Zenda:** What I was saying was, in the last 10 years I have had 2 requests to do that. Neither one of those wound up ? see the cats, they back off. The other person was ? and sent the pictures, and I didn't know what it was. So, it has not been used for over 10 years. **Martino:** Actually, my question relates to the next item, as well, and that is, how do registration rules get changed? I find it hard to find, first of all. It's not printed like the standards, but how do you change those? **Wilson:** First, to answer your second question first, you can get your registration rules by contacting Central Office, and they will send you the registration rules for your breed. Secondly, if you want to change the rules for registration, you put it on the ballot. You discuss it with your breed council secretary – or your members, and you would put it on your ballot. **Martino:** Does that go before the board just like a standard change? Does it have the same 60% in all those items? **Wilson:** I think that registration rules are advisory and I don't think they require 60%. **Johnson:** Annette, I have a question. Is there a reason the registration rules aren't published? I wonder if someone could answer that for me. **Wilson:** I think someone from Central Office might be able to. **Sellitto:** Not me. **Johnson:** Connie says she doesn't want to answer. **Sellitto:** I don't have the information anyway. We'll let Allene know. **Wilson:** If not after the meeting this afternoon, I'll have an answer for you then. **Patton:** If they don't want to put it in print, can they put it in a file section [inaudible]. **Wilson:** Paul is suggesting that if they don't want to put it on the website, could it be put somewhere where breed council secretaries can access that. **Johnson:** The on-line Almanac might be another option of finding information, so that our community will have that information. **Eigenhauser:** With 19 board members, you're always going to have 19 different opinions on a given issue. Some of them take exception to what a couple of other board members

have said. I believe that if a breed originated in the random-bred gene pool and came from that gene pool, there is nothing wrong with continuing to outcross to that gene pool for as long as it takes to develop that breed so it has the diversity necessary before we look at ending outcrossing and I would think that no matter what other considerations may come into play, whether the discussion is politics or animal rights or legislative, whatever, that our first and foremost thought in deciding when to set the cut-off would be what's best for the health of the animal. **Angell:** One thing that we always have to remember when we're outcrossing to either another breed or to a random-bred cat is, I know we're always looking for something that's good. Well, you stand as much chance getting bad as you get good. In other words, you stand as much chance of bringing in a really terrible lethal gene or some type of hereditary disease. You stand as much chance of getting bad as you get good. **Sylvia:** I believe \$10 is way too cheap for bringing in a first-generation outcross. **Wilson:** How would you feel about a million dollars? **Sylvia:** [inaudible] would deter people from trying to bring things in. **Wilson:** Can you use the microphone? We really need to use the microphone. There's a lot of people here. Paul, you have to use the mike, too. **Sylvia:** I think that would make it so that people who are bringing cats into their breeding program really would be serious about bringing this cat in if they thought it was going to improve their program. \$10 is just – that's what – I would pay \$100 if I found a cat I wanted to bring in my program. **Wilson:** I don't think there's a problem with it. I think you can put that on – I don't think there's a problem with raising the price. I certainly don't have a problem raising the price. **Bellevance:** Didn't Bob say earlier that it was \$200 for an outcross? How do you set that up? **Wilson:** Microphone. Isabelle asked, mentioned that Bob said that American Shorthairs are \$200. Obviously, they are more valuable than American Bobtails. [laughter] I think American Bobtails should be \$300. **Zenda:** I have absolutely no idea how that was established. That's just what it says on the form. **Wilson:** Anyone else have a price? Paul, what's your price? **Patton:** Ours is \$20, but now that we brought up the amount of money, I always thought it should be a lot higher for somebody not in the breed council, and a lot lower for somebody that's a member of the breed council working in the CFA realm of things. **Wilson:** What if they are a member last year and forgot this year? I think you should set a nice, high price and then maybe you can give a discount to people that are breed council members. **Newkirk:** Sounds like a good episode of *Deal or No Deal*. **McIntyre:** I believe it's – I'm guessing – \$40 to remove a cat from Europe or some other association and register it with CFA. Why is an unknown less? **Wilson:** It depends on the breed. Obviously, everybody sets their price, so I think we should bid it up. **Kusy:** I think I can answer that, Laura. It's less I think because they don't have to research pedigrees. [inaudible] another association. I'm sure that's what it is. Kathy says we can raise it to anything we want. **Bellevance:** I just wanted to recap. If I understand correctly, the rates ? a cat is determined by the breed council of that breed and not by CFA? **Wilson:** I don't know. I need to look at that and what I thought I would do is see if I could look at all the, get all the rules and find out what the different costs are. Maybe we can come up with something that makes sense. **Cook-Henry:** Obviously, there is a great disparity and we're finding out here, first of all, it's very difficult to find the rules of registration. They're not for public consumption. There's some interesting things in the rules for registration that maybe a lot of people are not aware of. I don't particularly understand why they are so top secret. I think they should be more accessible to the breeders of CFA and I'm in full agreement that there should be consistency. I like Paul's idea, too, of allowing the breed council members who are interested in such outcrosses having a lower fee, as opposed to somebody who is just interested in registering a cat for the sake of registering a cat. I think this should definitely be looked into. **Baugh:** I just wanted to comment. I'm sitting

next to our Treasurer. She got really excited. **Johnson:** This could balance the budget. **Calhoun:** I put it as a “to do”. **Auspitz:** I have one comment. I agree that an outcross is a crap shoot and you could bring in the bad with the good. The other side of that coin is that if you don’t outcross, you can get a whole lot worse. Boy, the dog people have found out in spades, so we know when we’re breeding an outcross that there is risk of bringing in undesirable traits, as well as the ? That’s just the fun and unpredictability of breeding. We have to realize that even if we are going to Europe to bring an outcross in, we will be bringing in undesirables. We just don’t know, and if we just ? have no idea what you’re getting no, so one has to be aware when one uses outcrosses that there is a risk. Even if you are within your own breed, there is a risk. **Wight:** I just want to make a comment, too. I mean, when we’re trying to get genetic diversity in these cats, even in the large breeds there may not be genetic diversity as we mentioned earlier. The American Shorthair, for example, as the DM cats that I have typed pedigrees for the last 5 years on, the common cats in those pedigrees are just rampant. So, genetic diversity is coming from all these different DM cats which are actually contributing largely to our gene pool are not that diverse. So, even an American Shorthair may actually need some outcrosses. When you bring in something that’s unknown from a domestic, say, and there is a deleterious gene, it gets diluted and it’s how often you breed and get this non-diversity that those very deleterious genes actually cause problems, so the more diversity happens, the better we are going to have health in our cats, even if those deleterious genes are there. **Wilson:** Thank you. Any other comments from board members? Breed council secretaries? Anyone else want to speak on this issue? **Clark:** Right now, we are working on an extension and we are putting together all the cats in our breeding programs. It was very surprising how many brother/sister, father/daughter breedings are out there. Unless you want to get a domestic cat, I took 10 years before I took a domestic cat, so we’re not just going out there looking for a cat. We want to see a curl without the ears. **Johnson:** I have written down two to-do’s that I think we heard from this and getting the registration rules published, as Susan said. I think we really need to have data about our rules and processes more accessible to our breeders and exhibitors, and also look into consistent registration fees for all unknown cats. I think that would be two things that we could take away from this. **Wilson:** Yes, I have that written down also. I’ll see what I can find out about accessibility of registration rules before we meet at 5:00 today. I’ll get some kind of idea how that can be done. Anyone else?

6. *Brief Definition of AOV for each applicable breed (i.e., tailed cat for Manx; pattern for Ragdoll; longhaired for Exotic) – include in standard?*

Wilson: The next item, this is one I forgot maybe but it’s something I would like to see. I’m not qualifying, though. Breeds that have an AOV color class in their standard, it gives color class numbers but it doesn’t say what that’s for. Is it for color? Is it for as in the Manx [end of 6/15/06 Tape 1, Side A] not always clear. If someone had a Manx that was a color that’s not in the breed standard and they want me to transfer it to AOV. Well, is that what the AOV is for in the Manx? Sande is shaking her head no, so they would transfer there thinking it was the AOV class, but they would be transferring it in error. So, I would like some input on this as far as saying, we also need to describe what every AOV is. That’s another discussion and I’m not saying we can’t have that discussion, but I would like to talk about this first. **Bizzell:** For instance, in the Exotic I had an email from an exhibitor saying that she was told she could show her longhair as an AOV and before this time last year, I thought that’s what AOV was for, was for longhairs. But actually, the Exotic has one or two colors that exist in nature that is not described in the standard. **Wilson:** Chinchilla? **Bizzell:** Perhaps caramel, so if someone produces

one, even if I've never seen one, let's say one was produced and they wanted to show it, that's where it would go. It's not clear to me until last year that it could be a color not described.

Wilson: If your AOV color class is just for coat length, then that's what it should say. It should just say the AOV color class is coat length. **Bizzell:** There might be an issue with the Exotic, but there may be other breeds like the Manx, they only want it to be for those that have a tail or some parts of it. **Wilson:** Any other comments on it? **Willen:** I just wanted to mention that it really would work in a lot of ways. ? details, I had a breed council contact me and they were upset because a judge wanted to change the Manx to AOV because of eye color. We don't have ? color of any type that's even registerable as a Manx or it's not, so it's really just tail length and I would like to see that specified that it's tail length and that's it. If it's not that, then it's not an AOV.

Wilson: Then you should put that on the ballot, and I think that's really the way it has to work. If you agree with what it is, then you need to put it on your ballot. **Tanner:** What action would you like to see taken if the breed members cannot agree on what the definition of an AOV should be. Do you want it removed? **Wilson:** It's not a matter of agreeing. If you have an AOV class that

was established for a particular purpose, you need to find out what the purpose was. **Tanner:** I think in our breed it was established by accident. To the best of my knowledge, there has only been one or two AOV's ever registered and they have been pointed Turkish Angoras, which you can't register according to the standard. **Wilson:** If you want to remove it, then you would have to put that on your ballot. **Marron:** I would certainly like to see a definition of the AOV straight

ear in our standard. We certainly don't want them shown as AOV's and then disqualified for improper ears. If they're not in the standard, that conceivably could happen. Our AOV's are just straight ears. We have no colored AOVs. **Wilson:** Then your AOV color class would be straight ears. **Marron:** It would be straight ears. **Wilson:** And that's it. OK. **Patton:** I thought the AOV classes were established in the rules of registration that you were going to check on. **Wilson:** I'm

going to check on accessibility so that you all can have the rules for registration easily accessible. If you don't know what your AOV is there for, you can go ask Central Office to tell you if you need that before I can find out how this can be accessible, but when you established an AOV class, it was established for a particular reason. I don't know how you can absolutely understand it if you don't know what it is, because you weren't around when it was established. I do think you can get that information. That's not really the issue. The issue is, are you willing to put this on your ballot and say in your standard our AOV is straight ears, our AOV class is for tails, our AOV class is for color. You don't have to say what color, just say it's for color. Just so people have an idea what they can transfer there and what they can't. **Roark:** The Somali AOV class is for shorthairs. We've done outcrossing with the Aby. The problem we have with it is that no matter how many times you mark that on the registration, they come back registered with Somali prefixes. So honestly, it's a worthless prefix for us to have that. **Wilson:** The AOV color class and the prefix registration – **Roark:** Our color classes have to match ? just happens with the AOV, but ? shorthair and there's an Aby parent and they come back registered not with AOV prefixes, and this goes on so many times, most of us have given up. **Wilson:** OK, that's

something else we can talk to Central Office about as a separate issue, but on your breed standard are you willing to say the AOV class is for shorthairs? And if someone shows a silver Somali they wouldn't get transferred to AOV. **Roark:** They would get escorted out of the show hall. **Stevenson:** A couple years ago, the Siamese breed council decided that they wanted to eliminate the Albino class because it really doesn't fit our concept of the Siamese and for health reasons we really didn't want the cats bred if they were registered. When the breed council voted on it, we asked to just have color class numbers removed, thinking that would end the ability to

have these cats registered and the board agreed to that but when we came to the meeting, Tom Dent had said that the cats could still be registered, so we had to go back to the breed council again to have registration removed, and that was never really explained to me, so I was just wondering since we are discussing AOV classes right now, if somebody could explain how these cats are registered without color class numbers? **Wilson:** I'm not sure what you mean without a color class number. That's a competitive show category. **Stevenson:** That's it. I guess if somebody wants to remove their AOV class, you need to also ask to have the cats not registered. Since we didn't do it all in one thing, we had to bring it up twice. It was never really explained to us why. It was just because Tom said it was, but, so we did it but we never really understood why. **Wilson:** The rules for registration come first, but when you go through the process of coming in as a new breeder and having ?, the registration rules come first because registration comes before showing, so there is a process. I'm not sure I totally understand it either, but, so if you could, by just taking out the color class – I don't know if that's a separate color class – does not mean they can't be registered. They can't be shown. Color class is a show category, competitive category. **Stevenson:** So, how are they registered? If they were, you know, at that point with no color class, how are they registered? That's what I don't understand. **Wilson:** I don't think it's necessarily always a case that the AOV color class number is a registration prefix. **Stevenson:** OK. That's what I was trying to understand. **Johnson:** I think I'm hearing something else when we talk about getting more information out. I think we all have in our minds what is a color class. A color class is a competitive category and what does AOV mean? Does AOV mean I can show it or a breeding category? I think it might be good to enhance our definitions of registration rules, AOV. I think I can work with you on that. I think it might provide some clarity so when we talk about these different things, we all know what it means. I don't think there is a definition somewhere for the public to know. We might be able to enhance them to provide better descriptions. **Cook-Henry:** This is just another comment back to the registration rules as they do relate to Persians. We had a recent discussion on our breed council list regarding a claim on a European website that Persian cats can now be registered in CFA with 4 generation pedigrees and that stemmed from an individual cat that apparently was registered as a Persian with 4 clear generations of pure Persian behind it. That was registered as a cat for breeding only – not for show, it's for breeding only. The Central Office reply to that was, there may be something other than a Persian in the 5th generation, but they have no way of determining that. The cat was registered as a Persian with a Persian prefix, and there's reason to believe that there may be an Exotic in the 5th generation. So, that's an anomaly that's happening and that therefore it was claimed that this cat is now a Persian, yet there is a question about the 5th generation and CFA now cannot go back and say hey, we want to see the 5th generation on this cat, which I can understand as well. This cat was registered according to the rules of registration for CFA as a Persian cat with 4 generations of clear Persian. If you want to register this cat for show, it must have 5 generations certified pure Persian behind it. **Amundson:** As far as the Devon Rex is concerned, we have an AOV class but I think it is mainly limited to the F1 generation that are registered as Devons, and we would be more than glad I am sure to put that question on our ballot. I think it's a great idea for the AOV's. I have some other housekeeping things. When I saw this was on the ballot, or on the agenda here today, I flipped through the show rules and I noticed, I don't know if anybody has seen this before, but if you look at the AOV definition under Article I, at the very end it says for the AOV class, see 31.02, and if you go to 31.02, that's the Junior Showmanship section. I think they didn't mean to say 31.02. So, if somebody on the show rules committee can clean that up. **Wilson:** Loretta is writing that down. I

will see if I can get the actual AOV definition for every breed and get that out to you before ballot time. I'm putting it on my list. **Auspitz:** What Susan brings up is to me very keen. This goes back to the myth of 5 generations versus 8 generations. Purity as defined by X number of generations is not purity at all, because if you go back ? and I have pedigrees for the Abyssinians from the late 1800's and early 1900's. The fact is that having 8 generations in an Abyssinian is silly, because you can ? generations. [inaudible] **Miller:** I wanted to ask for some discussion about what the purpose of show AOV's is. It seems to me that it's to advance to championship. If that's the case, then the AOV's are sort of in the same position as provision breeds. According to our 1979 rules of acceptance of new breeds and new colors, new colors are supposed to go through the same process as a new breed. Now, the board has over the past years not always consistently applied those rules, so there has been some variation but theoretically that's the way it should be. Provision breeds, the judges all give evaluations whenever we handle a provisional breed. It seems to me that if a breed is trying to show AOV's because they want advancement, that we should also be filling out forms as judges. Now, I don't know how people feel about that or whether it could be an informal way. We could have an on-line way. I know Annette has suggested that as a possibility where we can get some input, but often when – it doesn't happen very often, but when new colors come in a breed and then they come to the board for their acceptance, we have nothing in front of us as far as what, how they have been evaluated, whether they are of good quality or not good quality. We don't even have descriptions. I'm thinking particularly of the Ragdoll coming along in new colors. I know those colors are defined. They were in their rationale. They were also in other associations, so they are well defined, but our judges have nothing in front of us to know what this is supposed to look like. I would like to hear a little bit about that. **DelaBar:** Joan, I'm going to spot you on that, because back in the days when I was doing a lot of breeding, I worked with 4 breeds that had, that could produce AOV's, especially my Colorpoint Shorthairs. I used to show occasionally an AOV Colorpoint Shorthair to show people what I was using in my breeding program to try to get my lynx points. I had no idea, or no motive ever to try to get the pointed AOV's recognized for championship in the Colorpoint. Sometimes it's just to show the other breeds what you have and what you're working with. **Morgan:** If that is indeed the case, Joan, I think that some of the breed councils are somewhat misguided on that. When we were given the topic for accepting the blue Egyptian Maus, we were told the breed council could vote on them and simply put them in AOV status so we could track them so we would know when they were showing up. Again, as Pam mentioned, the breeders have periodically brought them out so that judges can see the ? on the Egyptian Mau is certainly nothing that I have a desire to ever see going to championship status. **Wilson:** Excuse me. There's a little discrepancy here. It has been brought up to me and I appreciate the input. I've gotten notes from the Central Office and from Isabelle, is that the AOV class is for registered cats who's registration allows them to be registered in the championship class but do not conform to the show standard. The discrepancy is, the AOV class is specifically listed in the rules for advancement as being required to get a color or pattern, in this case, advanced, so on one hand we're saying you can show them and they are supposed to show them, they are eligible to be registered, but they shouldn't be shown because they don't conform to the standard, and then on the other side we are saying this is the path you take if you want to get that color or pattern or whatever the AOV definition is, accepted for show. **Johnson:** Back when we started trying to refine the advancement rules a few years ago when I was breed council chair, I think that this is a discrepancy and I think Joan brought up a good point and I think it also goes to defining things a little differently. If somebody is seeking advancement to championship, AOV

is a stepping stone. Maybe we missed a process where the breed councils should indicate that's what they're trying to do or they need to go for an evaluation form. I think Joan, this is the missing link. It's just not there and we certainly can look into it as something we might want to do. I know I worked a lot with Laura trying to get advancement of a color in her breed from AOV to championship status, and it hasn't been done uniformly or consistently. I think it might be something to look into. **Wilson:** It's something I thought was absolutely perfectly clear in my mind until I realized that on one hand it's this and on the other hand it's that, so there's a difference between an AOV that, let's say the Ragdoll that they now have two different patterns accepted for AOV status and their reason for doing so is to be able to meet the requirements to advance those patterns. **Johnson:** There might need to be an application for color advancement that we just have not had, so you sort of know what you want in that AOV status, or just a clarification and definition. I think it's a gap and we have just not closed it yet. **Wilson:** Right, and Pam brings up a good point that it could be different reasons for different breeds. I'm not quit sure how to come up with that. Maybe we can all think about that. If anybody has any ideas. **Miller:** This is really – I had no idea about the Egyptian Mau, for instance, that they, what they – when I think about it, once I did a presentation for the distinguished merit cats and out came this gorgeous Manx, only she was fully tailed. She was the first Manx distinguished merit cat. Her name was Tilly. I'll never forget her, and she had this long, long tail, and I thought wow, she has produced just great. This is a cat that I could very well see in an AOV class with no intention of advancing to anything, so maybe there has to be two types of AOV's – one that we handle like miscellaneous, just to check because there's no point in giving out blue ribbons and red ribbons and best of color if there's no intention of advancing to some other level, like if we want to see a blue Egyptian Mau and the breeders don't want them to be accepted but just like Pam said, she wanted to bring her Colorpoint Shorthair to the show with no idea of another color, that would be great. Let us see them. Let us just do a check mark, no competition. So we have like miscellaneous or provisional. If they are provisional, then they should be evaluated so that we know where we're going. Are we seeing consistency? Are they ready to move to championship? I think that we need two forms of AOV for showing. **Bellevance:** This brings up another question. Being the Ragdoll breed council secretary, I have been approached by many of my breed council members because of some of the comments of the judges who have been handling the AOV cats. I'm more than willing to just put mitted and Colorpoint for the description of AOV, then that's not going to help judges very much if they don't know what the mitted is supposed to look like, so the idea of having some kind of description or standard, having something for the judges to go on to evaluate these cats is very important in my breed, so if they know it's wrong, they know what they are looking at or what the difference is with other breeds if this is a concern of theirs. **Eigenhauser:** Actually, I think Joan's idea was a little too narrow. I don't think there's just two classes of AOV – those that are used for breeding don't need to be evaluated, and those that are up for advancement to championship that do need to be evaluated. There are also people that bring their AOV's to the show specifically to get them evaluated so they know which of these two kittens is the better one. Which should I keep for my breeding program? I can see for example straight-eared Folds going in as AOV's because they want the judges to look at them, which one has the better head, which one has the better body. They are evaluating them not to advance them to show status, championship status, but they want them evaluated because they care about other people's opinions about the cats they are using in their breeding programs. So, I think there are more than just two reasons why people show AOV's. **Johnson;** No disrespect to our esteemed judging panel, I think a lot of times breeders going to

breeders. If the judge is a breeder of your cat, it might also be another place you do that kind of thing – not necessarily go to the judges because the judges are looking for the best of our cats and I know they know a lot, but I sort of go to the breeders for those kinds of evaluations. I'm not sure those always need to be done in the show hall by judges. **Marron:** George spoke ? Scottish Folds and George said a lot of what I was going to say, but in Scottish Folds, 50% of our cats are AOV's and nobody ever sees them. I am sure many people have never seen a straight-eared. **Wilson:** We have those people like tied up somewhere. **Marron:** I think it would be – we do, perhaps an evaluation by judges. I think it might be interesting for those kind of AOV classes to establish something equivalent to a winners' ribbon, where the cats would get 6 awards saying that they were of merit following their breeding program. **Wilson:** I appreciate the comment, the interest in that, but I think we really need to really realize that the AOV class is different, set up for different reasons in different breeds, so I think we need to kind of get to the point where we know what it is for different breeds and an individual breed may be able to say, OK, Egyptian Maus it's for pattern and color only, and then it's up to them if they want to go any further. I mean, that's a ballot issue for their breed council, so I think we have to be a little bit careful in doing anything kind of across the board here, but I do appreciate the fact that there is, that the Egyptian Maus and Ragdolls are caught up in this at this particular point, but it could be another breed next year or somewhere else, and we have to find a way to, since they are using the AOV class as a means of advancing their cats per the advancement matrix, then they have to have some information for the judges, and it has to be information that the breed council agrees on. What is the pattern and description? It may be informal, and that's I guess my advice right now because we don't have anything better in print right now would be something informal that they agree upon that they make available to judges as they judge those cats. **Zenda:** Over the last few years, there have been a couple colors that the breed, members of the American Shorthair breed council have wanted to get recognized. **Wilson:** Is caramel one of them? **Zenda:** No, it's not, but truth changes. However, trying to determine the numbers of the cats that are registered that way is absolutely impossible because they are not being registered using the AOV numbers. For example, ticked tabbies are being registered as shaded. One of the existing colors sometimes with a T after it, when you look for those things you can't get the numbers. I don't understand why they are not being registered with those other numbers so we can track them. With the Ragdolls and the others, the breed council may come to you and say, "I only want to recognize black", and when they come to you and say, "now I want to recognize white." Well, we didn't want that in the beginning, so I'm not going to talk to you, that's what I see from the minutes. Again, truth changes. Things change, and there's a reason why these things happen, so I think there has to be an acceptance of that. Start with the registration process. **Wilson:** Thank you. Someone else mentioned they were having difficulties with their AOV's, and that was Somalis. I can get a list of those and I will try to find out why that was an issue. Any other breed having difficulty getting their AOV's registered with AOV prefixes? Exotics? I've got Exotics, American Shorthairs and Somalis. Anybody else? If you find down the road, you just don't know right now, if you find that it's an issue, would you let me know and I'll see if I can find out what the problem is. **Belleavance:** I wanted to ask, I'm a little confused because I know in our breed anyway, the AOV is actually just a color in its competition class and it has nothing to do with the registration of these cats. Our mitteds and colorpoints have different combination numbers that don't even look like the AOV. **Wilson:** Right, and I think we talked about it. A prefix on your registration is not always the AOV color class number, but if there's not some way that it is a different number from your non-AOV cats, that's maybe something that we need to ask about,

and find out. **Newkirk:** Did we come to a consensus on what we're going to do with the Ragdoll AOV colors? Are we going to put those in the standards or not? **Wilson:** We're not going to put them in the standards until they come up to the next step, and Isabelle is going poll her breed council members and come up with something that can be given to the judges, and I would be happy to email it to everyone once it's done so you can ? **Bellevance:** Does this need to go through the ballot, or can it be done prior to the ballot? **Wilson:** Well, I think you could probably come up with something that is, that you think is going to be acceptable to use in the interim, but I would then put it on your ballot, yes. **Newkirk:** If that comes up before the board on the ballot, will it be included in the breed standard? **Wilson:** I don't think we want to be putting AOV descriptions in the breed standards. **Newkirk:** We did it for the Tonkinese. **Wilson:** We did. I don't think we want to be putting AOV descriptions in the standards. **Newkirk:** I think that is something we need to discuss at the board. I think the Ragdoll is unique in its AOV color descriptions, and I personally believe it should be in the standards. **Johnson:** We sit here and talk about, we don't have a good definition of what an AOV is, and now we're sort of getting into, should we describe what an AOV is by sort of general type, whether it's color or color description. Maybe we need to look at the whole issue of AOV, what the definition is, what it should include, and I really don't feel like we need to differentiate ? about the breed, but we've got tracking issues, we've got color descriptions, what does a judge know what an AOV should look like? I think this has brought up a lot of larger issues that we need to investigate as a whole and not specifically for ? breeds. **McIntyre:** As a judge, I realize how important it is to know what you are looking at on the table, and I can see that but I don't – I do agree with you that I don't believe the AOV color description should be in the standard. It's not always feasible to know ahead of time what our breeders are going to come up with. There are some colors that – golden is not in our standards yet. I haven't seen one. I know it's feasible to obtain and do you really want us to come out there and put in our standard every possibility that is out there? I would rather see some more flexible things, sort of like the provisional/miscellaneous thing you can hand to the judges and say, this is what we're looking for, and perhaps put it on the website, just as our provisional and miscellaneous. **Wilson:** Right, and I agree with that, but I think that's what you do when you have a provisional or miscellaneous breed. It's a work in process, and I realize that for the Ragdolls we already have this, but it's still a work in process as far as we're concerned. **Newkirk:** I was just suggesting that the Ragdoll is unique. I wasn't suggesting that every breed list every possible AOV color that they can come up with. This is, the Ragdoll is a breed that is well established throughout the world. We accepted only the bi-colors. Just this past board meeting, we accepted the Colorpoints and the mitteds. Those are well-established patterns and well-established colors all over the world. Many of our judges have never seen these colors and patterns. There are several of us on the judging list that have the opportunity to judge these cats in other associations and evaluate them, but there are many judges who don't know what these are and it was brought home well at a show where a mitted was awarded winners' ribbons as a bi-color, so I think it needs to be described. If it's not in the show standard, then the judge is going to have to carry a little packet in their briefcase and it's going to get lost. They have always had these colors and that would just be included in the color descriptions in the breed standard for that particular breed. **Wilson:** The problem is that the AOV color class specifically says it's for cats that don't conform to the accepted standards, so then we've got another discrepancy in there. **Johnson:** Laura brought up a good point that I was thinking about. I do think it points to, do we need a process and I think where the Ragdoll is unique, we are looking at these and they want to put them in front of the judges for evaluation and exposure, I think it's

a process for color advancement, it's a gap we need to fill and we brought it up to be similar to provisional so I think if we have an opportunity to look at that and come up with some sort of process, that might fulfill the need to get judges what they need. **Wilson:** But meanwhile, to address the issue that is ? now is the Ragdoll patterns that are AOV and I think that Isabelle can come up with something we can give to all the judges and if they lose them, they will just have to borrow it from the judge in the ring next door. **Tanner:** I know we're running out of time on this topic and I think that this would lead us very naturally into the next topic, so I just wanted to throw out an idea for consideration. It seems to me that the AOV classes that do not involve a color that is being presented for evaluation and possible advancement could probably continue to exist with the current AOV definition, perhaps slight redefined and then it would be ideal for situations such as a tailed Manx, a straight-eared Fold, etc., and that perhaps we could create an AOV color class for those that did require evaluation and for those classes you could use a procedure similar to what was just discussed with the Ragdolls. But, this would be very efficient if the board did something like this, because it would reduce the need for each breed to do a specific standard change defining their AOV's and therefore reduce the necessity for a million standard changes down the road as everybody tries to address this problem. **Cook-Henry:** Just a wrap-up comment on our conversation here. I think it's very interesting that we heard a number of different issues within various breeds as to pedigrees, and CFA being the world's largest registry of pedigreed cats, pedigree is a tool that we use. I know that George has been very adamant in saying, "If you want a clear line, then you linechase that line. Know what's behind your cats." I hear what Laura is saying about 8 generation pedigrees. However, pedigrees are a tool and if you have a cat in your pedigree and you linechase it and it's registered with an improper prefix, how is that a tool? That is my point. Pedigrees need to be consistent, cats need to be registered as what they really are genetically and not just a registration prefix that does not represent that cat, and therefore ends up in pedigrees erroneously and the breeder has no opportunity to know the truth. **DeVoe:** This caused us a problem. Last year we just happened to notice when we asked how many colors were registered in our breed, we happened to notice that we had AOV cats. I contacted the Central Office and we found out that these cats happened to end up in AOV's only because of the pedigree that came in lists the cat as a sable tortie. We call them brown torties, so they just happened to go into the AOV's. The problem that we are running into is, in other associations they do have cinnamon Burmese – European Burmese, they have caramel. We do not want those colors, so we decided last year to get rid of the AOV. That way, if anybody tries to register any other color, there's no possibility to do this. So, that's why we dropped it. **Wilson:** OK, any other comments on this issue? I think we've got some work to do here and if anybody wants to email me any input separately, I'll be happy to share it with the board and I'll see if we can get somewhere with this. It truly is a discrepancy but I'm not sure that we need to create a whole new color class. I'm hoping we can find a way to handle it administratively that will work for everyone, and as Joan indicated, provide a means of input so that when these cats that are in the AOV class for purposes of proceeding through the advancement matrix, that there is some feed-back and we have some good information when it is next on the ballot.

7. *Breed Standard Changes – frequency/limitation*

Wilson: The next item on the agenda is breed standard changes – frequency and limitations. This is a personal thing of mine and I probably should just forget about it. It actually never occurred to me until I worked with the business analyst that came to Central Office to look

at procedures and so on, and he actually had a background in dog registry. His father is an AKC allbreed judge and he said, “you know, in the dog fancy, they can’t be changing their standards all the time. Is it a standard or isn’t it? If it’s a standard, then why are you changing them all the time?” I thought about that and it was like, well, I breed a breed that doesn’t change their standard very frequently, so it makes sense to me but of course it may not make sense to all of you, so I would like to have some discussion on it, keeping in mind that newer breeds, or newer breeds to CFA may be a work in process and may need to continue to work on their standard. Well, that’s really part of the miscellaneous and provisional process is to do that. We have got a number of breeds here that have been in CFA for 100 years. Why do you need to change your standard? I just would like some input. I’m not trying to be adversarial here, I would just like some input. **Willen:** I think in our breed a lot of times it’s not that we are really changing the standard, it’s that we’re clarifying a point that may be misinterpreted according to most of the breed council members. Again, it doesn’t really affect what our cats look like, but may be something we wanted to make it clear on, so I think there’s different kinds of standard charges – clarification versus going in a different direction. **Wilson:** When you say to clarify through your breed council, that would be like a judge said to you, “this really doesn’t make sense, you need to clarify this in your standard”? **Willen:** We have ? We’re one of the breeds that ? and it used to be right up in front and sometime, I think way down and it started being missed and our cats ? are told to be changing to bi-color because they had a locket, so we changed the standard to put it back on ? Our cats didn’t change – the wordage changed. **Wilson:** What I would like to point out is when that happens, may be the first thing to consider isn’t a standard change, but rather using a communication process as an educational tool for the judges, and I will be happy – in my work I do this; I send a reminder to the field offices – don’t forget this claim. This is important to them. Maybe that’s just from time to time a little reminder from the breed council secretaries’ list to the judges’ list, saying by the way, don’t forget lockets are not a disqualification in Manx. Rather than seeing standard changes and moving it here, moving it there, shouldn’t it be more of an opportunity for education? **Eigenhauser:** On the subject of frequency, let me just say two words: common sense. We had a situation years ago, and I’m not trying to pick on the particular breed that did, that three years in a row had changes in the head structure on that particular breed, and by the third year, if they had passed it unanimously the board wasn’t going to listen to them, because the thought was, if you don’t know what you want, don’t keep asking us to change it, so that’s one of the things you need to think about. The more often you change it, the less it seems like you know what you really want. The other thing to think about is every time you change your standard, you’re dealing with 100+ CFA judges that are going to have to change their interpretation of your standard to meet whatever change you need. If you keep changing willy nilly, left and right, you’re going to confuse judges, and I’m going to tell you, whether you believe it or not, if a judge doesn’t understand your standard, they’re going to have a hard time putting your cat up, so when you do make changes, think in terms of, is this really necessary? Is this consistent with what we have done in the past? How many times have we visited the board in recent memory? Now this isn’t to say that if you make a change to your standard and wake up the next morning and go, “oops, we left this thing out”, you would come back 2 years in a row but if we see you coming back with work on the same part of your standard two or three years in a row, that really says something about your own vision of your standard being a little cloudy, and maybe you should work on clarifying that before you ask the board and the judges to have to change their vision of what your standard is supposed to be. **Newkirk:** I was going to say, we are sort of set up here ideally to consider longhair breeds one year and shorthair breeds the alternate

year, and then give the new breeds like a 3-5 year reprieve where they may need to make some changes, but I see sort of a couple years now, a lot of breeds will come back year after year. Some of the breeds we never hear from at our February meeting. A lot of you come to that February meeting and attend, so you know how much time we spend addressing these breed standard issues, so some of you guys might consider swapping off years; you know, longhair breeds do their standard change and shorthair breeds the next year. **Wilson:** That's a good idea. **Baugh:** I just wanted to make the comment that our standards are ideals and that nobody has the perfect cat. No cat meets the standard perfectly. We want to be cautious that we're not trying to change our standards to meet the cat, rather than breed the cat so it meets the standard. **Angell:** I would just like to add a little bit to what George said, because I really agree with what he had to say. Years ago, actually in the early 80's, I was breed council secretary for the Scottish Fold. We were a very new breed at that time, and I was lucky enough to have as one of my mentors the late Jeanie McPhee, and she sat me down right after I had become Scottish Fold breed council secretary, and she said, "look, I know your breed is still trying to establish a look", but she said, "try not to change your standard every year, because every time we change a standard, you may give the judges something that they just can't live with. When a judge has so many things to consider that they can't live with it, it makes it harder for the breed to be put up." **N. Auspitz:** Essentially what I was going to say, probably worded differently, is that whenever you change a standard, there are intended effects and unfortunately unintended effects, and unintended effects [inaudible] is that it may backfire and once you present it to the judges, it may not be comparable to what you think you presented to the judges, so be extremely careful. **Johnson:** I just have a comment now that all the breed council secretaries are here. I wanted to make sure everyone understands it's not a requirement to put in a ballot change every year. It's OK not to have one of those. I do think a new breed council secretary comes in and they may think oh, it's a chance to clean up and that's my job, but it's OK and I think the standard is the ideal, and you need to be cautious because you start changing a lot and you get a lot of people confused about your breed. I want everybody to say it's OK not to submit a ballot change. **Stevenson:** I work with a breed that doesn't change its standard either very often and when we went to the board, whether you remember it or not, we were the original breed that brought up the communication and educational process to work with the judges, because we had some issues with recognition of good color in the Siamese. It has been an on-going discussion among breed council members, and one of the things, the feed-back I got so much from the different judges, and maybe this is something we can work on to improve the educational program, is that they weren't going to take us seriously unless we changed our standard. In other words, we went to them to try to clarify and explain our color issues. That's a lot of feed-back we got, not from every judge but a lot of them, was that until you actually went and change your standard, in other words in our case put more points on color, that they weren't going to take our concerns about evaluation of color seriously, so that was kind of the dilemma we were at when we tried to, you know, present the feeling of Siamese breed council about the quality of color we would like to see recognized. So, that's just something, I just wanted to bring that up as feed-back. I don't know how to, you know, to overcome that. **Wilson:** As a breeder, I have a suggestion. When you start letting judges dictate your standard, you need to sit down and think about what's going on. That's not the way it works. You have a standard. Your breed has a standard, and if there's a problem with educating judges on what it means that we address it as an educational issue. Maybe, in fact, there needs to be some clarification, but I don't think that should be the first thing you jump to. Having the judges understand your color descriptions and the point allotment to it is the issue

there, not a standard change. **Stevenson:** I'm just saying what we were – a lot of feed-back and we got [inaudible] that was fine to tell them all that, but unless we wanted to, as a breed council, take color more seriously by changing our standard, they weren't going to give credence to it. That was what I am trying to say. I'm not saying we are going to go out and change our standard because of that, but this is the kind of feed-back that we kind of got, so in other words, unless we put our money where our mouth was, is what we were being told, by changing and actually allocating more points, that they didn't feel that they needed to take our concerns more seriously.

Tanner: One thing that occurred to me as I talked about this list with people on the breed council was that perhaps the same objective of taking less board time and keeping the standards uniform over time could be addressed by limiting the number of standard changes that we could submit in a given year, rather than limiting the number of years in which breeds are able to make standard changes. If you did that, you would have things happen faster, people would focus more on what you did submit, and you could also use the poll every year to ask advisory questions to see how people feel about things you might want to propose next year. **Cook-Henry:** I was just curious as to how many of your breed standards do not include specific terminology that are commonly used by breeders and judges [end of 6/15/06 Tape 1, Side B] The word “doming” is not in our standard, profile is not defined in the standard. Other breeds that have terminology not written down, doesn't pertain to a variety of different styles. Using terminology consistently? ... does not as far as doming is concerned, for example. **Wilson:** That's a good point, in addition to defining colors. I mean, in the front of the standards there are some basic arrows that point to where a muzzle is on a cat. There is standard terminology – wedge is one of those. **Hooker:** To set the stage in case you see it, ? proposals this year for the Turkish Van breed. We're probably doing it a little bit backwards because initially our standard was written very, very lenient and it in essence describes a minimal threshold for cats you can bring into the show hall. It does not do a good job of really defining that ideal cat, so as a breeder we have been looking at it and actually want to tighten it up so it truly does define that ideal cat, what we would like to see for head markings and size and eye intensity, so if we can address that and tighten it up a little better. People look at it now, the standard says you have to have 20% color. That's really not our ideal show cat. **Wilson:** That is truly the purpose for a ballot and your breed council. I guess my point here is, once you have your standard written and you all agree that that is the standard, what are some of the things that are going to make that standard change? If you truly are going to breed to the standard and not change your standard to fit what you're breeding, then once your breed has been established for 25 years, what needs to change in your standard? I'm really asking ? just curiosity. Obviously just adding colors and things like that, but what is going to change? **Stevenson:** The one big change in the standard came in I think in the late 70's, early 80's in reaction to an actual physical disease – I'm not sure it's really a disease, a breeding problem, what they determined it to be. There are a lot of words floating around, but they had very, very weak muscle tone in Siamese, so in order to hopefully change that to focus attention on the body, they actually took 10 points off condition and put it on muscle tone, so I think an issue like that, a health issue, is something that is real important to the breeders. **Wilson:** Anyone else have some ideas of what? **Willen:** A lot of the Manx breed changes, substantive changes, came about because of health issues, as well. Originally, it said that the back couldn't be too short and it was supposed to have a hopping gait. Well, that of course is exactly what we don't want, so these were health issues that ? a short cat, but it shouldn't be so short that it can't move properly. Those are the kind of substantive changes that we introduced. Everything else is for clarification only. **Wilson:** I think that's good for other breed council secretaries to know. What

has been some of the things that have caused the breed councils to consider substantive changes?

Heidt: Our main problem, we are just newly recognized, is also the language issue. Our original standard came in Russian and it was translated and some of the translation wasn't precise enough for us, so we're still somewhat dealing with translation issues as far as what they mean exactly by this, how could that wordage translate from Russian to English, and is it understood. **Wilson:** OK, so in your breed, you're a recognized breed, you are an accepted breed, making sure that the words you are using to describe what you want are actually the words you use. **Heidt:** Right. Because there was a language barrier. **Wilson:** Unless somebody else wants to comment, I'm not just saying we have to ? I just think that input is valuable. **Johnson:** We have talked a little bit about the reasons we change standards, and if there would be some people interested in looking at changing standards less frequently. I have heard some ideas that were interesting: polling every year, changing standards every other year, because I saw standards changed 2 or 3 years in a row because we polled and we selected some wording that really didn't work once we saw it and we unchanged it, so I wondered, I know you have to contact your breed. Is there interest in possibly pursuing looking into some process to maybe do yearly polling but limiting changes to maybe every other year or some periodic change that wouldn't be every single year. Could we just get a raise of hands if you think you would consider it. Are there a lot of people that are adamantly opposed to it? Paul, we knew it would be you. Thank you for your input. **Patton:** The only reason I say this, and I know that the Sphynx has had a long ballot for a couple years, is we missed out on a provisional section where we could make the minute changes so to now punish us farther because you want to extend it to 2 to 3 years every time. If it was some kind of graduated program. **Johnson:** I think that would be part of the process, because one of the suggestions was, a newer breed would have a few years to firm up their standard. **Wilson:** I think that's really necessary. I think a breed that has only been accepted for 5 years or maybe even 10 years should have more leniency, but then at some point, it's like this is the standard. **Johnson:** Paul, although we like to punish you, we really weren't trying to punish you. You make a good point.

8. *What is the "essence" of your breed?*

Wilson: We're kind of running short of time, and I think the next one is something that Joan asked me to put on here, and that is; is it possible for our breed councils to consider in one or two sentences describing what the essence of their breed is. Joan, why don't you? **Miller:** This is something that I have thought about for a few years and talked to various people. Some like the idea and some don't, but many people really seem to feel that it is a thing that we could consider. It's the first time that we have ever had a chance for all breed council secretaries to maybe think about this. The essence of a breed would be, what is essential? That's actually what I think essence means – what is essential in a breed. This would be the idea of an overall vision of the breed, what it is that makes each breed distinct from all the other breeds, and I'm thinking of an expression of the character of the breed that would be in one or two sentences. I know in many legislative matters or others, we try to make sound bites and I sort of think this is like a sound bite of the breed. If you were on an elevator and someone says oh, what breed do you have in that carrier there? You would say, I have an Ocicat. Well, what's an Ocicat? It's a spotted cat that has a wild look. Something like that, maybe a little bit more. Something that would easily be said to the general public. Nobody in the public wants to read the whole standard. That's for the breeders, that's for the judges to evaluate, but each of our breeds should have, I think, their overall character of the breed established. One of the examples that I have been given why this

might be effective was, many years ago I was the breed council secretary for the Abyssinian breed, 10 years breed council secretary. It was during the period when the dilute factor came in, and the original cats that I saw, the blue cats in the 60's, were very cold color. They were dark blue and they had a silvery undercoat and they had, early words used to describe these cats were "oatmeal" was the color that was supposed to be for the belly, and at the time when they were accepted in 1984, there was no standard. It had to be developed, and I was working with the people in the breed and they said that our breed is a colorful cat. That's right in the early description. Therefore, some of the early catteries called it ice blue that were producing blues. The cats were not meeting the definition of a colorful cat, so we were either going to have to back off of the Abyssinian being a colorful cat or we were going to have to get the blues to that colorful look. That is the choice that the breed council made at the time. It took so much work, it was so hard but now the blues that we have today, instead of being ice blue and white and silvery, they are almost apricot some of them, on their chest, and they have a warm color underneath that's not oatmeal. It's a nice color, but that was because we had a vision of the breed as a colorful ticked cat, so that's just one example of why I think you should describe the essence of the breed might be important. It would be something that would be changed far less than the standard. It would be changeable, but there would have to be a real reason why suddenly the breed is going to be different. If an Ocicat is a spotted cat and some breeders say we want to bring in the recessive classic tabbies that are coming in, that would be a big change for the essence of that breed. So anyway, I just thought I would like to throw it out to see if there was interest in – some breeds already have in their general statement, I think, what would really amount to the essence of their breed and others don't, but some of them are already there. Some of them may be breeds in flux so they really don't feel ready to have the essence of their breed, but they should start to think about the vision for their breed, I think. **Anger:** I am a huge fan of this philosophy. To me, that's what it's all about when you are presenting cats to the public. They don't want to know all the fine points of your standard; they want to know what's this breed all about? What's the purpose of this breed? What makes this a breed? When we have those little sound bites, as Joan calls it, boy what a tremendous help. I have a couple that I use for some of the breeds, and I'm sure some of the other judges do too. I would truly love to have one that your breed council endorses. The breeds that I'm a breed council member of and have some involvement with, I feel real comfortable summing it up in a sentence or two, but you have another breed like the Chartreux; you know, it's got a beautiful general description – an ancient French breed of working cat coveted since antiquity for its hunting prowess and its dense, water repellent fur. I'm not going to say that every week to spectators. They just want to know why is this blue cat different from that blue cat, so I'm a huge fan of this. The only problem I see is when you have a breed council with a lot of members, getting them to agree on one or two short sentences might not be such an easy proposition, but I would love to have people encouraged to think about this philosophy and help us help you. Help us tell these people what your breed is all about. We're so excited about them. You know, when you watch that Westminster dog show, you've got that David Frye in there and he can give you those little sound bites. The dog people have a saying – it's form or function that makes a breed of dog that breed and boy, I plagiarize that an awful lot. It works very well for them, and they have attracted huge media on that philosophy. I would really love to encourage you to explore this. **Wilson:** I can see this as homework for you all. **Unidentified:** Quick question. Would this then appear as the first thing in the standard? **Wilson:** It would only appear as the first thing in the standard if you do a standard change. Maybe ultimately that's where it would go, but I think, Joan? **Miller:** I just thought I

would show you something. This is an experimental thing that I have worked on. I originated it when I went to China. I couldn't bring a lot of pamphlets in my suitcase, so with Karen Lawrence, we worked this out so that everybody – thousands of people can get these things. I know Bob has used these when they go to foreign countries. I'm using them now for legislators when they say, "pedigreed cats, what are you talking about?" Siamese, that's all they know. "Oh no, we have all of these breeds." So, I can see possibly this being the format for the essence of the breeds. Right now, I think we need a little more work on some of these breeds. I would love to have the essence from every breed council so that they feel good about what we are telling legislators, what we are telling people in foreign countries. This is the format that I would envision. **White:** Just a quick question. The document that you are referring to. Where did you get those? **Miller:** They're just experimental right now. It's something Karen and I did. I have gotten them to Bob. I think Darrell has taken them to Europe. Whenever I go to Russia or Ukraine or places like that, I sometimes take them. The general public loves them. I don't want to put this out because they haven't been approved by the breed councils. **White:** So, did you get the statements from the general description? **Miller:** Most of this was Karen writing statements and there are a few of them that I would like to make some revisions to, but the ideal would be for every breed council to say, this is my breed. There are only 2 lines on each one. Easy for a legislator to look here and say, "oh, Siberian. Siberians have been around for at least 1,000 years, as far as recorded history. They are considered a semi-longhair, have a rich, full coat in the winter, summer allows for a somewhat shorter and less dense coat. The Siberian is a natural breed and the national cat of Russia. They were first imported into the United States in 1990." That gives you an example of what we would say for these breeds. I would love to develop this. Shelters love it. I could give out ? shelters. The media loves it. They don't know what these breeds are. I use it a lot and I really need to have you people work on what you want for a couple of lines that say what your breed is. **White:** So as a suggestion, would you be willing to send that to each of the breed council secretaries, take a look at it, modify it, change it, get it back to you? **DelaBar:** Please remember, we're getting very close on time, and please, before you speak, be recognized by the chair. **Wilson:** David, some of this information, you know, there's descriptions of the breeds that are outside of the standards. The breed profiles, for instance; things that Rachel comes up with that are interesting to the public, so I think this is just a project, something to think about. I don't think this needs to be a standard change. You may or may not, as Joan said, have something in your standard in the general description. There may be something in your breed profile. You may want to come up with something else, but I think it's a concept to think about and give you some homework for you all to talk to your breed council members and see what you all can come up with. **Johnson:** Can I make a real quick comment? One of the things I'm a big proponent of is, we see breeds come into being that originally started out, they were intently going to be one thing and they morph into something else. I think it goes back to what Loretta said; our standards are about the ideal cat, not about what we get when we are breeding or what I got this year. So, I think the essence of the breed would also be a guideline, not just to the breeders of today in the accepted breeds. I would like the breeders of tomorrow to understand how the breed came to be and why we accepted this breed and what they were meant to be. I think it's a good thing to think about.

Wilson: A couple things I want to mention, so I'm going to do that and come back to the CFA Breed Referral Listing. Perhaps we can take a few extra minutes. [goes to #10]

9. CFA Breed Referral Listing – qualifications, accuracy

Wilson: OK, the last item is the CFA Breeder Referral Listing. There have been some questions about whether or not there are some kind of qualifications or monitoring of the accuracy of the information. Neil, you had emailed me about this, so – **Quigley:** This isn't a huge problem in our breed, but I'm sure other breeds have breeder listings on there that are for people who I wouldn't consider recommending people buy a kitten from. There's one breeder in particular on the Ocicat listing that advertises for kittens as 90% show quality. This is a person that does not show at all in CFA, has not had his 5 years. I've had at least 2 people contact me with complaints of kittens they are buying from this person. My suggestion would be to have some sort of requirement or, I don't know how it would work, to at least have them show twice a year in CFA. Something like that. **DelaBar:** Neil, we have discussed this before, and on the cases you brought up, that should come forward so it can go to Linda Berg, because on these things we are having a cattery inspection. If they wanted to continue to use our services. There's no good answer on who can participate and who cannot, except somebody that – you cannot be on suspension and be on the breeder referral list, but we've got to take this on a case-by-case basis, and then it just has to go through Animal Welfare. **Eigenhauser:** And let me add, even if it isn't an animal welfare issue, per say; for example, somebody is constantly selling kittens that they're not delivering on time, they're not giving papers or whatever, under CFA's new definition of conduct detrimental to the fancy, if they do this consistently so there is a pattern of them basically ripping off kitten buyers, that can also be subject to a protest. It doesn't necessarily have to be an unclean cattery. If they are consistently a problem, they can be brought before the Protest Committee and the board. **Morgan:** So, to clarify, when we're getting complaints about specific breeders, you say we can use the Protest Committee. I'm not talking Animal Welfare, I'm talking about what George is referring to – problems with following through with contacts. My understanding was that CFA wouldn't get involved in that, from CFA's point of view and there was nothing we can do. What you are telling me is that we can actually bring it to you? We have to file a formal protest, but as a breed council? I mean, who is filing the protest? **Eigenhauser:** Essentially, you're going to need somebody with knowledge of the facts to file a protest. If all you have is, somebody said that somebody that somebody sold a dead cat, that's not going to work. It should be somebody that is connected with the transaction. Ideally, it would be the kitten buyer if you can walk them through the process. **Morgan:** I'm sorry to interrupt. Specifically, it's pet buyers and they're not going to contact the breed council secretary and say, CFA recommended these people. I had one breeder where I had 3 complaints in the last 6 months. Pet people aren't going to be stepping forward. They have emails and things like that. They don't want to get into it. It's the old inertia thing. **DelaBar:** Melanie, there is a caveat on that. These are not recommendations, these are listing. **Morgan:** I know that, but that's not the way the general public seems to be taking it. **DelaBar:** They're trying their hardest to figure that out. **Eigenhauser:** All I can say is, do the best you can to get people with actual knowledge of the facts and put it in writing somewhere, and get it to me. We have kind of a two-pronged approach right now. Most of the contractual disputes that come to the Protest Committee, basically get deep sixed. Anybody can have a disgruntled kitten buyer once in awhile, but right now the process is they go to Linda Berg, although she primarily does Animal Welfare, and she keeps track of the chronic complaints or correspondence, and so when we start seeing a pattern, then we can go forward. It has got to be enough information that we know to be truthful, not just hearsay, and it's got to be sufficient in number. We haven't defined the number yet. It's kind of, how serious is it, how frequent is it, that kind of thing. But, we are tracking the ones that have multiple contract complaints against them, with the idea that if somebody really

gets to be a problem, it's going to go to a protest. **Wilson:** Thanks a lot. Any other comments? Any more discussion on that? I really think that trying to require people to show. Who is going to police that? But it is; it's a good idea to think about and I'm not sure in practicality how it could work. Maybe some peer pressure could help, but I think as George says, if someone has a complaint, they follow through on that complaint with proof. Obviously, there's a procedure and a process, and it takes longer than we all had hoped for, but that's the way it is.

10. *Mentorship – each BC consider identifying a “point person”*

Wilson: #10, Mentorship. Mandi Wooldridge asked me to mention that she would really like if each breed council would consider appointing one contact for possible mentorship – someone she can contact. It doesn't have to be someone who is going to be the mentor. It could be the secretary or someone she could go to, to see if she could come up with mentors. She's going to come to the meeting at 5:00, which is in the Shasta room, and I told her she could talk about that then.

11. *BREED COUNCIL RENEWALS – encourage membership to renew by 8/1/06!*

Wilson: #11, please encourage your members to renew their membership and encourage any other breeders that aren't members to join up. Linda Berg presented something at the board meeting yesterday regarding asking breed council websites to consider including information on their breed's rescue, and also a site for placing retired cats. Linda, do you want to just briefly talk about that? **Berg:** We had some discussion last year about CFA Purebred Rescue and the interaction with breed clubs, breed councils, so the new proposal is for a breeder assistance program. I am going to be the coordinator of it. There will be a person in each region that will work with me. Linda will refer anything to me that has to do with breeders; that is, if animal control has gone in or a numbers problem or animal welfare problem. It will get referred to me. I'll call the specific region. That board member will go to the breed clubs, the breed council, CFA clubs, individual breeders in the area. The reason it will be done, it can be done for a number of cats beyond your care or capacity, new legislation in the area that affects numbers, cases of illness, temporary or permanent disability, temporary loss of income, asset nature, death without provision for the animals. Like I said, the head of the committee will be me. Each regional director will appoint someone that I will be working with. We're going to ask that the regions set up a website. Now, we're going to try to do this together, so it will pinpoint to an area of the country where breeders can post cats that they're having difficulty – retired cats that they want to place or they had a bad year and haven't been able to sell any of their kittens if they've got a lot of extra kitties. It's going to be a site that we will all share. Somehow, we'll have to find some funding for it or donations, however we decide that we can do that. If each breed council wants to email me, it's CFAAnimalWelfare@aol.com, I will send them a copy of what was proposed to the board. There have been some changes already in wordage and so on, but it's a work in progress and once the regional directors have appointed someone to work with me, then we'll decide on the, we'll get a legal advisor, we'll get the guidelines for placing the cats, etc. **Wilson:** Linda, why don't you email that to me and I'll send it out to all the breed council secretaries? **Berg:** OK. **Wilson:** Then they will all contact you.

Wilson: So, in closing, we're out of time. I want to thank everybody who came in. I wasn't sure, I thought maybe only 10 people would show up. I thought, what can we talk about

for an hour, but obviously we did, so I appreciate everybody's participation, and also of course the board's. I hope that you found this productive. The meeting, you don't have to come to the meeting at 5:00. If you come, bring a bottle of wine. It would be much more fun meeting. It's going to be in the Mezzanine level, in the Shasta room. I don't have much of an agenda, but I would be happy to talk about anything with anyone. **DelaBar:** Just very quickly, I want to thank all of you for coming. Over 3/4 of our breed councils are represented here, and I think that's a phenomenal showing. Thank you. [Applause]

Breeds with Outcross Cut-off Dates:

American Curl (1/1/2010)

Colorpoint Shorthair (1/1/2019)

Devon Rex (5/1/2013)

LaPerm (1/1/2010)

Ocicat (1/1/2015)

RagaMuffin (7/15/2006)

Selkirk Rex (1/1/2010 and 1/1/2015)

Sphynx (12/31/2010)