



**February 2024 Board Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2024 7:30pm via zoom**

Call to Order by president – Phillip Williamson- 7:33

In attendance: Phillip Williamson, Robin Wood, Diane Hinch, Anne Lesko, Gordon Reistrup, Jamison Strasser, Sarah Vagnoni, Robin Mellen, Britni Cash, Ashley Holsinger, Holly Flory, Annie Shawver, Anne Johnston, and Luanne Leonard.

Minutes from the December meeting were approved Motion made by Jamison Strasser and carried.

Treasurer's report: checking \$11,662.83, Savings \$18500.87. Motion to approve made by Anne Lesko and carried. There is still a deposit outstanding \$355 and online monies of \$213.84. Additionally, about \$2700 is about to be moved made on the silent auction as well as Jamison reporting that the raffle is at about \$835. The banquet check will be written next week for \$7984.90. This report is current as of today.

Next item of business is to elect new Board officers: Outcome

President - Phillip Williamson

Vice President – Anne Lesko

Secretary – Sarah Vagnoni

Treasurer – Annie Shawver

Parliamentarian – Gordon Reistrup

Annie Shawver brought up the statement in our by-laws regarding an annual audit. The Review committee and Annie will look at the wording.

Committees

Phillip opened the floor for discussion of committees we may need for the upcoming year. It was noted that last year we had four committees.

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Education – Gordon Reistrup, Ashley Holsinger, Sarah Vagnoni, and non board member(s)

Junior – suggested board member be the liaison and ask two non-board members (Caroline Light and Megan Heffner)

Fund Raising/Sponsorship – Annie Shawver, Ashley Holsinger, Catherine Daniel

Rules Review – Gordon Reistrup, Anne L., Jamison Strasser, Annie Shawver
More members can be added to the committees as needed.

Holly suggested we reach out to junior members for their input.

Robin Wood brought up the question as to if the board would be running the annual show in 2024? An Annual Show committee was developed consisting of Robin Wood Jamison Strasser, Ashley Holsinger and Holly Flory, however it will be a full group effort. Each group can decide who will chair the committee.

Luanne Leonard reminded us that last year Darlene Kemper had offered to provide a driving clinic which was canceled at the time due to weather, however she is still willing to hold it. The Education committee may need to orchestrate the clinic. Ashley H has folks who help with some things.

Annual financial files

Annie S routed financials to the board members. We are in much better shape this year now, but overall, about the same as last year. She shared her screen depicting financial information as of January 3rd then stated we have a healthy balance sheet at this time. Remember this is a strong time of year as memberships are coming in. AS is willing to continue to assist with this if we feel it is helpful. Ashley H pointed out that this position is a paid position with the Maryland Horse Show Association, not a huge amount but it keeps the person doing it consistent. Suggestions were made as to the format of the document, maybe use bullets making it easier for most to understand.

Phillip W recognized that the budget does not identify specific cuts which we will need to try to start looking at over the next few months. We don't want to spend money on clinics at this time. Ashley H suggested we have only a 30% overhead as a benchmark. Annie S was asked to pull out some specifics that we can use going forward.

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Items from the Annual Meeting

Bylaws/Rules

Thoroughbred/Green

Governance

Derby Points

USEF share points and responses from all

Phillip shared his biggest concern which was choosing the division to count points. Discussion followed. Britni C asked if we could have Anne J send out a declaration letter requiring the individual to declare the division the Wednesday before the show to determine the division. Ashley H suggested we only count the division with the higher points scored. Phillip asked which was easier for Anne?? AJ needs to think about it. Ideas were tossed around. AJ explained how the results are submitted and needs to look at how it would be most efficient. The board supported Anne as she determines the best route, Phillip will work on a google form. Anne L will work on the declaration process wording.

Governance/Procedures

Looking at governance requires reflection, comment coming from Anne Lesko

Year End Trophies

One trophy will need replacing as is full, AJ will ask original donator.

We have a trophy donation for Short Stirrup Equitation and Short Stirrup Hunter.

Request for exception on membership renewal not received by association

After discussion regarding this issue, it was decided there should be a receipt of some sort either credit card or on a bank statement that the member can provide as supporting documentation that it was submitted.

Therefore the following are the results:

Baily Chamberlain – exception NOT granted.

Jennifer Hartless – exception NOT granted.

Ashly H will get with Tara about glitches in the system she had encountered and how she handled them. Anne J will get with the web developer involved to work out a solution as well.

Anne J, Annie S and Tara will work on this and get something out to the membership when resolved. Members are responsible to ensure that their membership is up to date.

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News on Annual Show Date from the Virginia Horse Center

Per Glen Petty and Leroy Troxell, we have been pushed to the last week in October (24th) or late in November (10th). Discussion of the dates followed, however when a date is decided, Anne J will reserve a block of rooms at a couple of hotels. A survey monkey sent to membership to get their input was agreed upon. It was also suggested that Ashley, Robin W and Phillip take the lead in managing the show. We need to pin down a date as we need to get judges. Annie S will keep up with finances on the show. Phillip pointed out that we need to get going on hiring staff for the show, again as soon as we have a date.

There being no further business, a date of March 5th at 7:30 Zoom was scheduled for the next meeting.

Luanne L motioned to adjourn with Anne L as second, all approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hinch

Diane Hinch - Secretary