

WQHA Board of Director's Meeting
May 7, 2015
Faro's Restaurant, Fond du Lac

The meeting was called to order by President Kathy Doyle at 6:32 pm. Roll Call was taken and with 16 Board members in attendance: Kathy Doyle, Kathy Schroeder, Nikki Schultz, Larry Spratto, LaRue Wills, Stephanie Lynn, Michele Andrade, Rhonda Spratto, Cindy Tousey, Jim Ramthun, Robert Schmitz, Brenda Lindvall, Keri Smith, Sara Hauer, Larry Lemke & John Schmahl. Additional Attendees: Anne Lemke & Judy Davis.

Secretaries Report – A motion was made by Michele Andrade and seconded by Cindy Tousey to accept the January 25th Minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report – John Schmahl made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report for February and March that were emailed by Ron, seconded by Michele Andrade. Motion Carried.

Show Coordination – Kathy Doyle reported that the checks from the approved Winona shows have been received with approximately \$6,000 income to WQHA Year End Awards Program.

- Tim Schmahl and Kathy Schroeder conducted the Ring Steward Training. *Kathy S will provide a list of attendees to show managers.*
- Back to Basics Event for 2016 discussion was held. Nikki provided the 2016 Event Calendar for Sunny View and Jefferson. Kathy Schroeder reminded the Board that an option was presented at the November Meeting to host this event as a show with low entry and stall fees to encourage new attendees. Discussion occurred that the reason this was voted down was due to the expense and dates being late in the year. Kathy S explained that the show would be underwritten by the group proposing the show. Stephanie reiterated that the Board was in support of the idea of the event. There was discussion that the underwriting information had not been presented to the Board previously. *Kathy Doyle will look into dates for 2016.*

Committee Reports:

Banquet – John reported that the WQHA Banquet will be held at the new Holiday Inn in Fond du Lac on February 6, 2016. There is a \$3500 minimum to be met that will be covered with attendance of 165 people. *Scharleen will notify BQHA that the WQHA Banquet date is the first weekend in February so as not to conflict with their brunch.* Jim Ramthun suggested checking with the show photographers for photos for the Directory and Slide Show.

Hall of Fame – Robert Schmitz reported that the HOF committee is currently seeking three members to serve on the committee. One Horse Submission has been received.

Horse Fair – Thank you to John, Diane, Kathy S and Larry for help with the WQHA Booth. John thanked Lance Treptow, Jerry Erickson, Al Dunning and David Dellin for doing the AQHA demonstrations and clinics. Discussion was held on the booth size and expense. The cost is \$475 total. *Kathy S suggested getting sponsored photos for the back drop to add to the booth and to help pay for the expense.* John is checking to see if AQHA will be back in

2016. *Stephanie noted the expenses the volunteers incur to man the booth.* Scharleen noted that there were three “new” to WQHA people that signed up for the membership donated by Stephanie.

Membership – Tim submitted a report via email and will be providing a membership listing in a binder at the upcoming shows to help assist members in checking if their memberships have been paid and received.

Newsletter – Kathy Schroeder reported the Spring Newsletter cost was \$7600 with \$5300 to be invoiced and that this was her last publication she would be doing. Kathy D thanked her for her work and asked if anyone knew of *someone who might be interested in taking over as editor.*

Open Show Program – Barb has requested that the enrollment be raised to \$25. Motion made by Kathy S and seconded by Larry Lemke. Motion carried. Kathy D has been contacted with point errors and stated the points need to be audited. *She will follow up with Barb and the two exhibitors that had issues last year. Kathy S volunteered to set up an excel file to assist with tracking of points and she will post to the WQHA website.*

Scholarship – LaRue thanked donors and purchases and stated the funds will carry over to 2015 Scholarships.

State Show – Nikki sent a sign up sheet around for volunteers. Nikki submitted a request for approval of t-shirts and awards to be purchased thru Initial Design. LaRue made a motion, Michele seconded. Motion carried. Larry Lemke noted concern with size of rv spots and spacing on Willow Island. Robert explained that five slot classes would be held this year with \$1000 added and approx. 80% of entry fees. The 20% would be used to cover expenses. Green Trail, Green Ranch Riding, Green HUS, Green WP and Longe Line will be held. He is looking for three additional sponsors. WAQHA donated \$100 to highest placing Non Pro with a \$150 bonus paid if the non pro is a member of WQHA.

Horse Council – No Report, Ron Absent.

Youth – Nikki asked the Board to approve Aliesha Crowe as the assistant youth advisor. A motion was made by Michele and seconded by Jim. Motion carried. Nikki asked for confirmation that the AQHA insurance covers Introductory Shows for 2015 like it has in the past. *Kathy Doyle will confirm.*

National Directors – John mentioned the ongoing discussion with the AQHA ruling regarding lip chains. Anne Lemke mentioned that the WCHA does approve the use of lip chains. Stephanie mentioned that the abuse rules have been updated and approved. She stated that at smaller shows with no AQHA Stewards that it is important to as a member of show management and an AQHA Professional Horseman to assist you if you observe abuse. Larry Spratto and Anne Lemke stated concern with Stewards not taking care of issue and AQHA not following up on reported abuse. Further discussion was held with it noted that Show Management needs to be active. John suggested going to AQHA.com to see other updated and changes from the AQHA Convention.

Old Business – Kathy S and Michele Andrade noted that the AQHA has updated the website to make it easier for exhibitors to find their levels by entering a horse’s registration number or an exhibitor’s id number. Thus, a

letter to AQHA is no longer needed. It was decided to add a line of the year end awards form so that owners could note trainer's name that showed in open classes.

New Business –

- *The WQHA website auto reply message for online membership will be updated. Additionally, Tim's email will be listed for memberships rather than the info@wqha.com.*
- Discussion on hosting clinics was held. Brenda Lindvall mentioned hosting a Ranch Riding clinic at Stauffer Farms, western Dressage was mentioned. *Options will be considered for 2016. Rhonda Spratto mentioned doing lessons and a fundraiser for WQHA. Hosting clinics at All Breed Shows was suggested. Bringing back the "Fuzzy Wuzzy" show was mentioned.*
- Stephanie Lynn explained the opportunities for Grants thru Family Trusts and Grant Foundations. She has a list of contacts but we need to have a sequential long term business plan to present. *Contact with Kelly Chapman on reverse annuity plans and more information was suggested. Michele noted the need for a five year plan for WQHA.*
- *Larry Lemke suggested we start locally with a scholarship fund to provide a 4-H scholarship. Anne suggested \$5 to nominate and give \$500 to attend the State Show.*
- *Kathy S mentioned hosting a tack swap, perhaps at the State Show?*
- Avonlea Kisner requested WQHA support to run for Congress Queen. *Kathy D will request a letter and bio from her and suggest that she become a WQHA member.*
- Nikki submitted a request to sponsor the Quarter Horse Class at the Dressage Classic. A motion was made by Michele and seconded by Jim. Motion carried. Nikki will email Ron the information.

Motion to Adjourn by Larry Lemke, seconded by John Schmahl, motion carried at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Schultz

(Action Items are noted in *italics*)