

WQHA May 17th , 2022 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 by president Nikki Schultz. Also in attendance were: Stephanie Lynn, Ron Miller, Linda Berg, Judy Zeitler, Jean Sandmire, Keri Smith, Jim Ramthun, Brenda Lindvall, Tim Schmahl, Jerry Laumer, Robert Schmitz, Danyelle Gabyert, and Elise Sheard.

The secretary's report was approved with a motion from Jim and a second from Jerry. The treasurer reported that financials had been emailed to the board through 4/30/22. 12 unpaid newsletter advertisements for 2022 at time of meeting. Payment for newsletter has been made, comparable to 2021 at \$11,713. Discussion over when salaried positions are paid, all WQHA salaried positions are paid in first quarter. Financials approved with motion from Elise and second from Keri.

National Directors report included notes that AQHA registrations were up 6% in 2021 and memberships were up 2%. New Executive Vice President has been named, Carl Stressman. Note that WQHA BoD can do an election in 2023 for Wisconsin National Director.

Awards committee reported that they have begun brainstorming new awards for 2022, including new team members Sheri and Gwen.

Banquet committee reported no significant changes in cost or contract structure with LaSures. The Best Western is only available January 14th, 2023 and offers different meal options including buffet at competitive pricing. The main concern at continuing at LaSures is available space, and the team is continuing to assess all options.

Hall of Fame has the updated forms posted on the website.

Horse Fair committee thanks everyone who volunteered to work the booth this year, and the booth space payment has been made for 2023.

Publications committee reports that the editor for the MN publications (Vicki) has serious interest in taking on WI publication, and we continue to assess the option of sharing some content and how to partner for best printing options and cost effectiveness. WI would still provide own content and treasurer would manage the billing. A bid will be brought to next meeting.

Open show program has been very healthy so far in 2022, and we continue to hope for and promote crossover with WQHA participation.

Discussion about WQHA having a Queen candidate for 2022, Alexis Daugrid. Motion made and passed that WQHA would make a payment to Alexis in the amount of \$350 towards her crown and application fees. Motion by Elise, second by Brenda, passed.

Recreation committee reported that a new horse campground is being opened with the support of the WI Horse Council.

Scholarship applications have been updated and will be promoted for 2022.

The online auction as a fundraiser for WQHA raised \$3,270 with a total of 39 donations. Thank you to everyone who participated!

50 individuals attended the scribe school held in conjunction with the Horse Council judges school. Was a great PR opportunity for WQHA.

Youth will be doing a breakfast fundraiser at paper valley show.

State Show committee reported serious concerns about moving forward with Madison facility in years to come. Previous contract was for three years with a max 5% increase, and had a one year contract in 2021. Communication from facility has been poor for 2022 and we have struggled to receive a contract from Aliant. A voicemail was left for show management stating that the cost for this year would be raised to \$52,000 (from \$39,000 prior year). Letter has been sent from WQHA in response. Discussion on alternative locations and the ability to partner with other states.

Conversation has been initiated with Elkhorn about ability to host a 1 day show. There have been healthy numbers at open shows so thought to do a show in conjunction with an open show. Recommendation to look at Jefferson. Perhaps early in year, and held with a clinic. New Business: Rick Klaus from MNQHA reached out because they have their state show in April and no shows later than the corporate challenge in July. Asked for consideration to dual approve the state shows for both WI and MN, with out doing the dollar per entry awards exchange. Last year TNT managed both shows which would improve logistics of shared points. Discussion included concerns over the weather in April and the total number of stalls available at Winona. However many felt positively about this as a step towards partnering with local states, and the increased opportunity for regional individuals to show. Recommendation to bring together the show committees for both states to continue discussion. Motion made to continue discussion with MN and establish a committee to discuss further at July meeting. Motion by Jerry, second by Ron. Motion passed. Thoughts that we will continue to see increases in regional horse shows as facility costs increase.

At July meeting will need to come with district meeting dates, discussion questions, and membership numbers.

Meeting adjourned.