

## January 19, 2013 MAQHA Minutes

The January meeting of the Minnesota Amateur Quarter Horse Association was called to order by President Russ Carlson at 10:10 a.m. Russ asked that everyone in the room stand and introduce themselves.

The Secretary's Report was read by Patrice Thesing with two additions: the clinician for the MQHA Tack Swap will be Joni Nelson from Iowa, and Don McDuffee will replace Rick Christy as one of the MAQHA Corporate Challenge judges. After the additions, the report was approved as amended and seconded.

Treasurer Brenda Stevermer handed out a detailed report of our finances. As of 12/31/2012 MAQHA has an overall total of \$65,041.66. She also gave us a detailed report of our cash flow for last year (1/1/2012 – 12/31/2012) including the breakdown of the Corporate Challenge income/expenses. The Treasurer's Report was approved and seconded. Brenda is available if anyone has any questions.

Our committee reports followed:

Nominating: No report given at this time

Year End Awards: Brenda had awards for 3-6<sup>th</sup> place available at the meeting: exhibitor's had the choice of etched wine glasses, stemless wine glasses, and/or leg wraps. She encouraged members to come and get their awards after the meeting, or to pick up prizes for those not in attendance. The committee was not sending awards out this year. Brenda also stated that more wine glasses could be ordered for those wanting a full set. Also, that the awards were all ordered from Minnesota Vendors this year!

Horse Expo: Darlene said the money for the stalls was all taken care of, and that Mary Mensch has 5 American Quarter Horses lined up to represent the association. Darlene will have a sign-up sheet available and will send an e-mail asking for volunteers starting in March. This year's Expo is April 26 – 28. Please give an afternoon to help out in our booth – well worth your time!!

Silent Auction: Todd thanked everyone for bringing items for the auction as well as the wine for the raffle. Some bonus donations were received from RobinHoods, KO Trading, DNL, Let's Ride, Pleasant Hills. New Board member Kris Reuvers suggested we set up the \$200.00 gift card and the \$20.00 gift certificate from Pleasant Hills as a mystery box at the auction. Each was gift wrapped in a box for the auction, with the bidder not knowing which item they were actually bidding on! Kris and her husband also donated two 50lb. bundles of ground beef – Thank You to all that helped with the auction!

Welcoming: Jane Rocheleau gave a resounding “Welcome” to those in attendance! She gave a quick summary of what the committee is trying to do. Kathy Baumgartner said she has received e-mails asking general questions. They hope to have a better idea of what they want to include in the information by show season. They would also like to have something/someone set up at the shows.

Corporate Challenge: The committee met before the MAQHA meeting and it was decided that this year’s fee would be \$300. This fee covers a stall, all special event and AQHA entries, auditing for the clinics, all drug testing and state fees. Robin Frid will be doing a Horsemanship Clinic and Tim Kimura will be doing a Trail Clinic. We will charge \$50 to ride in each clinic this year to help cover the cost of the Clinicians. Our Special Events will begin on May 22 with Trail and Western Riding. On May 23 the Special Event will be Horsemanship and Western Pleasure. A show packet will be available online, and exhibitors are encouraged to register by May 10 to avoid a \$75 Office Charge. Please check the MQHA website or the MAQHA Corporate Challenge Face Book page for updates.

Futurity: No report at this time

Old Business: An election of a new Board member was needed, due to Elaine Manders decision to not be on the Board. Todd Morrow nominated Janice Madden, and she accepted. The vote was unanimous to accept her as our additional Board member.

New Business: Russ posed the question “What is our purpose?” He asked if we as an organization could give something back. Some suggestions from the floor were sponsoring a riding program of some kind, perhaps helping with the 4-H Boot Camp, the Champ Show, We Can Ride, or Wounded Warriors. Since our Corporate Challenge is over Memorial Day, can we tie the two together somehow? Kris Reuvers made a motion to research a way to help wounded Vets with a riding therapy program. Kathy Baumgartner stated that she has a friend that has an Equine Assisted Therapy program and another that just does it on her own. After more discussion, Val Bostrom suggested we use proceeds to “start – up” a program. Gretta Graceland volunteered to check with the VA Hospital to see if they had any programs. Kris rescinded her motion and it was decided to form a committee to do the research on this agenda. The committee will be called the Veteran’s Equine Assistance Therapy Committee. Committee members will be Kathy Baumgartner, Rhonna Hed, Gretta Graceland, Kris Reuvers, and Val Bostrom. They will report something at our next meeting.

Todd Morrow suggested we change our meeting times. Since all of our members are also MQHA members, there is an overlapping of meetings – many members are on one or both Boards, involved with the MQHA committees, etc. Todd suggested alternate dates and perhaps hosting not only a purposeful meeting, but a fun one as well. Paige Broekema thought that

including fun things would make the membership stronger and encourage more participation. Russ suggested quarterly meetings that would change locations throughout the state. Paige Broekema made a motion to hold 4 meetings a year that would be spread throughout the state. Kris Reuvers seconded the motion and the motion passed. Discussion followed. The Board of Directors will determine the dates and locations.

Jannice Madden, Todd Morrow, Jane Rocheleau, and Anita York gave an overview of a possible new program that they proposed. They suggested starting a Minnesota Amateur Incentive Fund. They are still working out the details, but after discussing, wanted to go ahead to continue researching. They wondered how the membership felt about the idea. Those in attendance felt it was a great idea and gave approval to continue working out the details. The new committee will be known as the Minnesota Amateur Incentive Fund Program, and Todd, Jannice, Jane, Anita, and Paige will be on the committee. They will use the point results from this year to practice and work out the kinks.

It has come to Brenda's attention that Chad is the only person bonded for our entire memberships. Having one person responsible for all the monies in the three associations isn't good business. After discussion, Paige Broekema made a motion to have Brenda Stevermer and Patrice Thesing bonded and insured. Darlene Gargano seconded, motion passed. Mary Ebnet will help take care of this process.

There being no more New Business a motion to adjourn was made by Paige Broekema. Seconded by Rhonda Clark. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.

Following the meeting the 3-6 place awards were picked up.

Respectfully submitted, Patrice Thesing