

Minutes Of The General Membership Of The Minnesota Amateur Quarter Horse Association

January 20, 2007

The meeting was called to order promptly at 10:00 a.m. by President, Brenda Rhode.

Copies of the minutes from the December 2006 meeting were available for members to read. Amy Cooney moved to waive the reading of the minutes, seconded by Jay Cain; motion passed.

Anita York presented the Treasurer's Report for 1/1/2006 to 12/31/2006. She reported income of \$152,957.02; expenses of \$144,604.34 with a net income of \$8,352.68. Charlie Gildea moved to accept the report, Tammy Winkelman seconded. Motion passed.

Reports of Special Committees

Rosie Hauge discussed some ideas and concepts regarding the Top 6 Year End awards as well as MAQHA year end awards, which are currently the jackets. Discussion followed regarding whether a percentage of profit from Corporate Challenge should be allocated, what amount we should spend on awards, etc. A motion was made and repealed. Sandy Jagger moved to increase from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for the Top 6 Awards for 2007. Jay Cain seconded the motion, motion passed. The Awards committee will review and determine how the funds will be dispensed for awards.

Marty Penkhus mentioned perhaps we should get a clarification on any legal ramifications of non-profit organizations regarding "profit".

Terri Shaleen reported that they have sold out quite a bit of stock this year. Terri advised her first year was a learning experience. Caps, zip hooded sweatshirts, v-neck and t-shirts have been purchased and added to inventory, approximately \$6,000. The clothing has been for sale at Winona and Terri is looking for help to take to or help at the shows. Susan Wilcox brought up perhaps we may want to re-design the logo, to make the products different to help increase sales. Discussion then turned to whether AQHA may have a say in our logo as well as different types of clothing we could offer such as windbreakers and vest. Amy Cooney will look into the rules regarding the organization's logo. Anyone with clothing ideas, please see Terri.

Sandy Jagger reported on the Open Show Award Program, the committee has not officially met yet. Committee members include Sandy Jagger, Patrice Thesing, Tammy Winkelman, Mary Mensch, Chris Flatness and Susan Wilcox. If any members are going to open shows, please take information with you and leave it at the show. Amy Cooney congratulated Sandy for turning this assignment into a successful venture.

Sandy Jagger reported on the Horse Expo, a list is being sent around for volunteers to work at the booth at Horse Expo. Volunteers are appreciated; the sign up sheet allows you to volunteer for a 4 hour time period. Someone heard from Ken Pautzke that one of the clinicians at the expo would also like to help at the Quarter Horse booth. The expo this year will be April 27, 28 and 29th. Discussion centered on getting a better booth and that we need to make sure the booth is reserved and paid for well in advance of the deadline.

Crystal Estrem reported the Silent Auction will be going on from 5:30 PM until 9:00 PM. A suggestion was received that in the future we coordinate with the region holding the banquet to indicate our fund raiser on the reservation form.

Liz Middlien reported for the Corporate Challenge Committee. She would like to thank everyone who volunteered and helped to put on the show. Jay and Patrice Thesing have been hired as show manager and show secretary for the coming year. The committee will be meeting on January 20 at noon. The packets for sponsors will be available within a week. Four of the six judges have been hired. The show has not added a day; it will just be starting earlier, the maximum number of judges you show to remains at four. The fairgrounds will open Wednesday afternoon, some classes will be held

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Thursday evening. The expenses for the show are going up, last year the cost of the cattle barn lease was sponsored. An awards chairman is needed; this volunteer will be involved in all awards, selection, ordering, embroidery, etc. Brenda Rhode has volunteered to handle this position.

Joy Wohlin reported for the Nominating Committee. They have volunteers for next year, if you are interested in a board position please see or call Joy.

The topic of membership was brought up, an active list of members shows we have 337 members in MAQHA. Amy Cooney commented that the history of this committee is that it died due to lack of interest. Discussion then turned to various ideas regarding attracting new members, including having membership forms at the Expo and maybe a contest. If you sign up you can win a prize, like a 3 ring notebook, instruction sheet for horse shows, sheets for trail riders to log their hours. It was confirmed that to be a member of MAQHA, you must also be a member of MQHA. We are looking for someone to set up a strategy regarding new members, where to go and what to do. Discussion then turned to having a Membership/Welcoming Committee which Jane Rocheleau will chair; John Winkelman and Meghan Glenn also volunteered to serve on this committee.

The Credit Card issue was tabled from the last meeting pending figures on credit card sales. Of the total Horse expo sales of \$480, \$275 of charges were successfully realized, however, an additional \$205 were lost due to wrong credit card (we don't take Discover) or lack of credit card holder information. Warren Wilson moved that we not accept credit card sales at the Horse Expo. Seconded by Paige Broekema, motion passed. Several nay votes were recorded. Amy Cooney suggested we look into getting a phone line. Our credit card machine accepts VISA and MasterCard, no other cards. We also must have the card holders name, address and phone number. Therefore for this year we are only accepting cash or checks at Horse Expo.

Mary Nigg reports from the Futurity Committee. They are discussing the versatility award and points system. They will be advertising and publicizing their rules and entry forms. This year they are determining if first place winners should get a free photo as part of their award. They are also looking into facilities and potential improvements at show grounds.

Anita York commented that she has developed a budget for MAQHA to assist us with spending allowances. It is based on how much things cost, developed from historical data and estimates. She will be presenting the budget to the Board for approval. The budget includes about a \$5,000 cushion. She has estimated income at \$146,230, Expenses of \$140,338 for an approximate net of \$5,892. Discussion followed regarding if our books are audited, Anita will check into it.

Discussion then turned to new AQHA rules regarding additional divisions and whether we would be providing awards for them. The new Performance Halter division must be offered at every show and have categories for Youth, Amateur and Open for each sex division of mares, stallions and geldings. You will need to have your ROM for each category to show in these divisions.

Sandy Jagger brought up the topic of whether we should have more meetings, spread throughout the year; recently we have only held the December and January meetings. Discussion included that previously the Amateurs held meetings in conjunction with the open MQHA meetings, whether or not to hold meetings at shows or conference call meetings. Marty Penkhus moved that we hold one more general meeting early in August with some kind of technology available. Sandy Jagger seconded the motion, motion passed. Brenda Rhode, President, determined a tentative date of Monday, August 13, 2007, at 7 PM. The location is to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Cain, Secretary