

MAQHA Meeting January 17, 2009 10:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by President, Susan Wilcox.

The secretary's report consisting of the minutes of the December 6, 2008, meeting was read and approved as read.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Anita York. Anita reported Income for the year to date of \$122,311.57, with expenses of \$117,285.28 with a profit of \$5,026.29. Current cash position is \$30502.15. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Rosie Hauge, was seconded and passed.

Susan Wilcox, President, urged everyone to respect one another with the goal to be open to new ideas as well as to promote the American Quarter Horse.

Committee Reports

Rosie reported for the 2008 Award Committee, they are presenting Target gift cards and clothing. The topic of the award jackets was brought up, particularly in light of the expense continues to go up and up each year. They have missed some of the patches as well. A new clothing vendor, Saddle Up, is being used for the MAQHA clothing and has options for a different jacket line. Rosie commented that the year end awards for 2008 entailed 171 classes, 81 people and 6 all around awards. Jayne Rocheleau made a motion to change the jackets. Seconded by Teri Shaleen. Discussion followed. Jay Cain amended the motion that we deviate from the traditional leather jacket and leave the final determination to the committee. Motion seconded, all were in favor, motion approved.

Teri Shaleen report on the MAQHA clothing, she got some ideas on moving clothing and some opportunities with a new clothing vendor she has been working with, Saddle Up.

Midge Mulcahy proposed that the Open Show Program moves to MQHA instead of MAQHA, one of the reasons is that then the new member would only need one membership. This program was started in MAQHA by Todd and Ken as at that time MQHA chose not to have the program. Mary Mensch spoke with Midge and checked with other affiliates that run open show programs thru state organizations. In those instances, there generally is not a separation between amateur, youth and open. Warren Wilson moves to transfer the Open show Program to the state association for handling if they accept it. Motion seconded and passed.

Jayne Rocheleau is sending around a sign up sheet for the Horse Expo which will be 4/24-26/2009. The volunteer time is in 4 hour increments. Jayne is willing to help someone who could want to volunteer to chair this committee. If you have flyers for shows, information on open show awards program please get them to Jayne.

The Silent Auction has been the fund raiser. The Silent Auction for January 2009 is strictly for Corporate Challenge. The 2010 SILENT AUCTION committee is Todd Morrow, Rusty Carlson and Andrea Gates. Rosie Hauge feels we need to come up with new fund raising ideas. Discussion followed regarding dropping the term fund raising committee, then determined we would have both a fund raising committee and a silent auction committee. Suggestions were heard that included having an additional purpose to fund raising with a sub donation to "We Can Ride" or another 501c3 charity. MAQHA is not a 501c3 organization. A Fund Raising Committee was established with volunteers Alex Conger, Kari Grefsrud, Chelsea Kolenda and Julianne Hornig.

Anita York reported on the Corporate Challenge committee. They have had several conference calls, the schedule will be 4 days with 4 judges, there are changes in the schedule, they are working on the awards and all arounds considering a change to payback or cash awards, breaking up awards include a random payback or second chance aware. MQHA approved a \$1000 donation. They are changing the youth awards as well.

They would like member assistance to reach out for sponsors and discussed a phone tree to call members and improve involvement in the event. Discussion turned to how other states work with class sponsors and show fund raising, such as the last person out of the ring at break is automatically a sponsor, auction off numbers, etc.

There was no report from the nominating committee.

The Membership/Welcoming committee was discussed at various events, a table at Region 3, it needs to be out front and members are encouraged to personally welcome new individuals. Julie Bernick reported on the MQHA outreach efforts. Discussion turned again to various methods, such as a welcoming committee, a welcome wagon with red vests and cookies. The committee needs to meet and plan before the year gets away. Additional ideas would be an email sign up list, promos on the website to "stall me with a buddy" or mentor. Members should be visible at open shows and trail rides.

Futurity Representative, Mary Nigg, provided a summary of topics that will be discussed at the futurity meeting, which included facility, number of stalls, other locations, volunteers, etc. Jim Nigg added that the futurity committee was considering switching the Amateur day Friday to Saturday.

New Business

Lana Green wants to do a calendar; the cost would be \$50 a month and would be an 18 month planner proposed from July 2009 to December 2010. Rosie Hauge made a motion that we move forward with a calendar designed by Lana, motion seconded and passed. See Lana to get your spot on the calendar.

Jayne Rocheleau wanted to make an announcement about the MQHA clinic and tack swap on February 28, 2009. She needs tables, chairs, clothes racks, etc. The clinicians will feature Ted Turner, Lainie DeBoer and Jerry Erickson. The clinic is free; Purina has provided a contribution and Wrangler Jeans will be given away. There will be a pig roast.

Discussion turned to the concept that the Novice Only shows have no state points, there was some general discussion.

Mary Mensch and Patrick McCarthy are on the steering committee for the Region 3 Experience. They are trying to generate more ads for the program. If members sell ads, MAQHA will receive \$25 for a ½ page ad and \$50 for a full page ad. Mary reported that the Region 3 experience was started with seed money from AQHA, but the funding is decreasing annually, so fund raising efforts are needed. New to the Regional experience are invitations for Novice Show winners and the Bring a friend program.

Barb Charpentier moved that the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Tiffany Stevens. Motion passed; meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Cain
MAQHA Secretary