

MQHA MEMBERSHIP MEETING, LAKEVILLE HOLIDAY INN, JAN. 28, 2012

The meeting was called to order by president Jay Thesing at 2:45 P.M. Kelvin Childers spoke in favor of the Racino in Minnesota. The Equine Coalition has been working hard on passing the Racino legislation. There has been a lot of support. Hearings in the legislature will be coming up. Kelvin stressed the importance of members letting their legislators know that they are in favor of the Racino. If passed, there will be money for many equine activities.

Bonnie Minor talked about the Banquet. District 4 has accumulated more than 100 door prizes. Since ticket sales are a little over 200, about 1/2 of banquet attendees will receive door prizes. Many fun activities are planned including "Music In Motion" done on stick horses. Social hour begins at 5:30 with the dinner at 6:30. After the awards there will be activities and dancing. Silent auction, fortune telling and more!

The Secretary read the minutes of the December membership meeting. Chad gave the Treasurer's report, showing our total assets at about \$88,000. The Newsletter, State Shows, Tack Swap and 4-H Boot Camp were all profitable for the association. The bottom line is that the association lost approximately \$1,400 last year. The futurities broke even. The Youth association has \$3000 in their account.

Committee reports were given. Paige Broekema spoke for the state shows coming up in April. Show bills have been printed. Volunteers have been found for most jobs but more help is always needed.

Jane Rocheleau reported on the Feb. 25 tack swap. Items can be brought in on Friday from 4 to 7 P.M. and on Saturday morning from 7 to 9 A.M. Lainie DeBoer talked about the clinician, Dawn Baker. Dawn has had winning horses in hunter under saddle, western pleasure and horsemanship disciplines. She has Minnesota connections since she has shown so many BMQ horses. Lainie said she will do an excellent job. However, Dawn has to fly out late Saturday afternoon for another commitment, so Lainie asked if the clinic could start an hour earlier. This permission was granted so the clinic will start at 10 A.M.

Darleen Gargano and Mary Mensch reported for MN Horse Expo. Darleen is looking for volunteers to work in the booth. Mary has found a group of riders to represent the Quarter Horse. She is asking the Amateurs to pay for four more stalls for them. MQHA has already ordered three stalls. Expo is one of the largest horse events in our state and MQHA will put in a good appearance.

Jay talked about the open WSCA horse show sponsored by MQHA. The Youth have expressed an interest in helping with the show so they can get "their feet wet" and possibly host the show themselves in 2013.

Laurie Schommer reported that she has been getting entries for the 4-H Boot Camp, scheduled for June 12 - 15. Trail and Showmanship will be the events covered on Tuesday. Wednesday it will be Western Pleasure and Hunt Set Equitation. Thursday will feature Hunter Under Saddle and Horsemanship. Game events will be covered also. An open "fun" show will be held on Friday. The two All-Novice shows will follow on Saturday and Sunday. Laurie is looking for meal donations. MYQHA will donate two

of the snacks.

Greg and Vickie reported for Communications. Our web-site has been very popular with many hits. Users would like to see more special events listed as well as the Quarter Horse shows. Both Greg and Vickie would like to see more advertising on the web-site and in the Newsletter. This year's Directory is a little smaller due to less advertising from members and others. Some Newsletter covers are still available for purchase.

The Futurities had a combined meeting earlier in the day. The move to Cannon Falls and the change to a two-day format were both well received.

A couple of new maturity classes are planned for the open futurity. Jay is still looking for a chairman for the open and non/pro futurities. The MSSA will not have a hunter under saddle class due to poor response. They will have a three year old Western Pleasure class to take the place of the former slot class. There will be added money. The Stallion Auction will be moving to Canterbury Downs where it will be held on the evening of the MQHA annual meeting. Advertising for all three futurities will be expanded and combined.

The AQHA Region 3 Championships will again be held in July at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. There will be no cattle events held this year. There will be efforts to promote a special events for ropers, possibly in conjunction with the futurities in September. The Simon outdoor arena could be used.

Deadline for the 2012 Bank Of America grant is February 1, which doesn't give MQHA much time. A former meeting had highlighted a request but that was before AQHA came out with the guidelines for the request. Those guidelines were rather late in coming. There will be an effort to quickly re-write our grant request and get it in.

The Amateurs are working on their Corporate Challenge shows. They will remember Ken Pautzke at the shows, dedicating one halter class for a memorial. The Amateurs wanted to rename the Corporate Challenge for Ken but he didn't want that. Besides the regular show classes, special event classes will be held: a hunter under saddle special event and a western pleasure/horsemanship special event. There will be a lot of points to be won. The Ag Star Arena at the State Fairgrounds will be completed in time for the 2012 shows.

Megan Eckstein reported for the Youth. After their year-end awards, the MYQHA account has \$1300 to start the new year. By-Laws will be re-written this year. Several fund-raisers are planned. New clothing items have been purchased for the tack swap and Expo. The youth and their advisor, Vickie Kettlewell, have been very active.

Terri Shaleen reported for the new MQHA funding plan. If members go to Market America.com, they can register for this plan. They have to put in our web-site, MNQHA.com. There is no charge. Then, when members do their on-line shopping, a certain percentage goes to our association. Terri will put the whole procedure in the Newsletter. There are always good deals on this web-site. So, it doesn't cost anything and it could bring in a lot of money from members who shop on-line.

It was mentioned that the two new Futurity classes were looking for added money. Jay & Patrice Thesing and Eric Petersen had each offered \$250 apiece. Butch Wohlin said that if another \$250 donor came up, he would donate \$250 also, making \$1000 in added money. Rick Klaus offered \$250. So, the two "ante-up" classes, one for 4 and older hunters under saddle and one for 4 and older western pleasure horses will have at least \$1000 added. Entries can be made the day of the show, for \$100, which money will also be added.

Under "New Business" the request from the North Dakota Amateurs to hold two MQHA approved shows on July 25 and 26, preceding the Wadena run on July 27, 28 and 29 at the Red Horse Arena in Fergus Falls, had been granted by the Board earlier. This means that all five days of shows will be both Minnesota and North Dakota approved. Todd Morrow wants the offer of MQHA approval to be extended to the Region 3 Championships also. There are many things to consider. For MQHA approval, the show chairman or secretary must be a MQHA member. Approval fees must be paid and the show must be advertised in the Newsletter. The \$1 fee per judge per horse must be paid as well as the .25 per youth entry. For MQHA approval, the classes must be open to all MQHA members. The Regional Championships are open to Region members only. These are some things to be discussed.

Members were reminded of some of the new AQHA rule changes. Especially important is that members who have horses in the incentive fund need to pay a \$50 license before their horse can get points for incentive fund money. This is \$50 per division. An Amateur who shows in both Amateur and open classes must pay \$100.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Enger