

American Saddlebred Horse Association, Inc.

Board of Directors Meeting American Saddlebred Museum Library Kentucky Horse Park Lexington, Kentucky

Wednesday, October 25, 2006
12:30 p.m. Eastern Time

MINUTES

[As approved February 15, 2007]

Members Present: President Fred Sarver, First Vice President Misdee Wrigley, Second Vice President Mary Anne Cronan, Secretary Mary Ann Pardieck, Treasurer David Howard, Directors Bill Blacklaw, Nancy Boone, Victoria Gillenwater, Louise Gilliland, Nelson Green, Tim Lockard, Scott Matton, Dr. Alan Raun, Kay Richardson, Jim Ruwoldt, Paul Treiber, Art Zubrod.

Members Absent: Matthew Heiman.

Others Present: Registry Directors Joan Hamilton and Spencer Mains; UPHA President Randy Harper; Kentucky State Fair ASHA Representative Tandy Patrick; Charter Club Council Representative Barbara Molland.

Counsel Jeff Streepey, Executive Secretary Alan Balch.

I. The meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m., and a quorum was in attendance. Ms. Gillenwater was unanimously commended for being present at the beginning of the meeting.

II. Consideration of Minutes

Ms. Boone moved the approval of the minutes from the meeting of July 10, 2006 as circulated to the directors, and Ms. Richardson seconded. When Mr. Sarver asked for corrections or additions, Mr. Balch drew the attention of the directors to the discussion about Saddlebred Record points for Hunter Pleasure horses, and questioned whether it was appropriate to revisit the topic at this point in the meeting per a conversation he had had with Ms. Gilliland. Following discussion, the directors

agreed the minutes were correct but that the topic should be addressed again at this meeting. *Thereafter, the motion to approve the minutes was carried unanimously.*

III. President's Report

Mr. Sarver began by introducing the newly appointed gubernatorial appointment to the Kentucky State Fair Board of Directors, Tandy Patrick, appointed from the ASHA list provided to the Governor earlier this year. Ms. Patrick described her activities on the Fair Board, including committee appointments, and described the most recent meeting of the Horse Show Advisory Committee, which she now chairs. She distributed the most recent draft minutes from that meeting, and indicated that matters relating to the schedule and capacity of horses at the Fair are being considered, among others. The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for early December. A roster of the Association's directors is to be provided to Tandy to facilitate good communication between the organizations.

The president then reported on the just-concluded meeting of the Registry directors, and noted the matters that had been referred to committee. Mr. Sarver indicated that the Registry board had voted to recommend promotion of the class for two-year-old three-gaited horses with unset tails.

Mr. Sarver then described the newly appointed Strategic Planning Committee, and noted that Mr. Zubrod was the new chairman. Mr. Zubrod then described the activities of the committee, for which meeting minutes were included in the circular to directors.

IV. Nominating Committee Report

Mr. Sarver called upon Ms. Cronan, Chairman of the Nominating Committee to report to the board, noting that the Executive Committee in its meeting had received and reviewed the report and endorsed the slate as proposed [attached]. Thereupon, the written report was circulated, and *Ms. Cronan moved that the board accept the report and slate as recommended by the Nominating Committee, and Ms. Wrigley seconded the motion.* Ms. Cronan then described the contents of the report. Following discussion, *the motion was adopted unanimously.*

Mr. Balch noted that the Association's Bylaws provide that the board set a date for the receipt of mail ballots for the election of directors, and that the comparable date with the previous year for 2007 will be Friday, February 2, 2007. *Ms. Cronan moved that that date be set as the official deadline for receipt of election ballots, Ms. Pardieck seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.*

V. Treasurer's Report

a. General

Mr. Howard reported on the sound, positive consolidated results provided in detail to the directors prior to the meeting. He noted this is the first full year following the internal corporate reorganization that commenced at the end of the first quarter a year ago. Kentucky State Fair expenses are included in the most recent report, and he noted that the net expenditure this year was somewhat reduced because of the significant revenue created by the pay-per-day live webcast of the show.

Ms. Cronan moved the acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Ms. Wrigley seconded, and the motion was adopted without objection.

b. Compensation of Executive Secretary

Mr. Balch withdrew from the meeting during a discussion of the performance and compensation of the Executive Secretary. Mr. Sarver reported on a meeting of the Executive Committee with Mr. Balch and noted the Executive Committee's recommendation of a new contract for Mr. Balch or his company in terms generally outlined in the October 5, 2006, memorandum of Mr. Streepey distributed to the board members.

On motion of Mr. Zubrod, seconded by Dr. Raun, and unanimously adopted, the board authorized the Executive Committee to complete negotiations with Mr. Balch and finalize a contract on the basis set forth in Mr. Streepey's October 5, 2006, memorandum.

VI. Executive Secretary's Report

Mr. Balch began by thanking the directors for their confidence.

a. Operating Statistics/Membership

He noted that the membership statistics remain healthy, but there is continuing weakness in registrations and transfers in the Registry. If anything, he said, he is more concerned about declining transfers than with the registration numbers. Fortunately, financial performance continues to be strong..

b. Staff/Human Resources

He noted recent changes and additions in the staff, and felt positively about new hires. Both Mr. Rieffer and Mr. Massey, in communications and technology respectively, are now working hard to launch a webcast of the Tattersalls sale, done from inception to execution in less than a week.

c. Charter Club Council

Mr. Balch asked Ms. Molland to comment on initiatives and meetings of the Charter Club Council. Both mentioned the interface between the Planning Committee and the Council on the Regional Championship program, how it needs to be emphasize and refined. Close coordination between the two groups will be necessary to consider all the ideas now coming forward for improvement. It was

suggested that a formal link be made between both groups to insure accurate communication.

d. Advancement

Mr. Balch outlined the progress in finalizing the market research survey, which will take the form of a census of all adult members, who have already been notified to be on the lookout for the survey. While there is extra expense involved rather than simply relying on a smaller random sample of members, he and Mr. Sarver believe the expense is justified to build credibility for whatever results are obtained. While the scheduled is somewhat behind what was originally announced, Mr. Balch said he felt this was justified since the surveys would be circulated at the end of the show season where everyone could have ample time and opportunity to participate.

In addition, he noted that the website will be undergoing continuous updating now that new staff is on board, and promotional materials will be able to be printed directly from the website in the near future. In response to a question, he indicated it was a good idea for the Association to be able to provide camera-ready advertisements for use by any member or competition.

VII. Committee Business

a. Youth

Ms. Richardson addressed the board about changing the age requirement for most youth programs. She noted that the Scholarship programs are already available to individuals 21 and under, and suggested the same age definition be applied to other Association programs.

A discussion ensued about ramifications for membership and competitions, and the consistency among the various programs. After debate, *Ms. Richardson moved and Ms. Cronan second her motion that the Junior Judging, Saddletime, Photography Contest, Youth Conference and Convention, and Youth Club programs be available for ASHA members under the age of 21, and the motion carried unanimously.*

VIII. Old Business

a. Research Programs

Mr. Balch referred the directors to written material as circulated on the status of veterinary research on EI, and also reported on the equine gene mapping project which is expected to shed further light on the Lordosis trait. He added that he is expecting to receive a proposal from Dr. Ernie Bailey on further research in this area.

b. Kentucky State Fair Two-Year-Old Three-Gaited, Unset Tail Class

The directors were advised of the recommendation from the Registry meeting that the class should be promoted in 2007, its second year at the Kentucky State Fair. Several ideas were voiced as to the proper promotion of it.

c. Rule Changes

Mr. Lockard advised the board of the upcoming meeting of the USEF Saddlebred Committee at the American Royal, where the rule changes previously discussed and agreed among the breed's leadership will be expected to move forward, including those relating to penalizing crooked tails and emphasizing that horses without set tails can compete in any class without penalty.

Another joint meeting of the leaderships/Executive Committees of both ASHA and UPHA was discussed, and a general consensus reached that such a meeting should be scheduled if possible.

d. Saddlebred Record Points

Ms. Gilliland advised that her understanding was that the awarding of CH points for Hunter Pleasure should be retroactive to the time when records were kept by the Registry or Association for such classes, and following discussion *she moved that such points be maintained retroactive to the inception of such point keeping, and her motion was seconded by Mr. Ruwoldt and carried unanimously.*

IX. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the directors, Ms. Pardieck moved to adjourn, Ms. Boone seconded, and the meeting was adjourned, without objection, at 3:15 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Alan F. Balch
Executive Secretary

Jefferson Streepey
Counsel