

AMERICAN SADDLEBRED HORSE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Board of Directors Meeting

United States Equestrian Federation Offices, Vanderbilt Conference Room
Kentucky Horse Park, Lexington, Kentucky

Wednesday, October 29, 2008
1:30 p.m. Eastern Time

MINUTES

[As Approved February 12, 2009]

Members Present: President Mary Anne Cronan, First Vice President Mary Ann Pardieck, Second Vice President Vicki Gillenwater, Secretary Paul Treiber, Treasurer Jim Ruwoldt; Directors Louise Gilliland, Nelson Green, Carl Holden, David Howard, Scott Matton, Dr. Margaret McNeese, Barbara Molland, Dr. Alan Raun, Kay Richardson, Jimmy Robertson, Judy Werner, Art Zubrod.

Members Absent: Directors Bill Blacklaw.

Others Present: Executive Committee Member Fred Sarver, American Saddlebred Museum President Laurel Nelson, Kentucky State Fair Director Tandy Patrick (attended in part), UPHA President Jim Taylor, Counsel Jeff Streepey, Executive Secretary Alan Balch, Executive Assistant Ann Hill.

I. The meeting was called to order and a quorum was in attendance. The formal meeting was opened following a joint luncheon with members of the Registry board, as well as a demonstration and presentation by Dr. Ernest Bailey of University of Kentucky regarding the proper measurement of back contours and research on Lordosis.

II. Introduction of Guests

President Cronan welcomed Tandy Patrick and Laurel Nelson, and briefly introduced them both. Ms. Patrick reported on the Kentucky State Fair recently concluded and the successful introduction of the new North Wing.

III. Minutes

Ms. Cronan and Mr. Balch noted that the minutes had previously been circulated for approval electronically and a majority had approved. However, Mr. Balch wished to be sure since this was the first time that everyone had input, since not all directors had responded. With no further corrections or comments regarding the minutes, they were deemed approved.

IV. Report of the Registry Board, Committee Meetings

President Werner reported on the board meeting. She noted that a contract had been executed with the University of California, Davis, for DNA testing. Some testing will remain with University of Kentucky at least until the existing contract ends, and she stated that since Davis does not do blood-typing, that will remain with Kentucky for the foreseeable future.

Mr. Sarver delivered the report of the Registry Committee meeting.

- a. As to reading pedigree information on entrants in Registry futurities, and as recommended by the Registry Committee, ***Ms. Cronan moved that the existing policy of publicly announcing pedigrees be maintained, Ms. Molland seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.***
- b. ***Upon recommendation by the Registry Committee that the Saddlebred Record fee be increased to \$75, effective February 1, 2009, Ms. Molland moved its approval, seconded by Ms. Cronan, and the motion carried without objection.***
- c. Mr. Sarver noted discussions over the class held at Kentucky State Fair for two-year-olds shown in snaffle bits. Since this class required a USEF Presidential Modification to the rules to be held, and was not eligible for inclusion in the Breeders' Award program, the Registry Committee felt that it should not be eligible for consideration in the Broodmare Hall of Fame consideration. ***Ms. Stafford so moved, seconded by Jimmy Robertson, and the motion carried unanimously.***
- d. Staff recommended that a new refund policy be considered, whereby a service charge or the equivalent be instituted for refunds, in the amount of \$25, subject to the approval of the Registry president as to exact wording. ***Ms. Cronan so moved, seconded by Mr. Reimer, and the motion carried without objection.***
- e. Mr. Sarver and Mr. Balch outlined problems with foreign registries currently faced by the Registry. In addition, they brought to the board's attention a new Registry rule permitting discretion by the

Registry Committee, upon approval of the Registry board, to register horses under extraordinary circumstances.

- f. Mr. Balch reported on steps being taken with the preparation of the 2009 Reference Directory, given the economic climate and the downturn in stallion advertising, to save production costs. He noted that it was essential to eliminate all costs possible, and that staff will take this opportunity to move certain sections (older mares) to the web site, to searchable databases there. The material on the web site will also be printable.

V. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Ruwoldt delivered the Treasurer's Report, noting the most important changes in comparative figures between year-ago actual and this year, as well as compared to budget. *Ms. Gillenwater moved to accept the Treasurer's Report, Mr. Treiber seconded, and the motion was adopted unanimously.*

VI. President's Report

- a. **Kentucky State Fair:** Ms. Cronan reviewed changes in the Association's activities at the State Fair this year, caused in part by construction at the Executive West, and the opportunities presented by the opening of the new North Wing.
- b. **Rule change proposal:** Ms. Cronan noted the evolution of the current "placeholder" in the rule change proposals relating to a conformation "standard," and the state of research and education on the entire matter of low backs. After lengthy discussion, *a consensus emerged that the subject should be referred to the Standards and Rules Committee for further evaluation and study, and a motion was duly made, seconded, and carried to so refer it.*

VII. Nominating Committee

Ms. Molland, chair, delivered the report of the Nominating Committee and its recommendations for candidates to become directors of the Association. *Dr. Raun stated that in the future, there should be three (3) additional candidates beyond the available seats presented for nomination in order to have an actual vote/election, and Mr. Green seconded the motion.* Additional discussion ensued, and upon voting, *the motion was carried 13 in favor and 4 opposed.* Mr. Streepey and Mr. Balch discussed the problems involved in adopting such a policy, inasmuch as the Nominating Committee, per the bylaws, is an independent committee restricted only by the terms of the bylaws. Several directors suggested the matter be formally researched, and Mr. Balch agreed to do so. *In the matter of the current recommendation of the Nominating Committee, Mr. Howard*

moved to accept the candidates as presented, Dr. Raun seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

VIII. Executive Secretary's Report

Mr. Balch commented in some detail on the statistical data presented to the board, with particular emphasis on growing weakness in memberships, as well as in Registry transactions, and presented an analysis of the Futurity program. He then reported on personnel matters, and staff changes relating to competition results and preparation of the Reference Directory.

He then presented *an application for a Bruce Hanson Equine Welfare Grant, from Fieldstone. Ms. Gillenwater moved its approval, seconded by Ms. Pardieck, and the motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Balch noted *the Association's video streaming of the Lexington Jr. League Horse Show, and asked for the board's consideration of an appropriate donation, whereupon Mr. Ruwoldt so moved, Mr. Holden seconded, and the grant was approved unanimously.*

He then reported on the Association's success in receiving challenge contributions for future promotional funding, and the difficulties the current economy is presenting. Mr. Matton reiterated the importance of the work done by his committee, and Paulette Schroeder, funded by ASHA, on the Riding School publication, that needed to be moved forward, especially since the value of general advertising and its expense was so debatable.

IX. Adjournment

With no further business to come before the directors, Mr. Ruwoldt, seconded by Ms. Gillenwater, moved that the meeting be adjourned, and it was so adjourned, without objection, at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by: _____

Alan F. Balch
Executive Secretary

AMERICAN SADDLEBRED HORSE ASSOCIATION

DATE: October 29, 2008

TO: Executive Committee, American Saddlebred Horse Association

FROM: Nominating Committee
Chairman, Barbara Molland
Nancy Becker, Victoria Gillenwater, Scott Matton, Carol Reedy

COPY: Jefferson K. Streepey, Esq.
Alan F. Balch, Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Report of the Nominating Committee

As you know, the qualifications for board service are explained in detail in the Association's bylaws. In considering our responsibilities, we noted in particular the criteria expressed in Article III, Part II, and took careful note of all suggestions considered since 2005, as well as over 20 new names received from the membership following the solicitation of more suggestions in August and September. There are currently 169 names being carried forward for consideration.

The Nominating Committee met formally on July 7, September 17, October 1, and October 15, with all members present at each meeting. We relied on the tools provided by the previous Committee, such as detailed spreadsheets showing the database of all suggestions received, to consider very carefully each individual proposed. We believe that these tools should also be passed on to the next Nominating Committee for possible use, as we found them helpful in "scoring" possible nominees.

The following directors' terms expire in February 2009:

William Blacklaw, Oregon
Mary Anne O. Cronan, Kentucky
Louise Gilliland, Oklahoma
Nelson Green, Kentucky
Kay Richardson, Illinois
Jim Ruwoldt, Georgia.

Mr. Blacklaw is serving his first term, and is eligible to serve again. Ms. Cronan is serving her third consecutive term, and is therefore not eligible to serve again. Ms. Gilliland is serving her first term, and is therefore eligible to serve again. Mr. Green is finishing his first complete term (having been appointed to complete a previous term of a director who had resigned), and is therefore eligible to serve again. Ms. Richardson is serving her second consecutive term, and as she is not an officer, she is ineligible to serve again. Mr. Ruwoldt is completing his first term, and is therefore eligible to serve again.

Mr. Blacklaw, Ms. Gilliland, Mr. Green, and Mr. Ruwoldt were all contacted to learn if they were willing to be considered for service once again. Mr. Blacklaw declined to be considered for another term; all others indicated they would. Each was then evaluated in detail as to whether the Nominating Committee wished to recommend them as candidates for further service.

After lengthy consultation, and review of a strong list of semi-final candidates, the Nominating Committee voted to recommend the following six (6) individuals for the ballot slate for the six (6) available seats to be elected by eligible voting members to the board:

Betsy Boone, North Carolina
Louise Gilliland, Oklahoma
Nelson Green, Kentucky
Germaine Johnson, Kentucky
Jim Ruwoldt, Georgia
William Whitley, North Carolina

All the individuals listed above are willing to serve if elected. However, none has been formally notified of their appearance on the election ballot pending his or her consideration by the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors, per the bylaws.

Condensed biographies of the non-directors on the recommended slate are attached for your information.

We very much appreciated this opportunity to be of service to the Association and the Saddlebred breed.