

MONTANA QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

Board members present: Ralph Young, Rita Church, Nancy LaCounte, Tracy Brown, Deb Cress, Nancy Ostle-Zahn, Barb Popovich, Lou Ann Holt, Jane Ellis, Lisa Hamilton, Marilyn Randall, Michele McGuigan – quorum

OLD BUSINESS:

Meeting called to order by President Ralph Young. Minutes from the December teleconference meeting were distributed electronically. Deb indicated a correction to the proceeds from the trail ride. Minutes were approved as corrected. Laura gave a financial report. Nancy L. made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Second to the motion by Marilyn. Motion approved.

Old Business: Laura reported the application and insurance has been submitted to Gallatin County Fairgrounds for the February Winterfest.

Committee Reports: 2015 Convention – tabled until February meeting. Ralph will get ahold of Stan for an update.

Shows: Rita reported Big Sky Classic entries have been sent for uploading on the website. Nancy O. has hired all the judges. Nancy still needs to send out contracts, but has email confirmation. Show approval applications have been submitted to AQHA.

The Marty Simper-Oak Clinic has been up on Facebook, well received. Tracy reported she has 6 deposits and 14 pending participants, would like a couple additional for backup. AQHA only pays hotel, flight, rental car, meals, but no clinician day fees.

MQHA will be responsible for paying those fees, approximately \$500 per day. Cost of clinic was increased to offset this cost.

Rita has been talking to CMRCHA about an alliance, NRCHA/AQHA alliance, working cow, boxing and cutting at 4 of their shows. MQHA pays the show fees and MQHA gets all the entry money, there are 4 shows; May – 2 shows & August 2 shows. Rita is trying to procure an all-cattle saddle sponsorship. All CMRCHA are eligible and must be an MQHA member, show in 6 shows and get 10 points. She would also like to do year end saddle awards, but everyone would need to participate in order for the saddle awards to take place. Amount is approximately \$1,000 per saddle. Rita is working on a sponsor form. Sadie is making a flyer indicating the requirements to be eligible for the saddle awards. Multiple sponsors per saddle were suggested. Question about the divisions for the saddles - suggested Open, Amateur, Youth, Novice Amateur, Select Amateur, and Novice Youth. It was also suggested the Youth be responsible for procuring their division saddle sponsor. A potential sponsor has agreed to be the Wrangler sponsor eliminating one potential saddle sponsor. Ruth is waiting for Wrangler to send her the specifications for his sponsorship.

August Rookie/Amateur Show: Rita would like a volunteer to chair this show. Jane Ellis has volunteered to be the chair with assistance from Rita, Laura and Nancy O. Nancy O. will get the show bill from Spokane show to the Committee. Spokane held an hour-before the show – question/answer session with the show judge. Nancy O. has contacted Leann Harrison to judge the Friday portion of the show followed by two other AQHA judges for the Saturday/Sunday split combined – a regular show including most AQHA classes with Friday being the Rookie/Novice only show. Dates are August 21-23, 2015 to be held in Columbus. Committee will report back to the Board in February.

Race: Ralph indicated nothing new to report. 7 days in Montana as previously reported. On venue working with AQHA for approval.

Trail Ride: Deb reported the flyer has been completed with Renee Mantle's help. Two weekends have been secured at the Mantle Ranch. Proceeds to MQHA first weekend, MQHA Amateurs the second weekend. Deb is starting to take applications. February 1, 2015 the flyer will be sent to the membership.

Region 2: Ruth reported the Region 2 Committee will be having a meeting the following week. Discussion about classes and fees. More to report in February.

Member Services: Nancy reported ice scrapers were order for the Bozeman Winterfest. Membership numbers: 76 renewal, 35 Life members, 7 renewal youth and 22 lifetime youth members. Laura will check the lifetime youth members for age related issues. Nancy suggested a membership drive similar to past drives. Laura will scan the new membership card and send it to Tracy for a new poster. New cards will be mailed out with the 2015 Directory. Laura will mail several membership cards to Tracy for the Winterfest. Deceasing membership continues to be an issue. Laura discussed the AQHA new members list received and a letter to these members was suggested.

Amateur: Lou Ann reported Tracy was getting the NRF raffle tickets printed. Tracy has purchased the NFR tickets. Lou Ann suggested an incentive award to encourage sales. Tracy reported balance in Amateur account was \$3,948.60. Rodeo tickets were for December 8-9, 2015 \$695, she purchased on her credit card and will be reimbursed for this item. Tracy will have a foam/board poster made for the Bozeman Winterfest which could be taken to the other venues for advertising. Cost for the board approximately \$10.

Youth: Barb Po reported the scholarship application was redone to make it more understandable between the collegiate and high school senior. Mostly grammatical changes were made to the application. Discussion about the Rookie/Novice show being a Youth project. Barb Po will talk to Barb B. to see the Youth's intentions with this show.

Breeders: No report

By-Laws: No report

Legislative: No report

Scholarship: Nancy reported the MQHA and MQHYA scholarship information has been turned into Ruth for the Directory. The pages needed to be condensed and Nancy will take care of this. Discussion about difference in scholarships and which organization is responsible for the amounts paid out. Barb Po would like to compare the requirements of the two scholarships. Barb Po was concerned about the budget from the Youth Association's ability to commit to two \$500 scholarships. It was suggested Barb Po check with Barb B. regarding this issue.

2015 Directory: Ruth reported the Directory is being finalized. She has added 10 more pages, which is the limit for financial viability. Projected to be to the printers first week of February with availability and mailing to the members the middle of February. Ruth will deliver copies to Rita for the Winterfest.

AQHA Affiliate Achievement Award: Laura reported Barb Po, Kathi Olson and Laura met to start preparing the award. Using the trail ride as a platform for the award. Kathi is getting the form completed. A draft will be sent to the Board prior to the deadline for approval and then it will be submitted to AQHA.

Awards: Tracy reported she and Laura worked on the final financial report. One of the award vendors has had some issues and overbilled the club. Awards have been received; a box is still getting embroidered. Tracy will oversee the final delivery of the awards. One error has been corrected and delivered. Laura will re-check receivables for the awards and report back to Tracy.

NEW BUSINESS:

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Insurance: Laura reported she has checked with Monty Sparby on the insurance for upcoming events. Currently, MQHA has coverage for the Winterfest, March Clinic any event and until April 2015. Laura will get a quote from Monty for the remaining events for 2015.

Suni Hecht Fundraiser. Ralph was contacted by a fundraising group about MQHA sponsorship/involvement with the event. Ralph committed the Club to some items for the silent auction. Suggestion of having a basket with MQHA embroidered items – two lycra items and possibly one sweatshirt. Marilyn suggested several items to make the basket more lucrative for bidding. Question about any remaining circuit awards that could be included. Deb suggested utilizing the etched glass vendor we have used. Deb would sponsor this item with the MQHA logo etched on the bowl. Ruth would donate a blanket and several Board members indicated they would participate in items for the basket with the possibility of more than one basket. Ralph will check with the fundraising Committee for an exact date of the event. Nancy L. volunteered to consolidate the baskets with help from Marilyn. Ruth received a text message from Penny and date for the event expected to be in April 2015. Finalizing the items tabled for February meeting.

Marilyn reported the scribe clinic will be February 28, 2015 at the Billings College. Ruth has 8 participants signed up for the clinic.

Correspondence: Laura reported she has emailed the Board the EMO Western Championship Show information. Suggested a committee to complete the qualification requirements together. Ruth suggested looking at other states requirements to format MQHA's requirements. Committee to include Rita, Nancy L. and Ralph. Ruth suggested patterning the requirements after the Novice requirements. Discussion about impact on Region 2 Show. Ruth felt the show could enhance the Region 2 Show.

Laura reported the website has been updated daily. Photos from the Directors are needed.

Other new business: Delivery of the ENewsletter was discussed, possibly every other month or possibly quarterly.

Nancy L. made a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Laura Bakker
2015 Secretary/Treasurer

**Next meeting – Teleconference
February 19, 2015 – 7:00pm**
