

MHRI Board Meeting
Monday, July 9, 2018
Horsemen's Lounge, Running Aces

Present: Mark Corless, Jessica Johnson, Greg Budach, Nick Roland, Vern Devine, Cathy Dessert, Bob Lems, Rick Bertrand, Justin Anfinson, Rick Magee, & Kyle VanOtterloo via phone. Bob Schiewe

Absent: None

Called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Agenda: **Jessica Johnson moved to approve & Cathy Dessert 2nd & it carried.**

Vern Devine moved to accept the minutes from June which were 2nd by Nick Roland & it carried.

Mark reviewed the response from Taro Ito regarding our ponying request, Taro felt strongly that safety was his main concern.

He invited the idea of obtaining walkers if they can find a space that's adequate.

We discussed the negotiating committee and felt it would be best to start the process in August while horsemen are still here. Rick Magee, Jessica Johnson & Mark Corless all volunteered.

Topics of concern: card club % (above statute), stall rent/housing, ponying, parity for trotters, export %, winners circle, & county fair funding.

County Fairs: we discussed charting and **Bob Lems moved to not chart at St. Peter which was 2nd by Rick Bertrand & it carried.**

Jessica Johnson moved to continue charting at the fall meets which was 2nd by Bob Lems & it carried.

We discussed the e-mail Ben had sent regarding excess funds & asking what to do with them. Bob Schiewe will coordinate between Nick Roland & Rick Bertrand on suggestions for how to allocate these funds before suggesting to Ben.

Bob Lems & Kyle VanOtterloo met with the rest of the breeders committee & several racing commissioners which they shared with the board. The group agreed that growing the breeding numbers as well as quality of breeding is important. Bob Lems is chair of the group & he noted that only the racing commission can call meetings.

Motion to approve the treasurer's report by Bob Lems and 2nd by Vern Devine & it carried.

Executive secretary's report: Bob Thanked Rick Magee & Nick Roland for their willingness to be on the drivers committee which has already proved valuable in some decision making for the judges.

Bob asked the group if we would be willing to donate to support the Rice Lake fair? He mentioned that Running Aces is giving \$250.

After some discussion, **Nick Roland moved to donate \$500 to support the Barron county fair in Rice Lake, 2nd by Jessica Johnson & it carried.**

Ben Blum had asked Bob if we would want to offer a groom of the week award. We would contribute \$20 per week & Aces would contribute \$20 as well which would give them \$40 in the dining room. We agreed to support this and Bob will administer a random draw once nominations are received limiting the winners to one per season.

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Bob had talked with Darin about getting more of the 10-year anniversary tee-shirts to distribute to horsemen. Our cost would be around \$13 each and we would order 100.

Jessica Johnson moved to commit to these tee-shirts to give away to our membership which was 2nd by Rick Bertrand & it carried.

We discussed the Dan Patch/Firedrake T-shirts and the option to buy 100 of those to sell to our members at \$10.

Rick Bertrand moved to buy 100 of these to sell & Nick Roland 2nd which then it carried.

We had some discussion about a possible race issue on the backside and talked about the need to be more inclusive with the Hispanic population and find ways to be more inclusive.

We discussed race bike & cart insurance up to \$1500 per bike per event as well as MHRI sponsored fairs during warm ups & races only.

Rick Bertrand moved to offer this insurance and make it retroactive to May 12th 2018. Nick Roland 2nd the motion which carried.

The MHRI board will decide on any payments or eligibility made under this plan.

Vern Devine moved to adjourn which was 2nd by Rick Bertrand & it carried.