

October 2, 2021 Tuesday- 5:20 P.M. (Cannon Falls fairgrounds)

Present: Greg Budach, Cathy Dessert, Rick Magee, Kyle VanOtterloo, Justin Anfinson, Bob Lems, Scott Banitt.

Via Zoom: Rick Bertrand, Nick Roland, Jessica Johnson

Absent: Bob Lems, Kyle VanOtterloo

Cathy Dessert moved to approve the agenda which was amended to add annual meeting discussion and meeting communications 2nd by Scott Banitt & carried.

Minutes: Mark Corless expressed concerns about the minutes. Cathy Dessert moved to remove from the minutes any discussion regarding a specific board member at the previous meeting and then to approve the minutes which was 2nd by Rick Magee & carried with one in opposition.

Mark Corless reviewed the proposed Running Aces contract for our annual meeting which is set for March 19th.

We discussed the stallion auction for the annual meeting to determine whether it's worth the effort, Cathy does most of the work on this and we tabled the discussion till the next meeting.

Mark Corless suggested that we consider hiring a 2nd person over the summer months to help with the work load over the busy period.

Suggested Job duties:

Weekly summary during live racing

Writing example

Minimum monthly communications with Running Aces and the MRC

Organizational Skills

Knowledge of harness racing

Maintaining weekly standings at Running Aces and the fairs

Technology (maintaining Website and other social media platforms)

It was suggested that we make a contract with clear terms for termination

We discussed Wheaton and Cathy Dessert moved to keep paying Ted Siltman \$500 every year for his efforts with the races up there. Motion was 2nd by Mark Corless and carried.

Scott mentioned the need to organize the races better at the fairs to keep fans interested. The FFA and better classes should be grouped in the middle.

Nick Roland mentioned a phone call that he received from Bob Schiewe regarding the races at Wheaton, someone called him complaining about drugging horses, excessive whapping, and people drinking. Justin Anfinson contacted Bob and reassured him that we had no complaints while there nor did we witness anything like what was being suggested.

Mark Corless talked about future meetings, (especially on ZOOM) and requested that everyone participate via live video if at all possible. Mark Corless moved & Nick Roland 2nd that board members use live video on their Zoom Feeds if at all possible in the future, motion carried.

Cathy Dessert mentioned that the MRC has mentioned at their last meeting that those people that have received fines and or suspensions and not changed their behavior may not receive a license next year.

Nick Roland suggested that MHRI could do a better job representing the driver colony & possibly help with educating the MRC regarding following rules and still issuing fines and suspensions although rules were clearly never broken.

Other jurisdictions are not fining anything like Minnesota is. MRC staff seems to be dictating to the judges.

Mark Corless suggested a meeting with the drivers and racing committee with the MRC to help clarify some of the ambiguity in the rules.

Cathy Dessert will find out when the next committee meeting is.

Cathy Dessert moved to approve the treasure's report which was 2nd by Mark Corless and carried.

Next board meeting set for Tuesday November 3rd, at 7:00.

Scott Banitt moved to adjourn with Rick Magee 2nd .