

## Meeting Minutes - Board of Directors Meeting - Maritime Quarter Horse Association

January 11, 2024

Chair: Liane Nelson, President

Note Taker: Shannon Boyce, Secretary

Attendance: Liane Nelson, Shannon Boyce, Doug Perkins, Lois-Anne Landry, Sarah Boss, Jeremy Hoyt, Shandi Dryden, Leah Thompson, Katurah Waye, Barry MacEachern

- Meeting was held virtually via Zoom and was called to order at 7:05 pm by Liane Nelson, president.
- 1. Motion to approve the agenda with power to add was made by Barry MacEachern, seconded by Leah Thompson. Motion carried.
- 2. Minutes of the last meeting, held virtually on Zoom November 23, 2023, were provided to all in attendance in advance and were not read at the meeting. The question was asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes, to which there was no response. Motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting was made by Leah Thompson, seconded by Katurah Waye. Motion carried.
- 3. Liane Nelson provided the President's report where she thanked Katurah Waye for submitting our affiliate information to the AQHA. There has been no other correspondence.
- 4. Liane Nelson shared Sarah Boss' unofficial Treasure's report. The year-end for 2023 has just been completed. Jonathan Melong has been working on getting everything transferred over to Sarah. The new signing officers will have to be set up for 2024.
- 5. Committee Reports:
  - A. Equine Review Committee Report- Madison Holmes, see attached report
  - B. Show Committee Report- Leah Thompson, see attached report
  - C. Youth Committee Report- Read by Liane Nelson for Lacey Fisher. The MQHYA AGM is tentatively set for January 23, 2024. The official date will be announced within the next couple of days once the youth confirm the date. The Youth Committee will really get started once the MQHYA have their AGM and decide what the youth would like to do for 2024.
  - D. Communications Committee Report- Katurah Waye, no report provided
  - E. Fundraising/Sponsorship Committee Report- Katurah Waye, no report provided
  - F. Bylaw Review Committee Report- Jeremy Hoyt reported that he received a copy of the constitution and the Bylaw Review Committee hasn't met yet.
  - G. Membership Committee Report- Shannon Boyce, see attached report
    - Shannon Boyce motioned to increase the 2024 membership fees to individual at \$35.00, family at \$45.00 and lifetime at \$350.00. Madison Holmes seconded the motion. Motion carried.
  - H. Year End Awards and Banquet Committee Report- Shannon Boyce, see attached report

Jeremy Hoyt motioned to accept the committee reports as read. Leah Thompson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Other Business for Action from the previous agenda was discussed.

Shannon Boyce looked into our current electronic document storage. For 2022 and prior the MQHA used OneDrive. It is currently 80% full with a 5 GB total limit. Additional OneDrive storage costs \$1.99 per month. In 2023 we opened a Google Drive which currently only has 1.67 GB used of 15 GB total space and currently costs nothing. She recommends sticking with the Google Drive for our current electronic document storage. She also mentioned we should decide who has access to this storage and update the password. It was discussed the executive (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary), communications committee chair and show management should have access to the Google Drive.

The e-mail account was also discussed and how it is difficult to manage with multiple people having access. It was decided that if you open an e-mail and it is not for you to action, please mark it as unread so anyone accessing the e-mail account is aware it hasn't been taken care of yet.

The current laptop that is being used by show management should go to Sarah Boss, Treasurer, to operate the SAGE program and a new, updated laptop is to be purchased for the show management.

Sarah Boss has been updated as the new contact for our insurance.

7. Looking at alternative MQHA show venues was discussed. Liane Nelson tried to reach out to Truro several times both before and after Christmas with no response. It is believed that the SomeBeachSomewhere Pavilion is 3 years away from having stalls. Other venues like Windsor were looked into but issues included lack of camping, lack of number of stalls, quality of stalls and quality of footing. The Fredericton Exhibition grounds has upgraded its facility and is under new management. It is believed the indoor is an old hockey rink that has had the plexiglass removed and they have created an outdoor ring as well. Katurah Waye agreed to contact the new manager of the Fredericton Exhibition grounds for more information. It is unclear if the new facility being created by Jennifer Ehrnfield-Poole will be open for show booking; however, even if it is available 100 stalls won't be adequate for MQHA. In 2023 we consistently booked 160 to 180 stalls (including tack stalls). It was mentioned that changing venues means a lot of lugging equipment (trail poles, etc) and that Rose may have created a list of minimum requirements which would be required for a new venue and things to consider from a management stand-point. It was discussed how the survey results will help to decide what our membership would like.

A question has come through the MQHA Facebook messenger regarding if people can haul-in for the shows and show off of their trailer. It is uncertain if PLP has policy on this so we will have to check with Rose.

8. A date for the next board meeting was set for Thursday, February 15th, 2024.
9. Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:16 pm- Leah Thompson

## **Committee Report Equine Review January 2024:**

### **Chair: Madison Holmes**

- two meetings - larger committee than last year with 10 members
- finalized dates - May 4th and 5th
- created a proposed budget - however are waiting on final prices from plp which we should have this week
- compiled a list of possible clinicians, demos and educational booths and sent a survey to members to vote
- Created a jot form for vendor applications, will send out once prices have been finalized
- discussed various ideas to increase attendance, such as some exciting demos, possibly an evening event or competition, basket draws, utilizing both rings for demos and clinics, and having an MC to continuously promote our clinics demos and events.

### **Presentation of the Budget:**

- was created with an overall 12% increase of plp pricing, but will be updated with final prices in the next week or two
- does not include grants as we are ineligible for one of the grants we received last year, however I believe we are still eligible for the cqha grant of 2500 and am looking into that
- price increases on gate fee and vendor costs in line with the price increase of plp
- includes having two clinicians, one for aqha and one for ranch/reining however clinicians have not been finalized waiting on results from the member survey
- currently projected to make around 10 000 dollars if attendance remains similar to last year, budget was created with a slight decrease in attendance of vendors and shoppers, but we are hoping for an increase

## Show Committee Report

*Prepared for the Board of Directors Meeting | January 11 2024*

Our planning for the 2024 season is well underway and we have already released our dates:

- a. June 28 – July 1 Canadian Classic
- b. August 2 -5 Summer Sizzler
- c. September 1-2 Fall Classic

We were able to work with the Maritime Paint Horse Club to rearrange the days for the fall show to better suit our members who are back to school the following week. There are still some issues with sharing the weekend with the Paints and we will be looking into a few different options for 2025. We will be sending a Jotform survey out to our members with the show format options which will allow them to voice their opinions anonymously. If we hear from the membership that they want the show formatting changed up, we need to be able to act on this ASAP to secure the 2025 dates.

Booking forms for RV and stall will be available February 1<sup>st</sup> with a deposit payment becoming due on April 1<sup>st</sup> for the first show and May 1<sup>st</sup> for the second show. We have had extensive conversations about the fairest way to assign RV parking, and it has come down to allowing Rose and Beth to use their best judgment. Most people who attend our shows annually will always end up with the same camping spot. Consideration will be given when assigning spots to extra long trailers who need more room and smaller trailers that can be parked where the larger ones cannot be. The booking form will include the trailer dimensions as well as if there are slide outs.

We currently have all our judges booked for the first two shows and are waiting to hear back from a couple of people to secure our last two judges for the fall show. Julianna Jones has been hired as our official photographer for the season.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT  
JANUARY 11, 2024  
PRESENTED BY: SHANNON BOYCE**

- Recommend we increase the 2024 membership fees to \$35 per individual, \$45 per family and \$350 for lifetime membership. The \$5 MQHYA fee should remain the same.
- We should launch the 2024 membership form on our website ASAP, especially prior to the RV & Stall Reservation forms being launched.
- A Google Sheet, which can be found in our Google Drive, has been created to track our 2024 membership.
- Sarah Boss should be included on the membership committee so we can cross reference with her that memberships have been paid.

**YEAR-END COMMITTEE REPORT  
JANUARY 11, 2024  
PRESENTED BY: SHANNON BOYCE**

- The 2024 Year-End Banquet will be November 16th, 2024 at the Inn on Prince in Truro, NS.
- Our up-coming meeting will be to decide upon the 2024 year-end high point qualifying requirements. We would like to have these finalized asap so members have them in advance of our first show.