

Annual General Membership Meeting Minutes  
Minnesota Arabian Horse Association  
April 11, 2012, 7-9 p.m.  
The Black Stallion Restaurant  
Hampton, MN

**Attending Officers and Board Members:** Lori Conway, Annie Slawik, Jill Frieders, Anita Grant, Miriam McGurran, Lisa A. Lewis, Rebecca Bell, Nathan Hastad, Toni Marie O'Daniel, Teresa LeFever, Pat Swenson, and Janet de Acevedo Macdonald.

Board members not in attendance: John Diedrich, Sarah Paripovich

President Lori Conway called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**1) President's Report**

Lori shared the following information:

Kudos and congrats to organizers and volunteers of the MAHA Spring Fling, which was very successful.

Former MAHA Board member Ann Benson has expressed an interest in being a MAHA delegate. Since the current positions are already filled, Lori will follow up with Ann to learn her interest in being an alternate delegate.

**2) Secretary's Report**

Janet de Acevedo Macdonald asked that the January 29, 2012, and March 3, 2012, Meeting Minutes be read, edited as necessary and approved for posting to the membership. Lori made the motion to approve the Minutes as edited, Toni Marie O'Daniel approved and Jill Frieders seconded. The motion carried.

**3) Treasurer's Report**

Jill is still processing financial information from the recent Spring Fling. She had no formal financial report to the Board. Jill will file the club's tax report by May 15.

Regarding Spring Fling payback checks, after some discussion, it was decided that Teresa LeFever would research how other shows are handling payback and report her findings to the Board.

**4) Membership Report**

Lisa Lewis reported MAHA has 276 adult members (48 are new) and 85 youth members (12 are new).

In effort to improve the process for our members, Lisa suggested MAHA align their membership offerings with AHA's online membership options. Rebecca Bell and Jill reviewed the MAHA Bylaws and found no reason why the club cannot offer a three-year membership option on its own membership form and through the AHA site. Lisa made the motion to add a three-year-membership option, Lori approved and Jill seconded. The

motion carried. Lisa will update the MAHA Membership Form and follow-up with Kelly at AHA to ensure any necessary changes are carried out with its website.

### **5) MAHA Spring Fling**

Teresa reported the show had 663 rides and 163 horses with more tack stalls being sold than in 2011. The mild spring weather meant MAHA did not turn on the heat for the indoor facility, which represented a savings of \$800/day.

The Minnesota Equestrian Center restrooms were pumped during the show. There was a brief discussion about the main restrooms being flooded, having wet countertops, overflowing wastebaskets and a shortage of toilet paper.

### **6) MAHA Youth**

Teresa announced trainer Laurie Long has agreed to be the clinician on Saturday afternoon, June 2, from 1-4 p.m., at the LeFever Training Centre in Hudson, Wisconsin. This clinic is for youth riders and is hosted by the MAHA Youth.

Admission to the clinic will be free to all youth and MAHA members, non-members will be charged \$25. There is a \$50 fee to participate as a rider and participant names will be put into a hat and chosen from there, as this seems the fairest way to decide given the limited time.

Region 10 Youth Coordinator Joan Rose will be contacted to put Teresa in touch with Region 10 Youth Director Allison Johnson and Vice Youth Director Betsy Carlson and to participate somehow in the clinic.

Annie Slawik will investigate insurance cost for the clinic.

### **7) Minnesota Horse Council**

Miriam McGurran informed the Board of the AgStar Building's Grand Opening Breakfast, at 7 a.m., Friday, April 27, at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds. Attendees must RSVP to this event.

### **8) Minnesota Horse Expo**

Anita Grant reported that MAHA will once again participate in the Minnesota Horse Expo, Friday-Sunday, April 27-29, at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. Ten horses will represent our Arabian horse breed showing the disciplines of Native Costume, Western Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure, Dressage and Side Saddle.

Janet will prepare/send an e-blast to members asking them to volunteer time at the MAHA Expo stalls and to contact Anita with questions and/or time commitment.

A TV and two stall curtain valances were purchased for use at the stalls. Office Max will do 16 x 24 inch photo signs for each stall with the horse's name and its pedigree. These signs will be laminated for use in future years, as many horse/rider combinations return to showcase the breed at the expo.

### **9) WSCA/Open Show/AU**

Janet said the booklets and open show calendar information has been updated on the MAHA site.

### **10) MAHA Fall Classic**

The dates for the Fall Classic are Saturday and Sunday, September 15 and 16. Lori polled the group confirming its interest in having photographer Johnny Johnston of Redmond, Washington as a clinician. Lori will contact Johnny to book a date and will report back at a future meeting.

### **11) Open Houses, Clinics, other educational events**

Lori expects to host an open house and trail ride at Conway Arabians sometime during July-she is investigating Saturdays, July 7 or 14.

Teresa spoke about the Laurie Long clinic on Saturday, June 2, earlier during this meeting.

### **12) MAHA Trail Ride**

Pat Swenson reported the season's first MAHA trail ride will begin at 10 am at Lake Elmo Park Reserve in Washington County on Saturday, June 30. Rather than informal snack sharing after the ride, people will be asked to bring food to share for a potluck grill. Riders should bring their own chairs and a couple of tables should be provided too. MAHA will once again provide the beverages.

### **13) Other business**

Janet asked the Board to consider purchasing of Adobe Acrobat X Pro for ease of use when creating/editing the club's many online forms, whether for show entries, sponsorships, website, newsletter, clinic promo flyers, etc. She included two links to YouTube tutorials in the emailed agenda notice that gave overviews about this software. The cost is \$449.

After some discussion a decision on whether to purchase was tabled until the Board gathers at the LeFever Training Centre on June 2 for the MAHA Youth-sponsored clinic.

Janet informed the Board that its nonprofit status was renewed by former MAHA Secretary Carol Carlson and that the registered agent named went from Laura Mickelson to Lori.

The Board would like to investigate items it could have for sale to promote its brand. Lori will talk with Melissa Pasicznyk of Lakes Wear Embroidery & Screen Printing about suggesting items for the Board to review/purchase as possible fundraising items. Board members are encouraged to look for/think about other fundraising ideas for the club.

### **Adjournment**

Lori made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Toni Marie approved, and Annie seconded.  
Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Janet de Acevedo Macdonald