

Meeting Minutes  
Minnesota Arabian Horse Association  
December 7, 2012, 5 p.m.  
Conference Call

**Attending Officers and Board Members:** Lori Conway, Annie Slawik, Jill Frieders, Anita Grant, Lisa A. Lewis, Rebecca Bell, and Janet de Acevedo Macdonald.

Board members not in attendance: John Diedrich, Sarah Paripovich, Teresa LeFever, Nathan Hastad, Pat Swenson, Miriam McGurran, Toni Marie O'Daniel

Guest: Van Jacobsen

President Lori Conway called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

**1) President's Report**

**AHA Convention Delegates**

Lori reminded the five delegates (Lori, John Diedrich, Anita Grant, Toni Marie O'Daniel, Nancy Sawyer) to submit their written AHA Convention delegate reports to Jill Frieders and Janet de Acevedo Macdonald via email. Jill will cut a reimbursement check and Janet will ensure the reports are posted on the website and in an issue of the Express newsletter.

After some discussion, Annie Slawik moved that the reimbursement amount for attending the 2012 AHA National Convention in Denver be \$650 to attending delegates; \$3250 total. Jill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**MAHA Facebook Group Guidelines**

It was decided that our MAHA Facebook Group will be used for club information to our members and will accept some cross posting of other clubs and associations with information that promotes the Arabian horse breed. For sale ads, even by our members, will not be allowed and will be deleted by an administrator.

The group is open, meaning people who have Facebook accounts need not apply to be a member, however, Lori asked that members active in this group monitor who is posting and that the content matches with the above stated perimeters.

**MAHA Bylaws clarification**

Following discussion during the August 29 Board Meeting on whether or not a bylaw change is needed for Officers to be elected for two-year terms versus one. Janet de Acevedo Macdonald noted language in differing sections of the bylaws has no doubt led to the confusion between one-year versus two-year terms for Officers.

Article V Board of Directors, item B, reads in part: "The number of Directors of the Association shall be twelve, of which four shall be Officers of the Association, and eight shall be elected at large in the fall of the year prior to the annual meeting of the membership for two year terms."

Article VI Officers, item A, second paragraph reads in part: "The Officers of the Association shall be elected annually in the fall of the year prior to the annual meeting of the membership."

Currently, the Officers are running for election annually.

In that August meeting, Rebecca Bell was asked to review the bylaw language and was asked to offer direction if changes were needed. Becky too noted the conflicting language and that while it posts no immediate concern, a draft of the suggested language change should be written to clarify Officer terms and be brought back to the Board for feedback before suggesting a change to the entire membership. It was also noted that any association bylaws change must be brought in front of the membership for an up-or-down vote of 2/3 majority.

## **2) Secretary's Report**

Janet asked that the August 29, 2012, Meeting Minutes draft she distributed earlier by email be edited if necessary and approved for posting to the membership via the club's website. Lori made the motion to approve the Minutes as presented, Anita approved and Annie seconded. The motion carried.

## **3) Treasurer's Report**

Jill submitted a Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss current to 12/07/2012; both with previous year comparison figures. The club's total assets are \$99,082.67, which represents a 3% change over the \$96,182.92 from the same date in 2011. Total Liabilities & Equity are \$99,082.67 and \$96,182.92, respectively. The 2012 Net Income is \$4380.32, which represents a -42.5% change over the 2011 same date Net Income of \$7623.36.

Detailed reports are available upon request.

## **4) Membership Report**

MAHA membership numbers have increased by 31%, yet the MAHA Treasurer's Report shows our numbers are down. After some discussion on how best to proceed, Lisa Lewis agreed to ask for a 2012 accounting from AHA to investigate whether or not the club may be owed monies from members who renew via AHA online.

## **5) Minnesota Horse Expo**

Annie informed the Board that she and Kristen O'Daniel are co-chairing MAHA's participation in the 2013 Minnesota Horse Expo, Friday-Sunday, April 26-28, at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds in St. Paul. A message has already been posted on the club's Facebook Group page asking for volunteers.

## **6) MAHA's Annual Meeting, Year-end Awards Banquet & Clinic**

The annual meeting will be hosted at Cedar Ridge Arabians in Jordan, on Sunday, January 27, 2013; beginning at 10 a.m. Cedar Ridge Arabians will provide lunch, including the chili we have had on previous menus. The buffet-style lunch menus have been tasty and well received.

After some discussion it was decided that in addition to the day's business meeting, a clinic run like "mock horse show" will be offered with national-level judges and other well-respected professional horse people presiding. The following divisions will be judged: Halter, English Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure and Western Pleasure. Each "class" would have four horse/rider/handler entrees. It is possible some horse/rider/handler could compete in more than one division. The cost per entrant/per division would be \$50. To participate in the clinic rider/handler participants must be current MAHA members.

The MAHA 'give back' value for this clinic is to have the judges share in real time their thoughts, observations, tips and other insights to acquaint and educate attendees to what a judge is looking for and why certain things are being asked. For instance, Van Jacobsen mentioned that he believes not all handlers understand why a horse is asked to trot off in a straight line from center ring. During the discussion it was roundly expressed and agreed that the 'judging' be presented as helpful, kind critiques.

The suggested judges for the clinic who are in MAHA or Region 10 ranks are: Lori, Van, John Diedrich and Juli Goder Larson. Darcy Gray will also be contacted to reprise her popular workshop on show clipping.

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

### **Chrisalem Hills**

On behalf of Toni Marie O'Daniel's Chisalem Hills, Annie informed the Board that Toni and family's new facility in Rosemount, Minnesota, is interested in hosting clinics, meetings and trail rides for MAHA.

**8) Other business**

Anita led a discussion on the recent passing of MAHA last founding member, Mary Taylor, and the importance of preserving club history. She will write an article on all the club's founding members to be published in the January/February issue of MAHA Express.

Jill suggested the Board come up with a plan and procedure with criteria for when MAHA may donate its monies to causes, clubs, to commemorations, the AHA, etc.

**Adjournment**

Lori made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Toni Marie approved, and Annie seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Janet de Acevedo Macdonald