

NWMHC BOARD OF DIRECTORS WINTER MEETING
January 23, 2016
Ridgefield, WA

1. The meeting was called to order, at 10:03am, by President Susie Gunther.
2. Roll call: **PRESENT:** President Susie Gunther, Vice President Christine Houts, Treasurer Kathy Howard, Administrator Jamie Bethany, Director Joanne Ross and Recording Secretary Janine McDonald **GUESTS:** Carole Heermann, Arlene Dickinson, Jessica Kimball, Skylar Heermann, Katie Hanson, Amber Hanson, Linda Van Fleet, Julie Hemenway and Cindy Saum **ABSENT:** Director Robin Hardy and Past President Lisa Pichler
3. Minutes of the Fall BOD Meeting were approved as read.
4. **President's Report** given by Susie Gunther.

Thank you to the outgoing BOD members and officers, Lisa Pichler, Helen Halderman and Diane Dorigan. Without their hours of volunteer time, this club would not function.

A new combined Gypsy Horse/Miniature Horse show will take place at the Oregon State Fairgrounds towards the end of April. This show will count towards year end awards and will be an AMHA approved show.

The Emerald Valley show, in May, will be a combined show with AMHR.

Show coordinators this year have some great ideas for social events. This should encourage new miniature horse people to get better acquainted with our club.

The NWMHC Facebook page is getting more and more exposure. The numbers of visits per post have gone from an average of 60 to 146. At times we have seen an increase in viewing of up to 300%, all since the end of November, 2015.

The Mini Hours program, offered thru AMHA, is a program every NWMHC member should get involved with. Each person tracks their time spent with their mini(s). Awards are given for anyone spending a minimum of 100 hours with their miniature horse(s). It's a free program and all award winners will be featured in the April / May issue of the Miniature Horse World magazine, along with a photo and their hours. Susie would like to see all NWMHC members participate and join in this program. More information can be found at amha.org/programs/mini-hours.

Please volunteer your time on a NWMHC committee.

Some fun drives are planned this year. Some of the planned events are potlucks, picnics and an overnight camping drive. Please check nwmhc.com or our Facebook page for more information. If you are interested in setting up your own drive, please contact Susie Gunther.

5. **Vice President's Report** given by Christine Houst.

Show Report – All of the contracts, for all of the facilities, have been received. The contract for the Gypsy Horse/Mini combined April show has been signed and handed in already. The other contracts, for Emerald Valley, CanAm and WOW, Christine has. The Gypsy Horse/Mini show is the only show that we have announcers for so far. It will be the responsibility of the coordinators, for each show, to find announcers for their particular show. A list of judges has not yet been received from Rinda. So far only one judge has sent his contract back to Rinda. We just

got the coordinators for the CanAm show today. The turnout, for the WOW show this year, will determine whether or not we continue to have it in 2017.

An email from Ron Hood, about the Oregon State Fair show, says the dates for the show will be August 30th – September 3rd. Ron is asking for ideas on entertaining fair goers. This would help keep people seated in the evening. The entertainment ideas/events would be for after the draft horse classes are done. Joanne brought up the possibility of putting on a barrel race. Ron wants ideas/suggestions and a write-up for each, listing the people that would put on each event.

Ron Hood also asked for judges for the Oregon State Fair show. Judges mentioned were Wayne Hipsley, Patty Cloke, Maryann Morris, Richard Petty, Kathleen Callahan-Smith, Joanne Crockett, Steven Hatch, Walter De la Brosse, Cindi Carlson and Steve Branson. Discussion proceeded and eventually Wayne Hipsley, Steven Hatch and Richard Petty were decided upon for AMHA.

Rinda has been working with Christine on the class list for CanAm. It will be the same class list used for Regionals, with the futurity classes added in, but condensed down as a local show.

Carole asked that after the close of the BOD meeting, everyone discuss ideas/suggestions that can be taken back to Ron Hood via Christine. That discussion did take place and Christine took down notes to pass onto Ron.

A list of action items was received from Rinda. It basically stated the raise in facility fees this year. Each show entry's office fee will be raised, from \$5 to \$10, to offset the added charges.

6. **Treasurer's Report** given by Kathy Howard:

As of December 1st, we had \$10,976.56 in the checking and \$12,775.21 in the CD, for a total of \$23,751.77. Out of the checking total, \$8,584.19 is for general purposes, \$440.00 is for futurity, \$593.05 is for gelding incentive and \$1,359.32 is for youth. The only activity we had in December was an NSF check received at the banquet for \$5. Kathy was able to collect on the \$5 NSF check plus the \$12 returned check fee. December 31st ending balances were exactly the same as the beginning balance.

The budget is still the same as what was given at the Fall Meeting. Any budget items, that need to be added, should be brought up today. Jamie has asked that \$500 be budgeted for the Newsletter Committee.

We don't get a lot of NSF checks but we do get some. We still have one outstanding and haven't heard back from him....years old. Copying from the Oregon Pinto policies, to have something to start with, we could say that we will charge a \$50 fee for any NSF check, including any bank fees. Any exhibitor/owner issuing a non-negotiable check will have 10 working days, from the time of notification by NWMHC of such check, to make the NSF check negotiable. If after 10 working days the check is still non-negotiable, owner/exhibitor will forfeit year-end points earned from the show. If after 10 working days the check is made negotiable, forfeited year-end points will not be reinstated for that show. Jamie also did a mock up letter, a bit more severe, surrounding final attempts. It's on Yahoo Groups, if anyone wants to look at it and amend it as needed. Susie is having Julie go over the rules and regs, as what is stated there should match everywhere else. If the rules and regs need to be modified, they will be. Perhaps if a repeat offender, we will only accept chip reader cards and charge any add'l fees associated with it. Jessica Kimball looked at a 2008 show book that mentioned NSF checks. That has somehow been dropped off in our current show books. Need a general rule, not just concerning show fees, as NSF checks aren't received just at shows. We will discuss further in the General Meeting.

There will be a total of \$1,048 in the gelding incentive fund after all outstanding monies have been collected. Still a ways to go, to meet our goal, but a good start.

2013 and 2014 taxes were not filed by the end of November. There is a lot more to it, as there is no data. They will be filed before February 22nd.

Based on where we were last year, compared to this year, we're in a better position. Very few ribbons need to be ordered this year. We have a lot of interest again. We're projecting 50 horses for the new Gypsy Horse/Mini show in April. People are excited for that April show and it's going to be reasonable, with easy I-5 access. So far 2016 looks like it will be a good year.

If anyone ever wants to look over the financials, they're more than welcome to. Just email Kathy and she will provide them.

Action Items for Kathy from Fall Meeting.

- First action item was to get the trailer title to reflect Kathy Howard's address. The title hasn't been updated yet but it is ready to go. The title address change will be done soon and be given to Linda Van Fleet to post in the trailer.
- The other action item was to get a total cost to Casey Campbell for the AMHR portion of the WOW show. Kathy has not given that total to Casey. The WOW is already approved for AMHA and we have up to 60 days prior to add AMHR if we want. The facility has said that we can add Friday onto the show if we want. It's not too late to add R yet. The judges would have to come a day early so need to know asap. That would mean that Casey has until May 1st to pay the fees associated with adding a one day AMHR to WOW. Kathy will talk to Casey and confirm.

7. **Club Administrator's Report** given by Jamie Bethany:

For 2016 we have 20 family memberships, of which 2 are new members. A new member packet is still being put together. Of the total family memberships, 0 are sponsored youth, 5 have paid for NWMHC farm links and 4 have paid for Miniature Horse World advertising.

80 renewal letters were sent out this week, along with our January newsletter. There was a cost incurred with these renewal mailings. The administrator budget didn't reflect this cost, so Jamie asked the board for 2016 to approve changing the administrator budget from \$100 to \$200, to cover the cost of the mailings. Kathy Howard stated that the mailings are actually in the budget as \$500 for miscellaneous.

Our license for the non-profit status, through the state of Oregon, is good until July. Kathy and Jamie will renew it online, once it comes due in July.

The insurance renewals, for the shows, have arrived. Jamie just needs to fill out show dates and facilities' addresses, which she will get from Christine. Once the renewals are sent out, the premiums will be sent back and Jamie will forward them to Christine, our show manager. Once payment is received, policies will be sent out for each venue. Kathy asked Jamie to give her the additional cost of adding the Gypsy Horse/Mini show this year. Jamie will get that total to Kathy before the General Meeting.

Action items for Jamie.

- First action item was to get a new membership packet together to send out with new member cards. Jamie is still working on this.

- Another action item is to gather info, after each show in 2016, and iContact email members the results. Since we haven't yet had a show this year, there isn't anything to report yet.

8. Show Manager's Report given by Susie Gunther.

Susie asked Rinda for judges' names. Rinda has not yet replied.

Rinda asks that all people showing a senior stallion get a "certificate of veterinary inspection of stallion" filled out. This form must be presented to show management prior to the showing of any senior stallion (3 years or older). Senior stallions cannot show without this certificate. This has been an issue for the past couple of years, so Rinda wants to get the word out. This necessary form is out on amha.org/member-services/forms-applications down under Show Department.

9. AMHA National Director's Report given by Joanne Ross.

The World Show in 2017 is now at the end of August. Our preferred October date was given away, by the time we'd gotten back to the Will Rogers facility. They weren't holding the October date for us, like we thought, and it was given to another organization.

By-Laws were published in the December MHW magazine. Article 11 section 2 by-law will be voted on in February, concerning opening up the registry again. If this by-law passes, the hard-shipped horse has to be measured at an AMHA horse show, as opposed to privately at a farm. Any horse being hard-shipped into AMHA also has to have AMHR papers and be at least 5 years old.

There's another by-law, being voted on, to allow any AMHA registered horse to keep its papers, if it goes over 34". They would be allowed as breeding stock only and their papers would remain valid.

10. Old Business

Action Items

- One action item was to get volunteers for the 2016 Western Regionals social aspect. We need to make the Regional show a more special show. Joanne stated that one year we had a barbecue in the trailer park area, which was hosted by a couple of people. That might be something we could do. If anyone has any ideas and would like to see some social stuff for the Regionals, bring it to us and we'll try to act on it. Regionals will be in Reno this year.
- There was another action item concerning Julie Hemenway updating the Rules and Regs and By-Laws. Those changes were done.
- Another action item was about the new audit committee. No financials were received or gone over prior to this Winter Meeting. Kathy will send out the balance statement and ledger, to the audit committee members, within the week. The first couple of months, prior to Kathy taking over, may not be self-explanatory.
- Last action item was to ask Dawn Sayles why the Community Service (Mark Bullington Versatility) Award states that it only runs through August. Why doesn't it include the Winter months? Joanne answered this. Dawn told her that it had to be okayed at the Winter Meeting and that's why it started after the Winter Meeting. From this year on, it will be a full year award.

The NWMHC club needs to get a profit/loss report from Dawn Sayles on the NWMHC logo apparel that she's been selling in her online store. This was also mentioned in the Fall Meeting. They can only be considered as "farm sponsored" if they don't carry the NWMHC logo. Susie will contact Dawn. Money had been approved, last year, to budget for the online store. Don't believe that any money has actually been paid out though.

Christine mentioned that someone asked in the Fall Meeting about having a booth at the NW Horse Fair & Expo in Albany. You can have an exhibit or a breed showcase setup. They are spendy but it's a good way to get the word out about miniature horses. Membership paperwork and information can be handed out. An exhibit, which is inside the main building, would be a 10 X 10 for \$475. There is a non-profit discount of \$50, so it would really be \$425, if no retail sales. If we were to get a breed showcase for the expo, it would have to be farm sponsored. Since there is very little time left, it's highly unlikely that will happen. A breed showcase costs \$325 (includes 3 stalls) plus \$50 per extra stall up to 10 total stalls. We believe they allow 2 mini horses per stall. Everything has to be turned in by February 1st. Maybe something to look at for 2017. **MOTION** Kathy made a motion that we table this discussion until Fall 2016. Christine seconded and everyone approved

Christine has been trying to hunt down our tri-fold big club board for a while. I mentioned that I was pretty sure Margaret Slape had the board, as it was used at the Portland Chinese Gardens in 2014.

Another "old business" item from the Fall Meeting was the Canby Tack Sale. Julie and Christine are in charge of it. The entry form, for the tack sale, is ready to be filled out. If we want a booth there, it's \$35 per 10 X 10. Any tack or show items need to be given to Julie or Christine. The Tack Sale is March 19th from 8am to 1:30pm and admission is \$1. Since this is new, we will only purchase one 10 X 10 this year. There is another Tack Sale in the Fall as well. Carole volunteered to help Christine and Julie. The money from the Tack Sale would not go back to the donators. Susie suggested that any proceeds go into the futurity fund. A discussion followed about where the money should be put....year-end awards, ½ gelding and ½ futurity, general fund, clinics, etc. Perhaps, with this added money, we would be able to give out more year-end awards. More year-end awards would benefit the club by more people coming to the shows and the year-end banquet. Will discuss at Fall Meeting, after we know what the proceeds are, how to split it out. This would be done at the Fall General Meeting, where all members could vote. **MOTION** Christine made a motion that we get one 10 X 10 booth for the Canby Tack Sale on March 19th. Seconded and all approved.

A question was asked about how many shows do geldings need to be shown at, in order to qualify for the gelding incentive fund. Even though there will be 4 qualifying shows this year, it will remain at 2. If a gelding is shown in 2 out of the 4 this year, it will qualify for the gelding incentive fund. The 4 qualifying shows are Mt. Hood, Emerald Valley, CanAm and WOW. This recently was voted on and approved to change to 3 shows, as Oregon State Fair used to count. **MOTION** Kathy Howard made a motion to table this discussion until the General Meeting. Janine seconded and all approved.

11. New Business -- None

- 12. MOTION** Joanne made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:34am. Susie seconded and all approved.

----- ACTION ITEMS -----

- **ACTION:** Jamie Bethany will gather info, after each show in 2016, and iContact email members the results.
- **ACTION:** Jamie Bethany to get the added total, for the new Gypsy Horse/Mini show, to Kathy Howard before the General Meeting. Not sure if this was done, so making it an action item.
- **ACTION:** Jamie Bethany will update the information packet that is sent to new members. The updated packet will be sent out, to new members, along with their membership cards.
- **ACTION:** Jamie Bethany will work with John Sayles to get the classifieds cleaned up on our website.
- **ACTION:** Jamie Bethany to ask insurance company, next time she talks to them, whether or not we can get a refund on insurance for a cancelled show. It probably isn't refundable, since the insurance premium isn't broken down by show, but it would be good to ask.
- **ACTION:** Jamie Bethany to provide a current farm list, to Joanne, in order to get the MHW ad updated.
- **ACTION:** Jamie Bethany to provide a current list of NW AMHA youth members to Sue Newnham and Jamae Creecy.
- **ACTION:** Susie Gunther to contact Dawn Sayles about a profit/loss report for her online store selling NWMHC logo apparel.
- **ACTION:** Julie will compare an AMHA booklet she found, to what is currently in our regs, concerning measuring requirements. She will bring all omissions/changes to the Fall Meeting.
- **ACTION:** Christine Houts and Jessica Kimball to get bids for new club banners.
- **ACTION:** Christine Houts to give Linda Van Fleet Sandy Johnson's phone number (volunteer judge for schooling clinic).
- **ACTION:** Linda Van Fleet to try and get the sticky residue off of the club trailer.
- **ACTION:** Will discuss at Fall General Meeting, after we know what the proceeds are from the Canby Tack Sale, how to split the funds out.
- **ACTION:** The new Audit Committee (Joanne Ross, Janine McDonald & Carole Heermann) will go through the financials and submit their report to the board.
- **ACTION:** Kathy will update the title, to reflect her address, and get the new registration posted in the trailer.
- **ACTION:** Kathy to add \$500 to the budget for the newsletter committee.
- **ACTION:** Kathy to file 2013 and 2014 taxes by February 22nd, 2016.
- **ACTION:** Kathy Howard to come up with the total cost of adding a 1-day AMHR show to the WOW show. This amount needs to be invoiced to Casey Campbell with a stipulation that it needs to be paid prior to May 1, 2016.

- **ACTION:** Kathy Howard to contact Kelsey Sherman about providing the CanAm supreme awards.
- **ACTION:** Sue Newnham to pick up leftover ribbons and blankets from Diane Dorigan.