

NORTHWEST MINIATURE HORSE CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Nov 15, 2014

The Spaghetti Warehouse Salem, OR

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by President Lisa Pichler. Twenty club members were present. Board of Directors present were VP Mel Sanders, Sec/Treasurer Margaret Slape, Directors Joanne Ross, Christine Houts, and Michelle Michelson, and Administrator Sheryl Peterson.

Minutes from the Winter Meeting were read by Lisa but not approved as there was no official written report.

President's Report. Lisa reported that all committees need members. They have been non-functioning all year and need chairs and members for the club to work. Volunteers please sign up.

Directors will each be working with committees to be a liaison from the committee to the BOD. Michelle Michelson is working on membership recruiting and with OHSET (Oregon High School Equestrian Teams). Christine Houts is working with the show committee and communications. Joanne Ross is doing The World ad and updating focus on breeders in each issue. Additional duties will be assigned as committees are filled.

Treasurer's Report. Margaret reported the current bank account balance is \$14,000+. She has paid all outstanding bills and tonight will write checks for the gelding incentive payouts and a youth scholarship.

Administrator's Report. Sheryl reported there were 89 members in 2014. She is now accepting 2015 membership forms. She asked if the members present liked having membership cards this year and the consensus was yes. She proposed putting the membership list on the website to BOD which will be discussed. This has been a topic in past years but today's social media and internet usage is much more developed than when it was bought up previously.

Committee Reports.

Audit/Finance. Margaret Slape is chair as Treasurer. Mel Sanders volunteered to be on committee and will be recruiting help. Formerly there was tracking paperwork which made recording keeping much easier but that has not been available since Jodi Bennett left office. Dawn Sayles will contact Barbara Ashby about her knowledge of the paperwork/computer programs (Quickbooks) for channel of funding. It was requested that the Chairs of the Youth, Gelding, and Futurity committees be on the audit committee also.

By-Laws. New chair will be Julie Hemenway. Joanne Ross will be BOD rep. Lisa stated that most of the bylaws are updated other than changing some titles. Other updates needed are mostly housekeeping.

Futurity. New co-chairs are Linda Van Fleet and Katie Hansen. BOD rep is Joanne Ross. Updated forms are needed, tracking for payouts, new forms to be put on website.

Gelding Incentive. New chair is Robyn Hardy. Member Julie Hemenway. BOD rep Joanne Ross

Nominations/Elections. New chair is Suzie Durdal. BOD rep Joanne Ross.

MOTION by Joanne Ross to investigate alternative methods of voting (ie print from website and mail in, electronic). Report to be made at Winter Meeting. **PASSED**

Newsletter/e-News. General discussion of desirability of a printed newsletter. Dawn Sayles had samples of previous versions of The News from past years.

MOTION by Dawn Sayles that she would investigate the possibility of doing a printed newsletter on a quarterly basis. Report at Winter Meeting. **PASSED.** Lisa Abboud will help on this.

Publicity. Dawn will bring AMHA booklets to our next meeting for people to take to appropriate events they attend.

MOTION by Margaret Slape to combine Publicity Committee with the Newsletter Committee.

PASSED. Committee will be Newsletter/Publicity

Ribbons and Trophies. Not a separate committee. Now part of Show Committee.

Show Committee. Chair is VP, members are Show Coordinators and others interested. Margaret reported that all shows made money this year. We shared proceeds of the Central Point show with the NorCal club. They had many members that supported the show.

Next year's shows: **Emerald Valley** –Eugene, May 23-25; 3 judges. Margaret Slape coordinator

Requests to ask facility to spray for spiders along exterior walls and to not assign stalls along the wall by RV parking. Several people/horses got spider bites this year.

Can-Am - Spanaway, June 19-21. 2 ½ days, 3 judges. Lisa Pichler coordinator.

Discussion as to whether to have the Central Point show again with Norcal. This show was profitable and Margaret sent a check to NorCal for \$3,700 for their share of the proceeds. Option to have it in April (Lisa Brostad would again be coordinator) or keep it in Aug (would need a new coordinator). Also possible to add a new show at Tacoma Unit in Spanaway on April 25/26. There is also a new venue available in West Linn, Oregon Equestrian Center, that Christine Houts and Helen Halderman visited. This will be discussed under New Business. **Oregon State Fair** show will be available for 2015 but due to fair management wanting to discontinue horse shows there, there is only a 1 year guarantee. It will again be the end of August with dates to be determined by the fair sometime later.

MOTION by Joanne Ross to have the **Central Point** show with NorCal club on the third weekend in August. **PASSED.**

Website. No current chair. Michelle Michelsen will look into website access for BOD being able to update pieces of information. The BOD would like to try having each member update info on the site for the committee they are the liaison for. John Sayles is the webmaster. He puts info on the site as soon as he gets it, but information is not being forwarded to him. Discussion about possible programs available that would allow individual access for specific pages. Dawn will also help find out what is available. Report at next meeting.

Welfare. New chair is Christine Houts, member is Suzie Durdel.

Winter Meeting. Very few people attended at the grange last Jan. Mel Sanders and Lisa Abboud will look into facilities around the Vancouver area. Something similar to this venue would be positive. Date will be Jan 24, 2015.

Year End Awards and Banquet. Diane Dorrigan. Jamie Bethany . Kensington Corp is a sponsor and sold us the items at a huge discount. Thank you to them for their support! Awards have been condensed into categories rather than individual classes. Breakdown is as follows: The number awarded does not equal the number of categories because some classes didn't have anyone qualify due to number of shows attended.

33 Youth categories. 30 grands awarded, 28 reserves.

24 Amateur categories. 14 grands awarded, 4 reserves.

28 Open categories. 17 grands awarded, 4 reserves.

Discussion about how awards should be paid for. In years past there were farms and individuals who sponsored awards. That has not happened in recent years and the club has picked up the bill for all of the awards. Dawn had suggestions of fund raisers that could add money to help pay for awards. Other ideas were to link sponsors' websites to the club FaceBook page. Increase membership fees to help cover expenses?

MOTION by Diane Dorrigan that Year End awards be paid for out of club General Funds for 2015. **PASSED.**

Elections. Because there was no functioning Nominations/Elections committee, there were no nominations made before the meeting. The positions open for elections this year are Vice President, Sec/Treasurer, and 1 Director (3 year). Nominations were taken from the floor. Only one person was nominated for each position, therefore after nominations closed the candidates were declared winners by acclamation.

Vice President – Mel Sanders

Secretary/Treasurer – Margaret Slape

Director – Joanne Ross

The Recording Secretary position was vacant and the BOD appointed Helen Halderman to serve the remainder of the term.

AMHA Director. Polly Hyde asked Lisa to take a straw poll for her to know the feelings of the club for certain topics. 1. Should AMHA bring back hardship? 14 YES, 4 NO, 2 no opinion. 2. Should the Regional Championship shows include Stock classes? 9 YES, 0 NO, 8 no opinion.

New Business.

1. New venue for possible show. Oregon Equestrian Center in West Linn, OR. Christine showed pictures on her computer. Very desirable facility, costs, and location . Discussion about having a schooling clinic and show at this facility in 2015, then possibly having a show there in the future. **MOTION** by Diane Dorrigan to have a schooling clinic and show at the OEC, Chris to find out about April dates, report to BOD, and book if BOD approves. **PASSED.**

2. Dawn Sayles presented 2 ideas for fund raisers. 1) Holding a gelding clinic, sponsored by the Unwanted Horse Coalition. They use vet students supervised by a vet, discounted surgeries, and the group will donate up to \$1000 per event. Positive response, no vote to pursue, could do it individually. Dawn has info for anyone who wants to pursue this.
2) Online store? Dawn presented a tee and sweatshirt with club logos that she and John had made, also stickers. Could sell items on the website and proceeds go towards awards for shows. General discussion was positive, she was given the go ahead to try to figure some way of doing this. No official vote to proceed was taken.
3. Discussion about having some type of "community service" award. This would be for club members who take their minis to nursing homes, schools, etc. Dawn and Sheri Dingmon will further develop the idea and report at next meeting.

BOD Notes.

1. Rules and Regulations - clarification for how points for 7 and under and 12 and under classes are tabulated. Housekeeping.
2. Show Manager accountability. Show receipts, bills, and reports are slow to be turned in to coordinators and Treasurer. This has been an ongoing problem and has gotten worse as Rinda has taken on doing more shows for other organizations. Mel will talk with her and find out if there is anything we can do to make it easier for Rinda to get reports out in a timely manner.
3. Housekeeping of ByLaws and Rules and Regs will go to individual committees then posted on the website no later than 30 days before winter meeting so that they can be voted on at that meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 pm.