**Monthly BOD Meeting 3/15/2023**

**Held on Zoom**

**Present:** Joanne Ross, Bambi Roylance, Sharon Hardt, Charissa Alldredge, Linda VanFleet, Christine Houts, Jessica Kimball, Sharon Bullington

**Meeting Started:** 8:05am

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Recommendation made by Charissa to hold off minutes from BOD & Winter Meeting on 2/4/23 and approve between meetings. BOD Approved.

**1. Treasurer’s Report, Sharon Bullington**

Closed old account with Chase bank due to various issues. Opened a new account with Columbia/Umpqua Community Credit Union. We can have multiple savings accounts for free to hold different funds (i.e. Youth Scholarship, Gelding Incentive, Year End Awards, etc) separate from the General Fund if needed/wanted. No fees on the new account, checks are $15-$20 for either 150 or 180 count duplicate checks. We can have a web merchant service for paying membership fees, donations to Gelding incentive, sponsorships, or other club payments that are NOT associated with shows. There is a flat fee of 2.9% plus .30 cents per transaction with the web merchant, however they also have the option for use of Zelle which is free. Banker recommends we get the ACH Block & Filter program which is $5 a month which protects against fraud from checks. Sharon recommends we pick up this plan; it was not voted on at this meeting.

The certified check for $11,253.25 will be in the new account today or tomorrow. $980 is for the clinic, $1,250 is Year End Award Sponsor, and $1000 of the $1,600 for the calendar has been paid. Scholarship Fund needs to be reckoned as we have different numbers between calculations. Sharon Bullington will look into this. Tax accountant still needs to be paid, but Sharon has a few deposits to make. Total general fund is $3,327.98 after these adjustments.

Sharon Hardt asked to clarify the web merchant costs and the Zelle account. It would be applied to members and it’s suggested we charge a flat 3% fee. Does Zelle need a club member’s personal information or would it use the club’s Tax ID and information? Charissa made a recommendation that the Zelle and web merchant be looked into to address these questions and reported on at the next meeting. Sharon Bullington offered to do so.

The CD was closed out with the bank changes and lost around $9. The certified check for it was for $13,693.17. Columbia/Umpqua has a 15 month CD that would give 3.25% annually with no penalties for pulling out small amounts. We could open it with $10,000 and reserve some in an emergency account if needed to cover any show costs if needed.

Sharon Hardt makes a motion to put the entire CD of $13,693.17 into a new CD with Columbia/Umpqua at the 3.25% with the understanding there is emergency draws as needed, seconded by Charissa. Unanimous agreement.

We still have a few members who need to pay for their calendar pages.

**2. Show Report, Joanne Ross**

First about the clinic: the flight cost has increased by $200, but Joanne believes we’ll still be covered. She has a few walk-in’s intending to join us the day of the clinic.

Emerald Valley is supposed to have rolled over but we haven’t been given an exact figure for how much the roll over is.   
  
 AMHA has changed a lot of their class names to match their new software. This happened in early of 2023 but our class list was created in late 2022, so our show list names don’t match AMHA’s class lists now. We have a lot of the old categories on our list and at this time we don’t know how they fall into place with the changes. Joanne will call Valerie Shingledecker with AMHA to discuss the class list and these changes. We may have to adjust or add classes and check on World qualifying classes. Valerie did verify that, for instance, a Youth Stock Mares class would not be rated. Sharon asked if the new classes would potentially cause issues with ribbons, however we have the extra ribbons ordered for the canceled Can-Am show for this year.

We had a question as to having double points for the Western Washington show. The double points was suggested originally to try to bump up attendance for Can-Am as it has often been a show that doesn’t run at cost. We do not have a history for Western Washington since it’s new, and it is in a different location, new show, etc which may change the attendance and make this show a better performer than Can-Am has historically been. Joanne’s suggestion is to not offer double points at this time and to evaluate the show for this after the show date. It was pointed out that due to not having Can-Am this year the attendance for Western Washington may be higher than it would normally be; the evaluation may be skewed. The board agreed with the recommendation with evaluation to occur later this year.

We still need volunteers to haul the club trailer to shows. We have Capital City and Emerald Valley covered. Christine offered to help clean out & inventory the trailer.

**3. Year End Awards Report, Katie Hansen**

Katie provided some recommendations from the Year End Awards Committee.

The first was to decrease the required number of shows members must attend to qualify for year-end awards based on Can-Am’s cancellation. There was some discussion on this in regard to finances, the cancellation of Can-Am, and the new Western Washington Classic show. Joanne made a motion to have all three shows count towards Year End Awards, seconded by Sharon Hardt. One (1) no, one (1) abstain, five (5) agree. Motion passes.

The second was doubling points at the Western Washington Classic, which was already discussed and decided on previously during the show report. This was recommended as reported above, due to Can-Am being cancelled and it previously having been a double point show.

The third portion was to decrease the required number of shows that a weanling and yearling must attend to qualify for Year End Awards. The recommendation is made with the following as the reasoning: “*Weanlings in the pacific northwest are often born later in the year than other regions making them too young to come to our April and May shows leaving them out of the possibility to qualify for year-end awards. There are not many babies being shown at our shows as it is and I would like to see us honor those who do by recommending a change to the rules for weanlings. Currently they must show at 2 NWMHC Sponsored shows to qualify, other approved shows add points.*”

Discussion was had on how this would work and the way it would affect other members. Sharon Bullington offered to sponsor the Year End Awards for the Weanling classes. It was clarified they were specifically requesting the changes for the weanlings, not the yearlings. The proposal was created due to last year’s cancellation of Emerald Valley resulting in the BOD decision to cut back the show attendance requirement.

Bambi spoke up that we do not have a lot of participation with weanlings, and we really should try to promote weanling attendance. Discussion varied quite a bit and it became clear that perhaps there were different ideas of what was being suggested and discussed.  
  
 Joanne Ross made a motion that weanling qualifications remain at two Northwest Miniature Horse Club sponsored shows, seconded by Sharon Hardt. 2 abstain, 5 for. Motion passes.

The fourth recommendation was to make the 2-day and 3-day class lists match to make point keeping and Year End Awards easier. It was recommended to remove the 32”-34” and 32” and Under Year End Awards as these classes only happen at the 3-day shows. These classes help to promote showing the much smaller horses.

Sharon Hardt requested more information on numbers and figures related to this. It was requested it be tabled as due to AMHA’s class list changes these might need to be added back into the 2-day class list. This was agreed on.

**4. Fall Banquet, Heather Curtis**

Heather provided a report on the Fall Banquet options. The discussion hinged on multiple factors.

Jessica Kimball made the motion to hold the Year End Awards Banquet at the Oaktree Restaurant in Washington, seconded by Sharon Bullington. One (1) abstain, six (6) for.

**5. NWMHC Membership Cards, Christine Houts**

Christine is working on these and they are going out!

**6. Club Website, Christine Houts**

Administrator Report

Christine Houts

3/15/2023

Email information requests:

We have had 5 requests for information on club events, 3 questions about finding minis new homes, and 2 for boarding minis.

Website Status:

We had a great response to the website in February. 525 clicks in the USA and Alaska. We had clicks outside of the USA that include 5 from Canada, 4 from South Korea, 3 from China. And 1 each from Portugal and India.

This is where we are on the website:

75 percent are new people looking at the site and 26 percent are returning.

65 percent used a mobile device and 32 percent accessed the site from a desktop and only 3 percent from a tablet.

We had 212 that looked us up directly and 203 through Google, plus 73 from Facebook and 44 from Bing.

Most people were looking up the show schedule (50), the rest were looking up Sponsorship (18), membership (17), and meetings (14).

All the page clicks were up by 9 to 37 percent.

Compared to January our stats were up by 67 percent.

It was brought up that we did have a few issues with communication. This occurred because there was an issue with the club emails during transition in BOD members which created access issues. This was resolved when the access issues were fixed and has not continued to be an issue, and Christine is working to actively check the club’s emails frequently.

**New Business**

None

Moved to adjourn by Joanne Ross, seconded by Sharon Hardt; unanimous agreement.

Ended at 9:50am

Minutes recorded by Recording Secretary, Charissa Alldredge