

Board Meeting RVAHA 01/13/2009

Board of Directors Meeting

PRESENT

Lori

Arlene

Stephanie

Jeff

Taking Notes for the Board of Directors

Janet

Initial start time 6:20 P.M.

Topics of discussion, understanding that no vote can be made prior to arrival of one more board member in order to achieve a quorum.

Nominations for Secretary: Mary Gene Mulcahy nominated by Stephanie

Change of meeting dates brought up. In order to accommodate all members and get more people involved, it was suggested that we move the meetings to the First Wednesday of the month.

Region IV Newsletter just came out. Punky is mentioned as the Futurity director. They also have us still as PCAHA. We need to contact the editor and have it changed to RVAHA. We also need to let them know that we are no longer having the futurities.

Aude is listed as one of our delegates. This has been ongoing for some time. Aude is given an opportunity to vote as a delegate for the club. This was not an appointed position, Aude stepped into the position so that she could go to the meetings, have a voice and she does this at her own expense. It is felt that she needs to come to the meetings to give a report so that we know what is going on and she needs to be a voice for the RVAHA as reflected by our group opinion. All in attendance agreed that she needs to be in touch with the group's wishes.

Official Board Meeting called to order at 6:40.

Robin arrived at this time.

Paula arrived as well.

Secretary Nomination by Stephanie, who states that Mary Gene would love to be the secretary if we can transfer the meeting from the second Tuesday because she has Mary Kay. Meetings on that night. Lori asked for alternate nominations. None were offered. Mary Gene elected into the secretary position. Passed unanimously.

Lori brings up the club meeting day and mentions that it is causing a hardship for several members. She suggests the first Wednesday of the month because of responses from the survey. Robin mentioned that we will probably be dealing with a month old treasurer's report because she will probably not have all of the information by the time of the meeting. "The meeting has been the second Tuesday for a long, long time." Lori suggested that it would probably be better for the members to be able to come than to have the current treasurer's report the same month. Jeff mentions that he thinks we need to discuss this more. Paula brings up the fact that there are a lot of members that have church on Wednesday night so members may not be able to attend. Topic tabled.

Lori brings up the subject of the RVAHA delegate and that Aude voted for us prior to asking for feedback of the club membership on the recent topic of 'double judged shows.' The delegate must go to the meetings at Convention on their own expense, however, they are representing the club, so the delegate must be in touch with the club. Robin said that she believes that there is a process for becoming a delegate and that once in the position, you are not a "life delegate." Aude has her judges card so she goes to convention to be updated on all the rules, she also has her business, so she goes for that representation, but if she is going to attach our club to her agenda, she needs to take into consideration what we want. Robin says that we used to reimburse Mary Cjaer for her expenses. She was the original treasurer for years. She moved to Florence and it was not possible for her to continue in the position.

Web page hosting is brought up by Lori. She mentions that Dream Host is having a special and she used one of her free registrations that came with her own personal website to set up a site for continuity since our RVAHA.com site was abruptly taken down. The cost is \$85.92. The new website is RVAHA.org. It has the club's PO Box on the site. Robin said that Alyssa Baird used to be the web hostess and upon her being dismissed, she told the club that there is a really expensive piece of software that we would've had to purchase. Sandy Ahlin took the RVAHA site over and then upon her resignation, she took the site down. Lori has started rebuilding and the site is looking active so we will generate interest from those who visit the site. Arlene said that there needs to be one person to update and maintain the site. Lori says she is happy to do it. Arlene said that it doesn't necessarily have to be the president, but it needs to be consistent. We can put newsletters on it, show premiums on it, etc. When Alyssa had the site, it was Alyssa's horses only. When Sandy did it, it was one of Sandy's horses constantly. Currently the site flashes through 20 photos with more to come. Arlene said that there should be a condolences, and a congratulations. Robin mentioned that Yvonne said that NRG just turned 27. She wants to have something on the site for this. Arlene has submitted a disc of Mike's photos. Stephanie motioned that we pay Lori to get this website up and running actively. Arlene seconded. Robin needs a copy of the bill so that she can pay it. Lori submitted it to Robin. Lori said that if you don't like something about the site, then let her know. Lori says that the club should be supporting its members and she proposes a classified for the members. It was approved.

Lori brings up the show proposal. The dates we have are not going to work. Wranglers has one of the arenas. She further tells the group that Yvonne was totally against an Arab show with Quarter Horses, etc. and the animosity this potentially creates. Peggy Weems email says that it just isn't a great idea and she doesn't think it is going to happen. She felt that "even those with deep pockets will not make it from Red Bluff to Central Point to Salem". Arlene says that giving people a choice seemed like a good idea, but Peggy said that she does not believe that the Region IV delegates will approve this show date. She is basing a lot of this on the fact that we have lost a show after the fair in July. She wants us to keep our September show because she feels that there is a need for a late show to qualify and prep horses for Nationals. Lori suggests that we add the Sport Horse Classes to the end of the PRAC Show. Robin said that the show in September is established and that she can't see how we can possibly pull off a spring show without a year's planning. Lori brings up the fact that the fall show has not been successful for the past two years. It lost over \$5,000 last year. Robin says that we need 100-horses to break even and we have only had 80. We have provided the same type of awards as in the past and the cost is out of hand. Lori says we need to establish the date now. Jeff brings up the fact that we started planning this well in advance, but we were not able to obtain a calendar, We need to let the Region IV directors know that we intend to hold two shows next year and it is agreed that we need to 'talk our spring show up' at the PRAC show this fall. Robin mentions the Bare Bones show that no longer exists, and Stephanie mentions that Rally in the Valley seemed to take that slot, but that she believes that April or early May would be a good choice. Bare Bones was just that, no program, minimal awards, a very inexpensive show. It is suggested that we consider a Bare Bones show in the spring.

7:08 General Meeting called to order by President Lori Whitley

Board of Directors follow up meeting called for next Wednesday January 21st at 7:00 at Sheri's restaurant in Central Point.

Jeff passed around an attendance list.

Lori asked if Dick would show up. Robin said that she had emailed him and he said that at this point he doubted he would be active, but the whole family did renew their memberships.

Lori introduces herself. We have Jennie here tonight, who is a guest, hopefully soon to be a member.

Lori announces what the board has just passed at their meeting prior to the group meeting.

1. Secretary Mary Gene Mulcahy
2. Web page voted in and to be maintained and updated by Lori.
3. Aude is our club delegate at the present time and we will ask that she attend meetings to keep us current.
4. Motion made by Stephanie to reimburse Lori for the cost of the website set up, seconded by Arlene.
5. Discussion about the planned show. Lori announces that we are adding Sport Horse classes to the Fall PRAC show.

Discussions about classes. Marvin asked what classes we would need to offer for Sport Horse and how many days, Janet suggests that we do dressage to 4th level to avoid the expense of a TD, and because the majority of Arabians showing in dressage in our region are at or below 4th level, most in the Introductory to Second Level tests, rounding out the sport horse show, Hunter/Jumper, Sport Horse, under saddle, Sport Horse in Hand and Carriage driving, split between purebreds and Half/Anglo-Arabians, ATH and Open. This part of the show will require adding 2 days to our schedule.

Robin brings up the new "double judge" proposal that Region IV is considering, and asks why anyone would not want to have the two judge system. Some discussion about the difference between double judged and back to back show to eliminate confusion between the two principles. Potential drawbacks - The classes run a little longer. Potential Bonus - This could be a great thing for this economy because you can get double points from one show. Sami asks if it is possible that a horse can qualify for Nationals at one show by this double judge method.

Marvin and Robin agree that the RVAHA PRAC show is tentatively booked for the weekend after Labor Day. Jennifer concurs that Melissa at the Fairgrounds has us tentatively scheduled. In order to avoid conflicts with ODS, Championships we need to look at September 17, 18, 19 and 20 as a potential date.

Yvonne arrived at 7:25 P.M.

If we can move the show to the 27-30 of August it could be an excellent choice for those coming off the AiM Classic/Region IV Sport Horse Championships that are going on to the ODS Championships, or if we could move it to the 17-20 of September as an alternate, that could work, but ODS Championships are the 10th through the 13th and The USDF Region IV Championships are from the 26th through the 27th. Robin believes that we are currently penciled in for the 10th through the

13th. Agreement made to book it from the 9th through the 13th. Robin suggests that we not move the dates to a different weekend in order to save on expenses to move the dates with USEF and AHA.

Jennifer will check on the dates with the Expo. It is suggested that we book all 4 arenas. We will need to have them on Thursday and Friday, and will need at least three of them on Saturday or Sunday. We will use the warmup outside Isola on Saturday and Sunday. Janet suggests that we do sport horse classes on Thursday and Friday and then move into the Main Ring on Saturday and Sunday. Stabling starts on Tuesday. Insurance is in effect during competition.

Jen thinks that we should send an email to other Region IV Secretaries to advise them of our meetings, activities proposed, etc. Yvonne suggests that we include former members of Region IV to try to grow the club. Send a copy of the classified ads, etc.

Arlene motions that we have our regular monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 P.M. Lori will poll the membership and have the results by the Board follow-up meeting next Wednesday. Yvonne seconded Arlene's motion. Robin brings up the fact that we may not be able to get the Scenic room on the first Wednesday, so she will check into it. Lori tells us that we had a request from a Grants Pass member who would like us to rotate the meetings from Grants Pass one month and then Central Point one month. Sami says we could have the meeting at her house. She has a nice big meeting room. Yvonne suggests the Abby's annex building in Grants Pass. She will check into the bottom line costs and let Lori know. February's general meeting will be on the 1st Wednesday.

Janet motions that we rotate meetings between Grants Pass and Central Point for the next 4-months to determine if we can draw north county members out. If it fails, we will go back to Central Point only. Yvonne seconds.

Lori brings up the question of schooling shows. There are dates reserved at Expo. Celesha has the dates. Jennifer thinks April 25 and June 6. This topic tabled until Celesha returns from Arizona.

Arlene wants to talk about committees. She would like the club to form committees to get things done. The rules for the high points were restructured by Arlene. Robin wants to know how this happened without passing it through the club. Arlene reports that she separated classifications between AHA approved only, PB OPEN and ATH and HA/AA Open and ATH. OPEN shows section also divide by PB Open And ATH. Age breaks, Novice, Endurance, Driving, Novice rider. No crossover points any longer, i.e. Green horses cannot compete in open classes and green horse classes. Points not to count from 4-H, High School Equestrian Team and Breed specific classes to not count since not everyone can compete. For an All Around Horse, the horse must be the most versatile horse in the group. There is no fee for this division. The winner will be the horse with the most points in 3 or more divisions. Stephanie suggests that we hold all points and paperwork from the show this coming weekend until after the board meets and passes the new award program next week. Robin doesn't think that just one person should be able to set the rules or make changes. Sami says that the points have always been so difficult to understand and now Arlene has ironed it out and simplified it. She thinks that the new format is more fair and transparent than it has ever been in the past. Arlene changed it from 10 day reporting fee to 30-days and will send a confirmation email upon receipt of your points submission. There will be a receipt for horses nominated and divisions, There will be a receipt for points submitted. If there is a tie for year end, the horse that wins the most blues in that division will be the winner. All nominated horse owners or exhibitors must attend 3-meetings a year and must volunteer at one event. AHA has changed the date to December 1st for age breaks. Robin says that we do need to look at the budget because we must keep this under control. There are no fees for signing up. This was tabled until the board meeting next week.

Lori suggests that we appoint a bylaw committee. We need to look at the bylaws and update/modify them.

Discussion regarding lack of records for the past years. Robin says that any person that has taken a position has never received anything from any prior position.

Jennie brings up the fact that it is a Federal law that all records of a non profit club must be maintained. She says to contact the ethics committee of AHA and the Regional directors. This is a Federal and State mandate. Stephanie said she will contact the region IV director to see what we need to comply. Robin had to have specific paperwork to change our bank account over. She applied with IRS to change our name. Robin has a copy of what the IRS sent them for our nonprofit 501-C3. She says that the letter from IRS is not exactly what she expected. Stephanie will be in touch with Robin if she has any questions or runs into road blocks that require clarification.

Other committees to consider: Membership Committee. Program Directors Committee. Show Committee. Lori thinks that before we can effectively address these committees we need to try to draw some more membership.

Lori would like to have more board meetings and to take care of the business prior to the general meetings. That way we can have a more fun program for the members. Yvonne motioned that we have more board meetings to get established and then bring the decisions to the membership for vote at the general portion of the meetings. This can then move into fun club activities for the meetings, like IAHA movies, educational videos, guest speakers, etc. Arlene seconded. This would be the area for the Program Committee/chair. Lori wants ideas for things that we can do to make this club more fun. Yvonne says that we have had speakers come to talk about color, breeding, vet issues, speakers, barn tours, etc.

Janet suggests that we pick a weekend in July for a group beach campout. We can post it on the website and ask for RSVPS. We will collect fees 2-weeks in advance to pay the reservation and be able to cancel those who will not be coming. Beach rides on horseback and non-horsey family members can bring their ATVs, we can potluck.

Arlene made a mistake in her announcements at the Award banquet. She needs to clarify her statement. 262 points and 230 points. AFA Tequila was champion and Huck and Dazzlin was Reserve.

Treasurer's Report requested by Lori. See next page.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Checking account balance 10/31	\$1319.43
AHA dues	220.00
High point nomination	30.00
Recovery Petroglyph Arabians	176.00
Transfer from investment	1,090.61
PCAHA Checking acct reconciliation	585.05

Expenses

Po box	\$ 55.00
USEF additional competition dues	125.00
AHA added class fee	25.00
AHA exhibitor competition fees	20.00
PRAC runners fee	20.00
Cascade glass year end awards	200.00
Eden farms donation	100.00
Jack co expo award facility	150.00
Sept/Dec Chatter printing	233.43
Nov/Dec bank fees	10.00

Checking account balance 12/31/2008 \$2482.66

Savings 12/31 bal \$12,003.22

Total balance RVAHA 12/31/2008 \$14,485.88

Checking account balance includes \$198.90 reserve funds from 2001 and 2007 schooling shows.

Savings account balance includes \$3214.50 designated as youth program funds.

2006 PRAC entry refund checks that were not cashed (2597/\$394.00 2623/\$191.00, +.05 unaccounted.

January 13, 2009 Minutes respectfully submitted by: Janet Jones