

**NFHR GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JANUARY 18, 2009
SEATAC AIRPORT MARRIOTT HOTEL, SEATTLE, WA**

MINUTES

11:36 AM (PST)

Gayle Ware motioned to open the meeting. Sandy North seconded. The motion was approved.

PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS

Dan welcomed the members and thanked everyone for coming. This is the largest attendance at a NFHR Annual Membership Meeting. Dan talked briefly about the importance of membership involvement in the NFHR operations and that the Fjord community is just like a community of family.

Logo

Ruth presented the revised version, and briefly explained the evolution and changes. There were some questions about approval process and comments about the logo. Paper was passed out and written comments collected.

Thank You's:

Dan thanked the following individuals for their support of the NFHR and the Fjord community.

Jim and Susan Cargill

Mike May

Renee May

Wayne Hipsley (*Standing ovation*)

Lee Harden

Presenters

Taffy Mercer

Neil Sorum

Dr Ahmed Tibary

Dr Cecilia Penedo

Mark Plumlee

Behind the Scenes

Meredith Sessoms

Jeannette Haislip

Resource Guide

Ruth Sorum

Beth Beymer

Sandy North

Linda Yutzy

Website

Jeanne Poirier

Dan talked about Fjord Herald Archive DVD. He then gave a DVD to Sally Weber, former Fjord Herald editor for 15 years.

Sophie Fiedler for the Fjord Stallion and Mare posters, and the Stallion Painting.

Stallion Painting

Howard introduced and offered the Fjord Stallion painting for sale. There will be a limit of 25 copies will be produced. Each reproduction is numbered, signed, and personalized by the artist. Painting is a composite of the top evaluated stallions. Dan recognized and thanked the Fielder's great contributions

Dan recognized the new members by asking them to stand up.

Dan recognized the old members by asking them to stand up.

Dan also recognized that there were 4 past presidents in attendance: Phil Prichard, Dennis Johnson, Neil Sorum, and Howard Fiedler.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS INTRODUCTIONS

REGISTRAR'S REPORT AND REMARKS (2008 NFHR Annual Report)

TREASURER'S REPORT AND REMARKS (2008 NFHR Financial Report)

2008 COMMITTEE REPORTS (2008 NFHR Annual Report)

2009 PLANS AND GOALS

- **General NFHR 2009 Goals** – Dan introduced the broad goals:
 - Improve Financial Status of NFHR
 - Improve relationships with CFHA and Regional Clubs
 - Engage more members in Operation of the NFHR

- **Education Committee**

Ruth explained that the committee produced the resource guide last year. This year they will be writing more articles for Herald and outside magazines. The Fjord Ambassador project was also started last year and has already started to introduce the Fjord Horse to the general public. The committee needs a few more ambassadors and committee members. Ruth also thanked the Fjord Horse Foundation for funding half of the Resource Guide costs.

- **Norwegian Fjord Horse Foundation**

Neil Sorum explained that this is a charitable organization. It was formed to complement the NFHR. The Foundations goals are: promotion, genetic purity, education, and research to benefit the Fjord Horse. It is a fund raising organization and can accept large gifts of money and items. Neil asks that Fjord owners contribute a tax deductible contribution to an organization that supports the breed.

- **Elections Committee**

Howard asked the member to please think about being on the Board of Directors. The election committee needs regional representatives for the nomination committee. If interested, let Howard know directly.

- **Evaluation Committee**

Curt recognized some of the past committee members present at the meeting. This year the committee will be chaired by Phil Odden and Curt Pierce. One of our important goals for this year will be working with the Canadian Fjord Horse Association (CFHA) to setup a joint Evaluation program. This year we are assisting hosts in planning at least 3 evaluations: Moses Lake, WA; Herndon, VA; and a Midwest location.

- **Fjord Herald Committee**

Howard stated that the purpose of the Fjord Herald is to provide information to members and Fjord owners. There is space for clubs and the editors are always looking for new articles, pictures, and features.

- **Membership Committee**

Phil talked about the importance of the committee to work on member retention and getting new members. Lee Harden is the chair. They need committee members from different part of the country.

- **Promotion Committee**

Cynthia the committees goals are promotion of the Fjord Horse and NFHR. They need a person to volunteer to be the chair and members interested in any aspect of promotions. This year the committee will continue working a various projects listed in the annual report.

- **Recognition and Awards Committee**

Ruth gave the report for Linda Syverson-Kerr, who is the committee chair. Linda has done a fantastic job organizing current awards. This year, they would like to continue the success and develop youth and therapeutic program awards.

- **Show Committee**

Jeff stated that in the past, the committee has developed and published the NFHR Fjord Horse Show Handbook. This year, the committee will be looking for and selecting new Fjord judges.

- **Website**

Jeff thanked Jeanne Poirier for her excellent work with the new website. The shopping cart features are coming soon. Hopefully in the near future, people will be able to become members and eventually horse registrations on-line. This year we will be starting the NFHR Market Place. To help obtain items and services for the Market Place, we are form a Merchandizing sub-committee. If you are interested, please contact Jeff.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Comments, Issues, and Ideas from Floor**

Question about why the previous president is not a member of the board automatically. Curt summarized the bylaws and explained how the officers are selected. In cases where the previous president is no longer a board member, the board can appoint that person to an officer position, if they are still interested in serving.

Earlene Claussen – Stated the she has not voted in NFHR elections because of the requirement to have signature on outside of the ballot envelope. Ruth outlined the current and new procedures. The new procedures that were just approved by the board will no longer require a signature.

Jerry Claussen - Asked about losses last year and what we were doing about it. Dan explained the variation that started in 2007 and that many of the goals for 2009 involved less spending and rebuilding the NFHR accounts.

Pam McWethy – Recommended having the annual meeting on Saturday night and giving more time to make contact with committee leads. Dan answered that we will look at refining the forum and meeting process.

Neil Sorum - asked about record book update. Although the evaluation scores are now on the pedigree website, there is still interest in the Evaluation Record books and having the books on DVD in pdf files.

Nancy Newport - Can the evaluation picture be put on the pedigree website? You can upload your own photos, but we will look into adding the evaluation photo with the scores. Also, there was a recommendation to look at adding entire score sheet as PDF file.

Beth Beymer stated that she is writing an article for the Fjord Herald about the Education Forum and Annual Meeting. Please send her your comments.

FUTURE BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

February 25

April 1

May 6

June 10

July 15

Sep 16

Oct 21

Dec 2

Sandy North motioned to adjourn the meeting. Neil Sorum seconded. The motion was approved.

The meeting ended at 1:15pm (Pacific).

Respectfully submitted,
Curt Pierce
NFHR Secretary

ATTENDEES

BOD MEMBERS: Bill Coli, Howard Fiedler, Cynthia Madden, Mike May, Jeff Pedersen, Curt Pierce, Phil Prichard, Ruth Sorum, and Dan Watanabe.

MEMBERS:

Marcey Ann	Millar	CA
Bitten	Nors	CA
Henrik	Nors	CA
Gail	Russell	CA
Beth	Beymer	CO
Nancy	Newport	CO
Sandy	North	CO
Jeanne	Poirier	CO
Dennis	Johnson	ID
Melinda	Springs	ID
Sophie	Fiedler	IL
Michael	Callander	MN
Kathy	Johnson	MN
Kathy	Joyce	MN
Sue	Plein	MN
Debra	Ulrich	MN
Mandy	Noonan	MT
Michele	Noonan	MT
Lee	Hardin	NC
Renee	May	NY
Neil	Sorum	OH
Earlene	Claussen	OR
Jerry	Claussen	OR
Deanna	Haugen ?	OR
Phyllis	Helland	OR
Janice	Jensen	OR
Mary	Johnson	OR
Gayle	Ware	OR
Joanne	Carlsson	WA
Teressa	Kandianis	WA
Deb	Keevy	WA
Jon	Keevy	WA
Peg	Knutsen	WA
Pam	McWethy	WA
Michael	Melbye	WA
Taffy	Mercer	WA
Kristen	Miller	WA
Donna	Monty	WA
Bonnie	Morris	WA
Connie	Van Hoof	WA

Dave	Van Hoof	WA
Bill	Webber	WA
Sally	Webber	WA
Else	Bigton	WI
Phillip	Odden	WI
Linda	Syverson-Kerr	WI