



2016
NFHR Annual General Membership Meeting
April 2, 2016 9am
Milford Hills Hunt Club
Johnson Creek, WI

Meeting Minutes

Meetings called to order at: by President Bob Long at 9:09 AM

Member and Guest Sign-in BoD members Gretchen Payne, Nancy Newport, Exec Dir., Jeanne Poirier, Registrar, Kelly Munro, Cynthia Madden, Treasurer, Bob Long, President, Eric Watness, Secretary, Wendy Bauwens on line. Nancy Grette and Kay Konove are excused. VP is open due to recent resignation of Andrea Eppley. NFHR members in personal attendance signed in on the enclosed sheet.

President's Opening Remarks: Bob Long welcomed NFHR members in attendance.

Recognition of Special Guests and Members: Jessica Reuterskiold, Midwest leader was introduced., Howard and Sophie Fiedler were specially recognized. Members present also introduced themselves including evaluators Karen Mass and Melissa Boyd. Members who participated on Zoom via video feed also introduced themselves.

Board of Directors and Officers Introductions were made.

Approval of previous Annual Membership Meeting (2015) minutes-Eric Watness moved and Howard Fiedler seconded a motion to approve minutes. Approved.

Executive Director's Report and Remarks-see 2015 NFHR Annual Report.

Registrar's Report and Remarks-see 2015 NFHR Annual Report. Jeanne Poirier reported in writing but specifically pointed out the 81% decline in foal registrations from 2005 to 2015. Transfers are being made showing that people are buying horses. The Registry turned down 5 foals due to our three generation inbreeding rule that went into effect in 2013. This unfortunately was due to a lack of awareness.

Treasurer's Report and Remarks-see 2015 NFHR Financial Report. Cynthia Madden presented the 2015 report noting that the winter membership drive resulted in a positive balance at year end. The BoD is discussing fund raising and promotional ideas. The BoD requests additional suggestions. Major costs include operations which pays for itself and publication of the Herald that does not pay for itself. The annual meeting, evaluation and face to face meeting in Norco was a large expense resulting in no member forum this year. The costs and benefit of publishing the Herald was discussed.

2015 Committee Reports-see 2015 NFHR Annual Report.

Elections: the addition of Gretchen Payne was mentioned and the BoD needs to fill the position vacated by Andrea Eppley's resignation. At her request Kay Konove was moved to inactive.

Evaluations: The Evaluation Committee is being reconstituted and will undertake an effort to assess the current Evaluation program. The BoD is committed to a policy that requires that Evaluation expenses are funded by evaluation income.

Finance: A new budget will be followed while the NFHR closely monitors expenses and seeks additional funding sources.

2016 Plans and Goals

- General NFHR 2016 Goals Evaluation, Education, Herald content,
- Elections Committee need to find new BoD members and advertise. We will work on finding geographical diversity for the BoD.
- Evaluation Committee The BoD is committed to getting the committee up and rolling
- Finance Committee Cynthia is working on monitoring the budget and increasing revenue
- Fjord Herald Committee: A new committee has been appointed.
- Youth Committee Gretchen Payne will remain on it and is seeking new ideas.
- Fjord Foundation Update-Howard Fiedler gave a background on the Foundation stating that the Neil and Ruth Sorum spearheaded it and used the Dayton Foundation due to difficult tax regulations. The Foundation has a good amount of funds but fundraising is needed. The Resource guide is a publication that was funded by the Foundation. The Foundation also helped fund the Rose Parade participation and the evaluation in Norco as an educational expense. Ruth Sorum, Teressa Kandianis, Howard Fiedler and Ardeth Obenauf are on the Foundation board.

New Business

- Comments, Issues, and Ideas from the Floor-Sophie Fiedler spoke in opposition to proposed changes to the evaluation system, especially scoring. She also discussed increasing evaluator comments. The sheet that the presenter gets has some comments but the official combined score sheet does not. Bob commented on the need for getting our evaluators working together. We will be discussing this at the BoD to develop a plan to address this issue. Karen Mass commented that the proposal is workable. Further discussion occurred regarding evaluations including horse and presenter preparation and making it understandable to participants. Pre-evaluation clinics were discussed. The Evaluation committee will undertake a review of the system in 2016.
- Online participants were asked for input on their interests. Wendy Bauwens commented on the Bozeman evaluation and improving the process.

End Meeting adjourned 10:56 PM CST.

Respectfully submitted

Eric Watness
Secretary