

**NFHR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DECEMBER 3, 2008
MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 pm (Eastern)

PRESENT: Roger Cabic, Howard Fiedler, Cynthia Madden, Mike May, Mark McGinley, Jeff Pedersen, Curt Pierce, Phil Prichard, Ruth Sorum, Linda Syverson-Kerr, and Dan Watanabe.

GUESTS: Susan Cargill and Bill Coli

PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS:

Howard opened the meeting. This is a special meeting since we welcome the newly elected board members, Susan and Bill. The meeting is also a little sad since we have to say thanks and goodbye to Mark and Linda. Howard is glad to see the great turn-around of the awards program that has been accomplished by Linda, and she will continue the great work on the 30th Anniversary committee. He also mentioned that Mark has held many important positions during his 6 years on the board and has contributed a great deal of time and effort to make the NFHR so much better. There were also congratulations from the board members to Howard for being re-elected.

Howard said that he is looking forward to get together in Seattle and the first member's educational forum. He also announced that the NFHR's first corporate sponsor is Nutrena, a Cargill Company.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

All previous minutes have been approved.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT:

Mike did not get a chance to send a quarterly update report. The registrations received for the conference are at 40 members so far. Mike will be sending a constant contact email to the members with updated information about the forum.

Fjord registrations are a little low this year. There have been 262 Fjord registrations so far this year with a few more pending. There are also several registrations still pending from last year's registration amnesty period. Most of these are waiting for the hair samples to be sent to the DNA lab for processing.

TREASURER'S REPORT: As of Dec 3, 2008:

BANK ACCOUNTS	
Bank of America Money Market	\$ 343.78
CD Bank of America	\$ 16,246.68
CD-Fairport Savings Bank	\$ 16,121.70
Checking-Bank of America	\$ 11,233.41
TOTAL	<u>\$43,945.57</u>

There was a discussion about the money market account balance and that the wrong amounts were recorded in the minutes for the past few meetings. More care will be taken during the minutes review process to make sure that the amounts are correct. There was a recommendation to provide a financial summary prior to each meeting. It was also suggested that each committee needs to get periodical updates of their financial status.

MOTIONS APPROVED BY EMAIL

1. On Nov 7, Linda motioned to sell Carol Tacey's 2009 Fjord Horse Calendars. Mark seconded. The motion was approved.

2. On Nov 14, Ruth motioned that we accept the minutes from the Aug. 27, Sept. 15, Sept. 24 and Oct. 29 meetings. Dan seconded. The motion was approved.

3. On Nov 25, Dan motioned to waive the registration fee for evaluators attending the Membership Education Forum in Seattle. Ruth seconded. The motion was approved with a simple majority.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **WHEAP**

Dan reported that the committee met on Nov 11. They developed some guidelines for the corporate sponsorship program. They are waiting to produce the glossy Media Resource Package until logo issue is decided.

- **Fjord Herald Committee**

The editors are finishing work on the Winter issue. There are no Fjord Herald production issues at this time.

- **Education Committee**

Ruth reported that there have been a few new volunteers for the Fjord Ambassadors program. We still need ambassadors in Arizona, Arkansas, Nebraska, Nevada, and Oklahoma. A Yahoo group for the ambassadors will be setup soon. Some Ambassadors have been receiving contacts wanting more information about Fjords. It was noted that Ambassadors are more likely to stay involved with the NFHR and continue their NFHR membership.

Ruth has been trying to contact the Kentucky 4-H advisor working on their 4-H Horse program materials to let her know that the resource guide is now available and get an address to send it to.

- **Promotions Committee**

Cynthia sent out an email to the Fjord email lists asking for pre-orders for items to be delivered at the forum in Seattle. Cynthia will have the last of the anniversary items to sell at the forum. There was a discussion and suggestion to use the new Fjord stallion drawing on promotional items.

- **Website**

Jeff reported that the revised website with shopping cart is nearly complete. They are working on a problem and hope to have it finished by Christmas. The daily website usage is around 300 visitors.

- **Elections Committee**

Ruth reports that the election went smoothly and the accounting firm was easy to work with. The accounting firm reported the results on Nov 26. There was a recommended to have the committee present some suggestions at the January meeting concerning the ballot envelopes and signature location.

- **Evaluation Committee**

Curt reported that the committee met on Nov 20. The committee discussed the lessons learned from the three 2008 evaluations. The plan for the 2009 evaluations is to get the evaluation entry packages out sooner with the initial deadline early enough that if the horse numbers are low, the evaluation can be cancelled. We also discussed getting the evaluation host committees to informally find out who is coming to the evaluation early in the planning stages. It was recommended to use constant contact emails in Jan or Feb and include a polling feature to determine who is interested in attending an evaluation at a particular site.

Currently, 2009 evaluations are in the early planning stages for Colorado, Virginia, and Moses Lake. There may also be evaluations planned for the Midwest, southern California, and Canada.

Phil Odden is working on the details of the Family Fjord Program. He has been asked to give a demonstration at the MWFHC Winter meeting.

The committee has developed a response proposal to the CFHA request to use the NFHR Evaluation Program. This proposal was emailed to the BOD members on Dec 3. The response includes an offer to have a joint NFHR and CFHA Evaluation Committee, and program reviews in 2 and 5 years. After some discussion, Cynthia motioned to approve the response to the CFHA request to use the NFHR Evaluation Program. Jeff seconded. The motion was approved.

- **FHI Committee**

Phil reported that the 2008 FHI meeting minutes were distributed. There was a discussion about the FHI board meeting scheduled for Dec 6. In the outline sent to us, there does not seem to be any issues that the BOD wishes to respond to at this time.

- **Finance and Budget**

Mark reported that he emailed the 2008 budget so that the new members can work from it at the meeting in January. He also emailed the 2006, 2007 and 2008 profit and loss statements.

- **Membership Committee**

Phil requested a list of members that did not renew this year so they can be contacted before the database is changed. The names of previous NFHR members are not removed from the database. The 2009 membership renewals are in the process of being mailed and will go to all 2007 and 2008 members.

Bill mentioned that there was some confusion by members joining NFHR that thought that they were also joining the regional club. Mike mentioned that we need a letter or information from the regional clubs that we can send to new members. Some of this information is also listed in the new resource guide.

- **OPP Manual Committee**

There is nothing to report at this time. There was some discussion about the bylaws. It was recommended that there be a presentation at the Jan meeting concerning proposed bylaw changes.

- **Recognition and Awards Committee**

Linda reported that there was a little problem getting the versatility awards produced. If a source can not be found soon, they may get different item that is similar and equal in value.

- **Show Committee**

There is nothing to report at this time.

- **30th Anniversary Committee**

Susan and Linda are planning to visit the facility in Lincoln, NE, next week. Susan is working on an anniversary webpage for the NFHR website. There were suggestions to occasionally add to the information on the website and put something in every issue of the Fjord Herald.

- **Strategic Planning Committee**

There is nothing to report at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

- **2009 BOD and Annual Meetings**

Need committee year end reports to be sent to Curt by Dec 30. Curt will compile the reports and coordinate with Howard to produce the final report.

There was some discussion about getting a list of issues and agenda items for the face to face and membership meetings. There was a suggestion to present issues discussed at the open forum session during the membership meeting for consideration by the BOD. It was decided that the BOD will receive the list of issues suggested by the open forum and the membership meeting to consider at the very next BOD meeting.

Ruth needs final tally of the room dates right away. There was a discussion about the cost and effort of Lee Harden to plan and organize the membership forum. Mark motioned to reimburse Lee Harden for her expenses associated with the meeting. Curt seconded. Motion was approved.

There was a discussion about the meeting logistics and meals. The board and spouses will eat together Friday night. For the Saturday night dinner, the board members will be available to dine with the members attending the forum.

- **Fjord Herald DVD Status**

The *Fjord Herald* DVD containing all the issues from the first 25 years now has the cover and label art work completed. They found a producer that will produce the DVD for a very reasonable and competitive price. It is hoped that the DVD copies can be available both on the website, and at the Annual Meeting and Members Education Forum.

- **NFHR Logo Status**

The artist of the proposed logo is working on a revised version to be presented at the face-to-face meeting along with two other logos recently submitted by other artists.

NEW BUSINESS

- **President's Voting Policy**

It was pointed out that there is no written policy stating that the NFHR President cannot vote on issues except to break a tie. Cynthia motioned to allow the President to vote on all motions and matters brought before the BOD. Mark seconded. The motion was approved.

NEXT MEETING: January 16 -18, 2009

FUTURE MEETINGS:

TBD

The meeting concluded at 10:25pm (Eastern)

Respectfully submitted,
Curt Pierce
NFHR Secretary