

COLORADO ARABIAN HORSE CLUB
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
ELECTRONIC MEETING, Finalized December 9, 2009

Meeting called to order by Helen Alfaro at 12:50AM on December 5, 2009.

Board Members present (8 for quorum):

Jim Gromelski
Ron Harden
Helen Alfaro
Cheryl McMahon
Jerry Martinez
Jim Hitt
Kathy Scott
Kelly Bell
Liz Wheeler
Mary Wunsch
Melissa Miller
Norm Brown
Pat Thompson

Trisha Swift

Board Members absent:

Lauren Payne
Michael Troxler

Guests:

Ann Wegener
Gail Zeier
Cynthia Richardson
JoAnne Read
Mary Jo Hoepner
Rene Dierdorff

MINUTES – MOTION by Ron Harden to approve the November 2009 CAHC Board of Directors meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Liz Wheeler. Motion passed by majority vote.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Ron Harden: Distributed Financial Statements, Balance Sheet and Income Statement for the 2010 member year thru November for BOD review via email pre-meeting. Removed the budget line item for Regional Show Income; Region 8 Delegation voted to forgo profit-share distribution of Region 8 Championship Show income for 2010. Removal of this line item renders our budget a break even budget.

MOTION by Helen Alfaro to approve the 2009 financial statements as revised on December 7, 2009 and distributed via email. Motion seconded by Ron Harden. Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: none

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussed structuring new CAHC membership offerings such as free adult memberships for youth members who transition to adulthood while still in high school or college, and offering CAHC family memberships (two adults and all dependent children for one fee). Emphasized encouraging continued AHA membership with affiliation thru CAHC. May need to form an education committee to research and recommend educational programs CAHC can offer to members. Also discussed the need for expanding the benefits of being a CAHC member (free class at community show, clinic discount, etc) to encourage greater participation and member retention. Any perks would need to benefit the club overall, and need to consider what we can afford to offer.

Discussed whether people might decide they do not need to join CAHC because they can get the Newsletter, Show Information, etc. online without being a member. Opinion was divided about restricting online access to members only, as many other organizations do.

There was much discussion about the decline in membership, the cost of horse shows related to increased fees, offering Class B and C rated shows instead of Class A, and ways to make shows more cost effective for exhibitors. These matters will be topics for the Show Brainstorming Committee.

Jim Hitt suggested holding a "summit" meeting and inviting all members to discuss, listen, and brainstorm about the changing needs of our membership and exhibitors. This venue would also allow us to inform people about what it costs to put on horse shows, etc.

MOTION by HELEN ALFARO:

Whereas, There has been lengthy discussion pertaining to CAHC membership features and how we can change (or not change) what we currently offer our members; and

Whereas, There has been lengthy discussion about the future of CAHC and in particular the future of our horse show offerings; Therefore Be It

Moved, That any further discussions are tabled until the board and invited general membership have an opportunity to meet in person.

Motion seconded by Liz Wheeler. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION by HELEN ALFARO:

Whereas, Jim Hitt has suggested a "summit" meeting to discuss the CAHC membership offerings and the future of CAHC; Therefore Be It

Moved, That a plan be put into motion to hold such a summit meeting as soon as possible before the start of the 2010 CAHC show season.

Motion seconded by Liz Wheeler. Motion passed unanimously.

DIVISION REPORTS:

NORTHERN DIVISION REPORT – Norm Brown/Trisha Swift: Waiting to hear back from everyone which Saturday works for everyone for our after-Christmas party, either the 16th or the 23rd. At that time we will also discuss a spring activity; suggestions have been a clinic or a pleasure trail ride at one of the newly opened open spaces north of Fort Collins.

SOUTHERN DIVISION – Liz Wheeler: Christmas Social on Sunday, December 13 at 11:00AM, pot luck; SD will provide main course (Prime Rib). Please RSVP to Liz Wheeler or Kathy Scott by December 10th. To be held at Kit Carson Riding Club, located north of Colorado Springs on Black Forest Road at Cowpoke Rd. Contact Liz or Kathy for directions. Everyone is invited; just bring a dish to share. Door prizes will be provided by JoAnne's Gift Shop and Karen Desserich.

YOUTH DIVISION – President/Kelly Bell: Youth Division meeting was held on December 5th. The group established committees for High Point and Fundraising. Discussed ideas for fundraising, newsletter, and socializing outside of horse activities. Current budget is \$1200.

REGION 8 – Jim Hitt: (Per Pat Thompson) nothing to report.

SHOW COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CHRISTMAS – Lauren Payne: no report

SPRING – Liz Wheeler: Have been researching and planning for Versatility Ranch Horse classes; already have several inquiries about these new offerings. Will meet in January to plan rules and specific activities. Two Judges confirmed so far: Kathy Callahan Smith (Judged Youth Nationals 2010) and Sheri Odoms, both from California. Still trying to get two Sport Horse Judges.

ESTES PARK – Pat Thompson: Nothing to report.

FALL – Pat Thompson: Nothing to report.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ACTIVITIES – Lauren Payne: no report

AUDIT – Gwen Mahoney: no report

AWARDS – Cheryl McMahon: Most of the awards are finalized; will have a final list by this weekend (at Christmas Show). Awaiting word from just a couple of people about their hours.

BRAINSTORMING SHOW – Cynthia Richardson: The committee has been exchanging information regarding the shows that are approved by AHA – Class A & Regionals. We are still waiting on stats for the ACS and the National Events. The show managers were asked on December 9th to put together a brief overview of their shows to share with the committee as well as something that could go in the January newsletter for Stock Show.

BY-LAWS – Jim Gromelski: Bylaws is a work in progress; Jim will incorporate an amendment containing the outline for electronic meetings and BOD business conduct, modeled after what AHA is incorporating into their bylaws, all of which complies with Colorado law.

COLORADO HORSE COUNCIL – Norm Brown: no report

COMMUNICATIONS – Ellin Smith: no report

NEWSLETTER – Renee Dierdorff: no report

COMMUNITY RELATIONS – Mary Wunsch: no report

DELEGATES – Cynthia Richardson/Jim Hitt: Notice has gone out asking for members to apply for 2010 delegate positions. Election will be held during the Jan BOD meeting. We are also working to confirm dates for both the ACS show in August and the School 'N Fool this spring. Hope to have both of those dates for the show flyer that will go in the Stock Show booth.

DRESSAGE – Mary Jo Hoepner: Arabians For The Cure will be April 23, 2010 at the Norris Penrose Equestrian Center in Colorado Springs. Judges: Kem Barbosa and Maryal Barnett, both 'S' dressage judges. We are looking for real and 'in kind' silent auction donations (both horse related and non horse related items) as well as services -- farrier, massage, training, grooming, etc.

ENDURANCE – Liz Wheeler: CAHC 2009 Endurance Award winners include: Grand Champion Bountiful Prince ridden by Kerry Redente; Reserve Champion Kenlyn Muscatella ridden by Linda Fisher; 3rd Place Kenlyn Gambler ridden by Linda Price.

CAHC 2009 Limited Distance Award winners include:
Grand Champion Kenlyn Khemistry ridden by Sarah Jarvis; Reserve Champion Kenlyn Maximillian ridden by Karen Fagan; 3rd Place Kenlyn Tuxedo ridden by Suzie Barbour.

FINANCE – Executive Committee: no report

FUN TRAIL RIDES – Paula Koch: no report

HUNTER JUMPER – Chuck Mangan: no report

INSURANCE – Lauren Payne: no report

MEMBERSHIP – Pat Thompson: Adult members=258, Youth members=41, 3-year members=48, Life members=6.

NOMINATING – Ann Wegener: Nominating committee is on hiatus until after consuming copious amounts of eggnog during the holidays and setting off fireworks at the new year.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN HORSE EXPO – Jennifer Deasaro: no report

STOCK SHOW BOOTH – Donna Ciccarelli: no report

WEBSITE – Ron Harden: Site continues per plan and budget.

WORKING HORSE – Jim Hitt: no report

YOUTH JUDGING TEAM – Jodi Zeier: no report

MOTION by HELEN ALFARO to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded by Jim Gromelski.
Motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 12:00PM on December 9, 2009.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday January 13, 2009 at 7PM at Renaissance Hotel, 3801 Quebec Street in Denver (Stapleton area).

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Alfaro