



Arabian Horse Breeders Assn. of Oregon

Board Meeting Meeting Minutes January 6, 2017

Call to Order

President Julie Hedden called to order the regular meeting of the AHBAO Board at 6:40 P.M. on January 6, 2017 at McMenamin's Old Church Pub, Wilsonville, Oregon.

• Roll Call

The following Board members were present: President Julie Hedden, Board members Carol Helton, Karla Moffitt, Renay Butts, Sara Nash-Robertson, and Cheryl Deahn. Board members absent: Barb Garcia. Guests present: Cassie Richard and Gary Butts.

• Minutes from Last Meeting

All Board members had read the minutes from the last meeting. Julie provided copies in case they were needed. Karla moved, and Cheryl seconded, to approve them. The minutes were approved.

• Treasurer's Report

Board members had received copies of Treasurer Joe Gradin's most recent report by e-mail. Julie also made them available at the meeting. Carol moved, and Renay seconded, to approve it as submitted. The Treasurer's report was approved.

• Old Business

- a. Correspondence: Julie reported having received word from Joe Gradin that, after filling this role for the past 10+ years, he wanted to step down from being Treasurer. Additional discussion on this position occurred and is included under "Nominations" (below). The need to address an additional change in committee responsibilities was raised and is covered under "Futurity" (below).
- b. Financial/Budget: No action was needed/taken, but Julie advised that the (additional) \$100 she didn't take as payment for judging the Open Show—and approved by the

Board via text message—to be used as base funds for the Holiday Party has not been spent since the party has been postponed due to threatening weather conditions. Carol again raised the question of getting funds to promote the scholarship program in hopes of getting more applicants. She shared her observation that advertising our scholarship on scholarship websites likely wouldn't serve our purpose as the criteria of being an AHBAO member would limit potential candidates. Discussion followed, with final results noted under “Scholarship” (below).

- c. Nominations: Board recommendations—and related biographical information—for the new slate of officers was sent to the membership in the Newsletter. No additional nominations have been received. Upon completion of voting, the following officers were elected: **President**: Julie Hedden; **Vice-President**: Cathy Stauffer; **Treasurer**: Renay Butts; **Board members**: Cassie Richard (1st term), Cheryl Deahn (2nd term), and Carol Helton (2nd term). Julie advised that, because Carol would like to remain on the Board and have someone else serve as Secretary, she and Karla had approached Jill Weicker about taking the position. Although Jill wasn't present, the Board was advised she is willing, so the Board elected Jill Weicker as **Secretary** for the coming year.
- d. Futurity: Julie reported (for those who didn't already know) that Futurity committee chairperson Shelley Jones is relocating out of the area, so we need to choose a new chairperson. Jered Johnson has indicated an interest and willingness to take on this role. She says he has background with futurities and already has some ideas—as well as some questions—about how to increase participation. Jered wondered if we might be able to (1) decrease the late nomination fee from \$100 to \$25, even if it was only for a year or two, and (2) adjust the payout so we pay out to only Top 5, rather than to Top 7 as we have in the past. Discussion resulted in Karla moving, with a second from Cassie, to drop the post-entry nomination fee to \$25 for 2017 and 2018 futurity nominations as a trial. Julie will let Jered know about this decision. No decision was made on the payout question. The Board also agreed that it would be a good idea to do a write-up about the Futurity for the Newsletter so members know what it is and what might be in it for them. Julie will contact Jered and ask him if he can write something.
- e. Convention/Regional delegates: Julie and Karla gave a brief report on their experience and the activities at the National Convention. Mary Jane Brown has been replaced as Director of Region IV by Chris Bickford and Karla is his back-up. Julie was impressed by what went on in committees, as well as the general sessions. Speakers spoke on pertinent topics and decisions were made on issues that affect the breed overall. She reports there has been a change in the basis for the number of club delegates—now, 1 delegate for 35 members. Karla emphasized that she is always amazed that so much gets done by volunteers, as only a very few positions in AHA

are paid ones. Julie says she would welcome the chance to go again and encouraged others to go, pointing out that there may be a chance for more members to go as delegates if our membership continues to grow.

- f. Scholarship: After discussion about ways to promote our scholarship, the Board agreed that preparing a banner to be posted at shows, tack sales, the Horse Expo, OHSET meets, and other activities might be a good idea. Gary and Renay Butts have access to the necessary resources for this and provided estimates of how much one might cost. Carol was authorized to develop a banner with somewhat “generic” language so the banner can be used at a variety of events, as well as at the show when the presentation is made so we can get a quote. Karla suggested that we need to find out who to contact at OHSET so we can post the banner at their meets and offered the OHSET Treasurer’s name (Denise John) as a place to start.
- g. Membership: We currently have 85 members: 68 adults, 6 life, and 11 youth—up 2 adults and 1 youth from last report/meeting.
- h. Sunshine: In Haley’s absence, there was no official report. However, Board members were aware that cards have been sent to Mary Jane Brown for her mother, Jane, and Cathy Stauffer for her mom.
- i. Website/Facebook: Julie reports we had 528 “likes” of our website, with 539 people having accessed it to date. She continues send items to Kim, urging Board members to solicit from other members—and send to her—more information and news so it is interesting, current, and pertinent. She also voiced interest in getting a Twitter account, but the Board had questions about whether it would be beneficial. She will research it and see whether it would be worthwhile. She also reported that AHA has been having issues with Snapchat, so we’re not interested in getting involved with that social media.
- j. Newsletter: Board was reminded that the Newsletter went out recently. Members continue to be encouraged to send in news and make suggestions for things to include and/or topics to cover. Julie suggested an article on El Gaz’i and other Board members thought a “Member Spotlight” on Renay and Gary Butts—including a brief follow-up on Keith since he received the scholarship—would be good, especially since Renay is the new Treasurer.
- k. Clinics: In the absence of both Cathy Stauffer and Michelle Nash, there was no official report, but the Board discussed and continues to support them as a means of furthering the education aspect of the Club.
- l. By-Laws: No report.

- m. Shows: Julie asked whether the Board wanted the September **Open** show to be held at Para Heava in Molalla again. The Board voted to hold it there again; Julie will call them and book it. There was discussion about donating entry fees from a class to the Oregon Arabian Horse Rescue. Since one of the largest classes was Open Showmanship, some Board members thought that might be a class where there would be more funds collected to donate. Another thought was to add an Open Showmanship Championship for this. No final decision was made, but will need to be resolved at the next meeting.

Karla reported Heather at (Major's) Oregon Horse Center has secured the judges for our **April** Class A show (April 21-23, 2017): Carla Jackson and Hoyt Rose.

- n. Holiday Party: Julie reported on the series of events that resulted in the move from Mary Hansen Vineyard/Arbor Brook Winery to Tresori Winery at the last minute, as well as the decision to postpone the party due to the consistent reports of impending inclement weather. Discussion resulted in the Board deciding to try to hold the party this coming Saturday, January 14, in the late afternoon. Cathy has been asked to check to see if speaker Melissa Shaver, DVM, is available. Cheryl will check with both wineries to see which one is available, with Tresori being our 1st choice since we will not need to worry about interfering with another event. If she is and Tresori Winery is still available, we hope to have the party there, beginning at 4 for social hour and 5 for the presentation. Everyone is hoping for more amenable weather conditions. If all the pieces come together, Julie will arrange for an E-blast to let the membership know what's happening.

• **New Business**

- a. AHA Club Excellence and Volunteer Service Awards: Both awards are made by AHA—after going through the Region--every year. Julie submitted nominations for the volunteer service award. Barb Garcia won the award for AHBAO and Karla Moffitt won it for Region IV. In the past, no submissions have been made for the Club Excellence Award. Julie and Cathy submitted the Open horse show as the AHBAO nomination for this award. Julie reported it didn't win, but got mentioned. She intends to research what the criteria/basis is for selection so we can try again next year. The Board appreciated Julie's initiative in submitting the nominations and we agreed it's important to continue to do it as another way to promote the club.
- b. Event Committee: Julie proposed that we have a group of people who work on identifying events for the Club to offer or support. Cassie, Cheryl and Carol agreed to staff this committee.
- c. Promotional Director: Julie reported that she noticed the AHA website has a place for each club to identify their "Promotional Director". In the absence of a position by

this name in the past and, given the role(s) she's played in promoting the Club, Julie inserted Barb Garcia's name. However, since it is a new "title" for AHBAO, the Board agreed it needed a specific person assigned and selected Cassie Richard to fill it. Cassie and Julie will do a little research, find out exactly what sorts of tasks the position does, and we can sort out the fine points at the next meeting.

- d. Auditing Books/Accounting Methods: Renay advised that Joe indicated it would be a good time to do an official **audit** of the AHBAO treasurer's book to assure everything is in order before Renay takes over as Treasurer. At the Board's suggestion, Karla will check with Jill Weicker to see if she would be willing to work with either Michelle Nash or Barb Garcia to get this done. Renay also reported that, in most organizations like ours, the **accounting method** used requires 2 signors on the checks. In the past there has only been one—the treasurer, Joe Gradin. While it's not been a problem and the treasurer hasn't changed for some time while other officers have, good accounting practices require more than one. There was discussion about whether handling the check signing this way would be a logistical nightmare or in conflict with the by-laws. Carol was asked to check the by-laws, see what they say, and report back.

- **Next Board Meeting**: Friday, March 31, 2017 at McMenamin's Old Church Pub in Wilsonville, at 6 PM.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn from Karla was seconded by Cheryl. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Carol Helton, Secretary

Minutes approved by: