

Region 14 Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2014 @ 1:00 PM
Clark County Champions Center
Springfield, Ohio

Director Frank Gaddie called the meeting to order, with First Vice Director Duane Esser, Second Vice Director Jackie Robinson, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Jean Hedger in attendance. There were 13 clubs represented: BAHA, BAHAA, DBDR, KAHA, KAHABA, KARABS, NEOAHA, NWOAHA, OHAHA, OVAHA, OAATS, SAHIBA and SAHS. Frank asked all 38 present to introduce themselves and state what club they represent.

Minutes: Jackie requested that the November caucus minutes be amended, changing Martha Murdock's last name to Rattner. Dave Daugherty moved to have the amended minutes approved. Debbie Glasener seconded the motion and it was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Jean reported that to date we have paid out \$33,053.80 for the 2013 convention. This includes the welcome party, caucus dinner, tours, etc. Some of this will be refunded by AHA who collected the money for the Tuesday and Wednesday tours and the Friday night Al Marah Gallery Tour/Spindle Top dinner. She hopes to get it finalized by February 1st. There has been some question as to whether we were to pay the \$675 bill for convention security. Jeff Caldwell noted that he had hired security but then was called by Heather Ellzey (AHA) and told to cancel them. Frank got an email from her stating same – the hotel would provide security. Jean paid out \$4,050 to delegates for their packets. The calendar had an income of \$5,675 but the expense was \$5,800, which was a \$500 increase from last year. To date, we have a net positive balance of \$6400.14. Dave moved and Deneb Thompson seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report. This passed unanimously.

Budget Committee: Duane presented the 2014 proposed budget, which the committee worked on at convention. It is conservative, with no money set aside for national show sponsorships. We have set aside \$1,000 as an emergency fund. So we have a positive balance of \$3,526 budgeted. Cindy Clinton moved and Debbie G seconded to approve the budget as presented. This passed.

Director's Report: Frank again thanked everyone for all their work on a very successful convention. He has gotten positive emails from every regional director and the AHA executive board. He also got cards and comments about "all the smiling faces and folks talking about good things, not complaining about the bad." It was even suggested that maybe we could do a rotation for convention – Denver and Lexington. Frank politely said no. John Morici said he was contacted and told that this was one of best conventions in many years.

Frank led a discussion as to what happened at the FFA convention which was held in Louisville at the end of October, 2013. AHA was planning a lot for that event but ended up with a very small booth, possibly due to all the staffing issues. Frank decided not to commit Region 14 to any additional expenses or to supplying volunteers. We did present a \$1,000 scholarship (as we had done in 2012) but, at this time, we will not be sponsoring that for 2014. It was asked why we didn't send volunteers and noted that no one really "stepped-up" to help. With the youth being our future, we need to promote to them. Someone who attended the convention was very disappointed as to the booth and the banner (which Dave noted was very expensive). Frank apologized for not communicating the changes and pushing our involvement once AHA downsized their commitment but he noted that the cost of the booth space was very expensive which is why we were partnering with AHA. He wasn't sure who from AHA represented us. FFA has a six (6) year contract for Louisville, so five (5) years are left. Duane asked what other breeds had a presence there? It was noted that FFA is not "equine based" but that is changing. Of the 64,000+ kids in the program, many do have horses. If our finances remain positive, maybe we can revisit this event in the future.

Arabian Celebration: Neil Henderson reported that the show committee is asking USEF permission to change the date of the show from September 17-20 to a week earlier – September 10-13. That would potentially put it within the 250 mile USEF limit of the National Show Horse Finals (NSHF) currently being held in Springfield, ILL., and which has Arabian and Half Arabian classes. Why do they want to change – maybe to give them an extra week before U.S. Nationals? If they get this change approved, the delegates would again have to vote on the approval of this show. Cindy commented that she had been negotiating with the Arabian Horse Celebration show about combining with NSHF, but no agreement could be worked out. Comments from those present indicate that we would not approve a show that would conflict with the NSHF show. Glenn Petty (AHA Executive Vice President) is aware of the issue and Frank will contact the delegates if there are any changes before our next meeting.

Regional Hunter Jumper classes: With the cancellation of the KAHA Spring Festival and Classic, we have no venue for our regional hunter jumper classes. We have been approached by Bob Bennett of Region 12 to hold those classes as part of his show in Aiken SC., June 6-8. There would be no cost to us. We have to be listed on their insurance and we would need a copy of that. Cindy moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to approve the Aiken, SC., show to hold our Region 14 hunter jumper classes for this year. This was approved.

Regional Awards Banquet: Dave noted that our banquet is scheduled for March 22nd. Any club can have a room for a meeting; they just have to let Debbie G know. Dave sent out the nomination forms to all club presidents, past regional directors and the Board of Directors. The list of nominees will be put on the website along with biographies (limited to about 100 words). Dave asked that the nominees be contacted, that the names be spelled correctly, etc. Maybe for next year, we might want to have a slide show of club activities that we can present at the banquet. And Dave encouraged all members to vote (including the nominees) – in the past only about 100+ of our 600+ members have voted. You can snail-mail, email or fax your vote to Dave. Neil commented that we need to encourage our youth to get involved with this process.

By-Laws Update: The committee consisted of Dave, Duane, Jackie and Joe Hull. Dave presented the committee's report, acknowledging that Joe has done most of work in reviewing them and recommending the changes to be made. The specific changes were sent via email to the delegates and those changes appear in color. Mainly the changes involve cleaning up the legal language to mirror the AHA By-Laws and clarification of regional membership dues. There is one addition, a section devoted to handling electronic voting. Any revisions discussed today will be sent to the delegates and then we will discuss the changes at the March meeting. We vote on them at our annual meeting, probably in August.

First Vice Director's Report: Duane reported on the USEF convention. He commented on some of the rule changes which will affect medication use as well as “shockwave” therapy. He noted that 30% of the yearlings shown at U.S. Nationals had joint injections. All of the treatments will have to be reported via the USEF medication form. USEF is also looking at holding the blood and urines samples for eight (8) years. They are also raising fines. Many of their guidelines stem from what goes on in the hunter jumper world, which is dominated by warmbloods. They are also doing this to make a statement to the public that USEF is protecting the horses. Frank will mention this discussion at the AHA Board of Directors meeting in March. We had several Arabian folks nominated for the Pegasus Awards, including Martha Rattner, Jim Stachowski and Chris & Sonja Bickford.

Second Vice Director's Report: Jackie had nothing to report.

Regional Show Report: Cindy noted that the show dates are June 25-29. She has hired most of the judges for the show. They include Angie Sullivan, Jill Lochner, Chris Culbreth, Donnie Bullock, Jack Thomas, Debbie Reid, Sarah Michael, Jennifer Benoit, and a couple still TBA. She is not planning any real changes and will again offer the amateur Grand Champion classes. Not many were interested in them last year until they saw the prize jackets, so she is hoping for more participation this year.

Calendar: Kathy Whitmore reported that she is changing how we handle the purchase of the ads for the 2015 calendar. If you want an ad, you must contact her by **March 1st** and also pay for the ad at that time. Any ads (months) that aren't sold will then be auctioned off at the Awards banquet. The format of the directory was different - easier to read - but, with the names listed per club, it will be harder to search for someone if you don't know what club they belong to. She also had some extra copies made to distribute at the Kentucky Round-Up (February) and Equine Affaire (April).

Website Update Report: Debbie S reported that she not aware of any issues with the website. She is getting more comfortable with the new format and has put all the show dates, etc. that she knows about. Let her know any information that needs changed. We are still planning on having a section for a farm directory and stallion ads. The format and cost have not been determined.

Old Business: Jean wanted to thank Jeff for sending her the cover letters from convention for the vocalist, the chaplain and the color guard that he hired.

Dave reported that Larry Izor is having some serious health issues and would like to see folks send him cards of encouragement. Also Shirley Nowak is still having back pain problems and needs encouragement as well since she cannot travel at this time.

Eric Schultz reported that Juanita Dayringer is still dealing with vision issues and we need to remember her as well.

Equine Affaire (April 11-14): Mickie Newman (OAATS) is again taking charge of the booth space along with our 10 x 10 stall so she will need volunteers, horses, etc. She would like to get some Region 14 information to pass out. It was suggested that we find out how we can get our regional tri-fold brochure reproduced with current information. Also, she has access to a copier so if she can get any B & W copy that we want passed out, she can get copies made as they need them.

New Business: Dave noted that Tonya Thomas and Heather Ellzey (Kate Cooper's replacement) were our AHA staff contacts at convention and as a "thank-you" he would like to give the 45 AHA staff members pizzas and a cake for lunch at the office on January 23rd. He estimates the cost would be around \$300. Bill Pennington moved and Deneb seconded a motion to approve spending \$300 to provide them a pizza lunch. This passed.

Dave moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to adjourn. Our next meeting will be March 22nd at 3:00 PM at the Kings Island Conference Center, Mason, OH.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Swigart

Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary