

AHR Board of Directors

Wednesday, August 3, 2005

8:00 P. M.

Bobal, Duvall, Gibson, Hug, Inabinett, Jameson, Lehman, Leisure, Rousseau, Sutton, Yoder present.

Dowd absent

Ruth Schwab, office manager present

Called to order at 8:10 PM by Paul Sutton

I. Office Update - Ruth Schwab

Tana currently working on July 18 mail, so only two week lag on accounts

Sheila working on June 27-July 5 so one month lag on paperwork

Ruth is starting on consignments for Fall Sale

New Insurance paperwork is being done for the National Show

Revised website is now up and Ruth is maintaining it from the office.

II. Old Business

A. National Show Update

Jennifer Rousseau has expressed concern regarding the perception on the part of the National Show Committee that there is lack of BOD support for their efforts.

In response to this perception, Pres. Sutton has tried to communicate with Committee Co-chair Carol Hummel to ask what kind of assistance she is needing as he is wanting the Show to be a success. Carol requested the entire member list to send out a special mailing promoting the Show but that is unprecedented and cost prohibitive given the tight budget this year. She was provided the mailing list of previous show participants, as has been provided to Show Committees in previous years.

Bobal requested clarification about the policy of AHR providing mailing lists to regional groups as he has been refused the mailing list for the Keystone Haflinger Association (for the Livestock Exposition).

The policy is that regional groups may have mailing lists for their regions.

Clarification was requested about an upcoming full page color ad in Driving Digest which is a combination of usual AHR ad as well as promoting the Fall Sale/National Show for \$575. This represents a good value and additional promotion for the National Show at minimal cost.

Both the National Show and I/C Committees were allowed space in the Aug/Sept magazine two weeks after the June 25 deadline by bumping other articles, including inserts rather than the additional cost of a special member mailing for the National Show.

It was noted by the BOD that no entry deadline is on the published Entry Form for the National Show. There is concern that there won't be enough time for the Show Book and stall assignments getting done in a timely fashion due to no published deadline. There is concern that sponsorships have not been solicited for classes. Lou Sutton has, on his own, started calling prior sponsors and getting commitments of up to \$7000 as of now. More will be needed.

Bill Jameson will contact Carol Hummel about the BOD concerns. A checklist of show functions/jobs that need to be completed prior to the show will be forwarded to Carol and the internet lists will be used to provide additional information to the membership, as well as information on the AHR website.

B. Membership Meeting

Sutton is proposing that committee reports be provided in writing to the members prior to the meeting, and be available by request from the office or downloadable from the website, allowing members from all regions to review, submit comments ahead of the meeting and then at the meeting have a discussion about that committee's work and goals, keeping track of comments/suggestions and ideas on poster paper during the meeting to be used for later BOD deliberation. Full support.

C. Exchanging Donations for advertising

There is not agreement within the Promotions committee about how to accomplish this and as it is not financially feasible right now, it is thought this will need more work before it comes back to the BOD.

Planning Committee has agreed to look at this policy in concert with developing a policy for AHR endorsement of products.

D. Timing of Annual BOD meeting

Sutton proposes moving the BOD annual meeting to the week in October right before the Membership Meeting and the Sale in order for the BOD to all be present for the Membership Meeting. He thinks the meeting could be accomplished in 2 days. Inabinett is concerned as he sets up for the sale and would not be able to do both. Rousseau is concerned that it would be difficult to be at 2 days of BOD meeting and then prepare for the sale and Stallion Parade. This would require a bylaws change to allow newly elected directors to take office as of Oct. 1 so they can be voting members at the annual meeting and getting the bylaws change would have to happen during the upcoming election ballot to be sent out. There was considerable discussion about the pros and cons of moving the meeting to October rather than having BOD and committee members travel in December but no consensus was reached and it was felt this was too late this year to try to make this happen. It will continue to be considered, possibly for 2006 if not for this year.

E. Candidates for BOD elections who have submitted completed paperwork so far –final list still to be received from Nominations committee

At large 3 year position: Bob Duvall, Paul Sutton, Brent Leninger

At large one year position: Willie Lehman, Kim Hart
Northeast: Mike Bobal

Central: Jennifer Rousseau and Dave Kraus

West and Southeast: No candidates have submitted paperwork

F. Website Committee

The revised website has had very good response and listed below are the # visits made to the following pages—an indication of what visitors are interested in seeing on the site and where we need to try to increase member participation (i.e. farm listings, events and classified ads are high on the list):

- #1 Home page- 6218
- #2 Farms page- 2365
- #3 Breed standards -1027
- #4 Marketplace classifieds- 935
- #5 Calendar (all months) -847
- #6 Magazine -820
- #7 Events page -766
- #8 National Show page -700
- #9 Links page -676
- #10 "about" page-562
- #11 Documents -546
- #12 Breed history-482
- #13 Marketplace--392
- #14 Stallions--391
- #15 Marketplace store-350
- #16 FAQ-349
- #17 Contact -265
- #18 Documents/forms -229
- #19 Points/awards-201
- #20 Marketplace vendors--189
- #21 Inspection/classification-170
- #22 Youth Program--135
- #23 Board answers-87
- #24 AHR programs-85
- #25 Judges--81
- #26 Stallion incentive-41
- #27 Futurity-26

III. New Business

A. Letter critical of the BOD and Board president circulated on the internet.

A letter was reviewed and discussed that had appeared on the internet critical of a majority of the BOD and the Board President. No action taken.

B. Concern about Office staff relationship with I/C committee

Rousseau believes that an email from her committee discussion group, which includes Pres. Sutton as an ex-officio member, was shared with office staff regarding their relationship with the committee. Sutton denies any emails had been forwarded to the office staff, though the committee discussion groups are not under executive privilege, so therefore are not private, but he has directly addressed Rousseau's concerns with office staff and feel they have been as supportive as possible within their scope of responsibility to these committee functions. Office staff has historically had little responsibility for the National Show or I/C given their other obligations this time of year. Melanie will be available to do the Show Program this year if the timing does not interfere with getting the Oct/Nov magazine and 2006 calendar out.

C. Pedigree Committee

Hug asked the BOD to consider a request to transfer a CHA registered mare that was DNA tested but not parentage proven as CHA does not require parental DNA testing. Discussion about possible actions that could be taken, and Pedigree Committee is directed to make a specific recommendation about this particular mare to the BOD for BOD action. It was also recommended that the committee contact CHA about AHR requirements for registration.

Adjourned at 10:45 PM moved by Yoder and seconded by Hug

