

# MDS Meeting Minutes

*January 25, 2009*

## Members present;

Carol Poulin Taylor, Elizabeth Owens, Cheryl Peaslee, Laurie Lee, Wadean Chadwick (CMDA members)

Beth Brainerd, Kate Holden, Pat Martin, Stephanie Hatcher (WMDEA members)

Susan Pendleton, Wendy Brunson (SMDA member)

Sandy Welsh, Willette Brown (member at large)

Bryn Walsh, Becky Clark, Betsy Hudson (EMDA)

The meeting was called to order at 10:05am by president Carol Poulin-Taylor.

The Secretary minutes were read and a motion to accept as written by Betsy Hudson, **Becky Clark** 2<sup>nd</sup> all were in favor.

Treasure report was read (see attached hand out) report as read. **(We did not vote we just moved on)**

**Newsletter** will be sent out as follows, March 15<sup>th</sup> June 15<sup>th</sup>, September 15<sup>th</sup>, December 15<sup>th</sup>. The dead line for each newsletter will be the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month: March 1<sup>st</sup>, June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup>. This puts the newsletter back to the original date in the by-laws. Hopefully this will clarify when the news items are to be into the editor and when the newsletter is to be in the mail. Sandy will help proof it and Bryn will be putting it on the MDS web site. All seems to be going well. I will be holding the January newsletter until March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Cheryl is encouraging all clubs to put in fun items, new horses, congratulations, big thank you to a member or rider, etc

**Insurance** Beth Brainerd has requested that all clubs contact her a week or so before a scheduled show, clinic, event to make sure that the insurance has been taken care of. It cost about \$43-\$48 per event and the clubs need to pay for the insurance. **Individual Club** treasurers should include the following information for the Certificate of Insurance; a contact person with telephone number, physical address **(where the event will be held)**, and what the event is.

**Membership** Sandy gave a report and the club numbers are down. A brief discussion as to why the numbers are down. We should all be encouraging people to join and come have fun. We also discussed the fact we are all volunteers and we should try to be courteous to each other and make all meeting a more pleasant atmosphere.

**Omnibus.** We got to look at the first copy of the Omnibus. It looks great. Stephanie had an issue with FEI tests. The past 4-5 omnibus have included tests from FEI. We have not paid copyright fees for the last few years. It cost \$50.00 for the copy- rights, plus a saving at the printers for not having the FEI test in the Omnibus. The tests changed in 2009 and, as we were trying to get permission, realized this omission. Therefore, the FEI test are not

included in this years Omnibus. Some discussion followed questioning if we needed to have the FEI test in the Omnibus as there is a page tells where to get the tests. It was decided to wait and see how many people want to have the FEI test in next years Omnibus. We voted not to have an insert with the FEI test. Susan motion and Laura 2<sup>nd</sup> was not unanimous. Carol will announce this at the Banquet. Maybe a questionnaire should be made to find out what club members want? Carol will ask at the banquet.

**Website** Bryn said all is going well. She would love to have some new pictures to put on the site.

**Education** Willette has a couple of things in the works. She will be updating us soon. Carol had a request for support from Nikki & Tony De La Torre to help host Jan Ebeling at their center/barn in Oct –Nov. 2009. The MDS club would have to pay for Jan's plane ticket, help with advertising cost. In return we would get audit monies. Carol will be doing the follow up and work with Nikki. The board felt this was a good program and wants to pursue this request.

**Jr/Yr-** Carol had names of two Pony Club leaders Gail McCormack and Sandy Porter-Bean who are trying to put together a weekend in May with lessons and stabling. This could be the start of a young riders group. They are looking for support from MDS. It was decided they need to come to a meeting and present their plan with a little more info. Questions came up about who the instructors will be, what the insurance will be and for pays for that and chaperones? MDS members felt the clinic/weekend should be self supporting program.

**Awards Banquet** Beth has requested that we do not do any more perpetual trophies as they take to long time to track down, store and carry to the banquet. A suggestion was made that a picture be taken and handed out to the recipient. Who will store the trophies if this happens? The feeling from the board is to have no more trophies. We did not have as much "loot" this year as in the past. She would like each show/ club to give a certificate for a free class. This would help both the members and MDS to get more people out to shows and participate in year-end awards. She needs a minimum of 21 awards. Puckerbrush and Sunset both offered class certificates. The banquet is always the last Sunday in January.

**By Laws** Carol requested a copy of the by laws to be sent to her electronically. Betsy & Beth will help her & Stephanie volunteered also.

**Job description** Committee chairs & officers have been asked to make up a job description before the April meeting and have copies ready to review. President, secretary/newsletter & treasurer/membership have copies ready to proof. Please read and have comments ready before the next meeting in April. (You may e-mail them to Board members to look over early).

**Fundraising** Willette would like to see each club send a basket full of "what ever" to be raffled off at next years banquet. This could be fun. Each club rep should take the idea

[back to their club to see if they want to participate.](#) We will discuss this at the April meeting.

**Old business** For the next meeting we are all to have written committee reports. This should help [speed](#) up the meeting. We are also to look over the job descriptions and bring back comments. Elizabeth motion Willette 2<sup>nd</sup>. All in favor

**Members at large:** We are now looking for one more Member at large. Willette became a member at large at this meeting. Betsy motion Laura 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor

**New Business** Pineland's Stallion Show is March 14<sup>th</sup>. To have an ad & booth space is \$25.00. SMDA will be willing to staff the booth. They requested materials to hand out – membership forms and will sell copies of the Omnibus. Sandy made motion Betsy 2<sup>nd</sup> vote in favor.

Then Willette mentioned it would be nice if MDS had a banner for this kind of events. Sandy is to get price(S) & get back to the Board.

Thank you so much Stephanie Hatcher for all your work on the omnibus. It looks great!!

Next meetings are April 21 at 6:30pm Maine Farm Bureau.  
September 22, 6:30pm at Maine Farm Bureau.  
January 31, 2010 at 10:00am Senator Inn in Augusta

Motion to adjourn at 12:20. Willette motion Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor.

Respectfully,  
Cheryl Peaslee