

## Maine Dressage Society Minutes (DRAFT)

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Call To Order: 6:30 by president Bryn Walsh

Members present:

CMDA: Cheryl Peaslee, Carol Poulin-Taylor, Elisabeth Owens

EMDA: Bryn Walsh, Rebecca Clark, Tammi Brown

SMDA: Gretchen Shantar, Susan Pendleton

WMDEA: Beth Brainerd, Laura Brainerd, Stephanie Hatcher

NMDA: Paula Foote

Secretary's Report – Cheryl Peaslee was presented. Corrections to the January minutes were made as follow;

The cost of the web site and the total of the American Fund were corrected. Motion made to except with corrections Gretchen Shantar 2<sup>nd</sup> by Becky Clark.

Treasurer's Report – Tammi Brown the total checking account balance is \$15775.68. American fund savings account is \$10236.02 balance as of the end of March. (See attached report) Tammi has to do reimbursements to people who are paying late fees. This is causing lots of additional refund checks. Motion was made to have Tammi refund members directly for the over- paid dues. Motion made by Gretchen Shantar 2<sup>nd</sup> Becky Clark. Vote all in favor.

She explained the other items at the bottom of the report. She is willing to send a detailed explanation that Carol Poulin-Taylor requested. A Motion was made to have the break down e-mailed to all Board Members. Motion made by Beth Brainerd and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elizabeth Owens. Vote all in favor.

Membership Report – Tammi Brown membership is 270 down at this time by 95 members. She has made up a form to clear up the miss understanding with the membership forms we now use. She is working on a form for all the clubs to adopt. Bryn Walsh suggested it could look like the OPL form. She will edit the suggestions and bring it back to the next meeting for us to look at and vote on. All forms will on the web site.

Membership cost increase for USDF. The cost to join USDF in 2011 will be \$20.00 per person. This is a \$3.00 increase over this year. Motion was made **not** to change MDS dues in 2011, but revisit it next April, 2011. Motion made by Gretchen Shantar & 2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Owens. Vote all in favor.

### **Committee Reports**

Newsletter – Cheryl Peaslee. The U.S. post office want me to mail it flat not folded. I had example of the envelope to mail in. The cost of the envelopes will be about 4 cents per envelope. We are starting our go green mailing in June. We will have about 20 members to mail to. I also asked for articles from members who are doing something exciting.

Website – Bryn Walsh reported that the updated forms for L Judge and horse registration are on the MDS web site. Some local farms are asking to be on the site and she has photos from L judge B session to put on the Web site. She is also checking on a Maine based site to host our web site. The cost will be around \$90.00 for a year.

Omnibus – Stephanie Hatcher, Tammi Brown Omnibus is in the mail. We need to look for a new printer for next year. December 1<sup>st</sup> is the 2011 Omnibus deadline, for all adds shows and ever thing the clubs wish to have in the Omnibus. Susan Pendleton purposed that we put on web site for 2011 we need help with advertising. Gretchen had a flow chart (see attachment) which outlined what needs to be done and by whom, to get the Omnibus out on time. We then discussed what needs to be in the Omnibus and what can be left out. Show listing, test, advertizing, all need to be in the book. All submissions need to be in Fonts to be in times New Roman size 9 and in a PDF format. Show lists and clinics in doc x, Photos must be in a photo format.

Committees for ads, billing, compilation, distribution, we need one person from each club to help with these committees. Gretchen Shantar estimated based on this year's cost that we need \$3000.00 to have the Omnibus break even. Each club needs to solicit \$400.00 in ads. Beth Brainerd thought committee meetings were great, but they need to have physical meetings not just e-mail meetings.

Committee members as follows; The Editor will be Stephanie Hatcher. Billing will be done by Tammi Brown, Ads (will ask Wendy Brunson?) Research Printers will be done by Becky Clark. Distribution will be headed up by Cheryl Peaslee.

MDS Board members are to take this info back to our clubs. We are also looking for an odd job person to help on the Omnibus.

Bryn was not happy with the quality of the Omnibus ads. She asked for a policy on how to handle complaints on the ads, as well as shows being left out of the Omnibus. How do we handle this? A motion was made to take 50% off ads that are unacceptable for those who paid for the ads. Motion by Becky Clark & 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gretchen Shantar. All were in favor.

Second mailing of shows will be sent out by Bryn Walsh to correct shows missing in the Omnibus.

### **Education-**

L Program- update, budget, attendance numbers, Gretchen Shantar gave us an update.

The income for session A was around \$5000 .00 we have 30 participants to start the program, and about 40 auditors. We lost 2 participants for the B session with an income of \$4295 and Session C should make about the same. The Instructors' have loved what we are doing. A big Thank you went out to Gretchen Shantar for all of her hard work on this program.

Christopher Hess Clinic at Pineland Farms. NEDA has no more details at this time. If MDS wants to help sponsor this clinic we need to send money by the end of July. The monies will encourage relations with NEDA. Motion was made to spend up to \$150.00 to help put on the Christopher Hess clinic. Motion was made by Gretchen Shantar and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Beth Brainerd.

This clinic may be a way to help Adult Amateurs increase involvement, and we need to have progressive riding clinics to help them develop their riding skills.

#### JR/YR

1. Sponsorship- Beth Brainerd (see hand out enclosed) Jr riders, Amateurs Adult, and Pro levels will be eligible for these scholarships. Beth has worked up a draft guide lines for these scholarships. Do we need to set a date that they are due? We need to set a budget? Recipients should be willing to volunteer to speak at a banquet, write an article for the news letter or other publication for receiving the scholarship. MDS needs to set an amount for these scholarships in advance. Beth will bring back a final draft for the next meeting.

Banquet – Beth Brainerd- All she has is the hall expensive. This year's Banquet made \$750.00. It was the largest one to date. She needs to reorder ribbons and medals for this coming year. The 2010 MDS Banquet will be held on the last Sunday in January 2011.

Public Relations- Horses Maine, NEDA articles, Susan Pendleton did the article for the Horses Maine. Thanks so much for the article about the "L" Judge program.

Cheryl will get a wrap-up of the "L" Judge in the June news letter. Susan Pendleton will coordinated a write up for the Horses Maine. Elizabeth Owens volunteered to write an article from the view point of a participant and Carol Poulin-Taylor will write from a Demo riders view point.

The Dressage Foundation fund is having a fund drive. Motion was made not to send a donation this year. Motion made by Carol Poulin-Taylor 2<sup>nd</sup> by Becky Clark

#### New Business

Board members- revisit, recruit update which clubs are correct. A motion was made to have Paula Foote become a Member at Large. Motion was by Becky Clark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tammi Brown. Vote all in favor

Courtney Dye King donation was discussed, Susan Pendleton wants to have EFI riders wear helmets at show especially upper level riders and have an honor system that would let us know they did so. Elizabeth Owens was not in favor of sending money to the Courtney King foundation. Motion was \$10.00 a for each EFI rider who wears a helmet. The motion was not 2<sup>nd</sup>.

MDS to make a rule in 2011, which will require a riding helmet to be worn at EFI shows. When all is said and done, it comes down to a personal choice if they wear a helmet or not. A motion was made for MDS to put a safety helmet ad in the 2011 Omnibus. Motion was made by Carol Poulin-Taylor 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gretchen Shantar.

Discussion on buying Software- adobe, photo-shop

**USDF Convention-** Bryn Walsh would like to represent MDS at the USDF convention in Florida this coming fall. She would like the cost of air fare and the fee to participate. Motion to send Bryn to convention and up to \$1000.00 was made by Stephanie Hatcher and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Becky Clark. All were in favor. Each club need to bring in an item for the basket from Maine.

Next Meetings Proposed: Tuesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> @6:30 PM @ the Maine Farm Bureau in Augusta

Proposed: Sunday, January 23, 2011 @ the Senator Inn @ 10 AM

Motion to Adjourn by Becky Clark and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gretchen Shantar