



NORTHERN MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION
OF WESTERN HORSE CLUBS

February 7th, 2024 Meeting Minutes Northwestern Michigan FairGrounds, Traverse City MI

Present: (circle) Colleen Forton, Erika Sprenger, Wendy Wheelock, Cassie Lijeroos, Rene LeVasseur, Lilly Garno, Alisa Forton, Josh Wilcoxon, Judy Arnold, Roxanne Blumerick, Amy Middaugh

Absent: Rieley Runkel, Stephanie Koby, Amy Middaugh, Roxanne Blumerick, Lilly Garno

Guest(s): HopeAnn Smeltzer

Meeting Called to order 7:04 pm.

President Report– Cassie Liljeroos-Introduction of herself to the board, read the resignation letters from Rieley Runkle and Stephanie Koby, this leaves us with two open board positions. Would like all of our board members to read over and familiarize themselves with our rule book and bylaws. This kind of feels like a rebuilding year for the club, let's all work together to bring people back to our shows and make people feel welcome at our show.

President is the show manager and should be where people go for any problems/concerns at shows. Let's make a form/poster about how to handle issues participants might have at the show. We can place a form outside the show booth. All judges rulings are final as stated in our rule book and on our showbill, but we want to make sure we address all concerns in the proper manner.

Vice President Report – Colleen Forton- Working on judges, need a showbill to send to them. Wendy asked the going rate for judges, \$350-\$500 depending on where they come from. Discussion was made about where the judges stay and what the hotels charge, could we possibly seek out hotels that would give a discounted rate for a sponsorship?

Treasurer Report –Erika Sprenger:

1. Huntington Account Balances as of 1-31-24: Checking \$ 5781.56, Savings, \$ 3709.76
 - o Motion to approve: Wendy, Second by: Colleen

Hope Ann suggested looking into either a roth or cd investment to build interest and give the club some more funds.

Secretary Report- Will need a new secretary

1. January Minutes Review

- o Motion to approve: Erika, Second by: Alisa

Points- Erika Sprenger- Will need help on Friday June 28th getting things set up. Will work with Judy to learn the computer system.

Media-Lilly Garno & Cassie Liljeroos- Rene requested that the show bill be put on facebook as soon as possible, also that meeting minutes be put on the website and the Anna Bays page be updated. Could we revise the sponsorship form so that it is easier to read and a clear jpg for facebook. The current form is hard to read online.

Cassie shared that our facebook reach is up 113%, our content published is up 104%, engagement is up 54% and 12 new followers all in the past 90 days.

The club instagram is up and going as well.

If you would like anything posted on any of the social media, just let Lilly know and she will get it out there. Trying to post at least 1 thing per day.

Youth- Alisa Forton and Lilly Garno-

Alisa has been looking at horse shows for this fall. She has planned for the youth to help with the trail set up on Saturday night.

Alisa made a motion for the \$5 pay to practice trial fee to go to the youth fund. Judy Seconded

Discussion was made about the trail obstacles and if we needed anything updated. The bridge that Hope Ann donated to the club, needs some work. We will get it either to her or someone to help get it updated. Rene offered obstacles from her farm and trail challenges if we need anything.

OLD BUSINESS

Show Bill Clarification- Discussions were had about pros and cons to offering awards for each weekend over a series, or a small weekend award each weekend and then a larger series award. It was voted to offer weekend awards and then a series award as well. Showbill will be updated.

Peewee classes should be renamed w/t 10 & under, we can not make this change at this time as it is written in our rules as peewee. We will make a note on the showbill stating that the peewee is w/t 10 & under.

Possible look at costs for printing showbill on legal size paper vs current size.

Should check with Kwik Print to see if they would be interested in being a showbill sponsor and printing our showbill for a discounted rate with their logo on them.

Show Announcer/Booth Staff- Erika mentioned that the announcer that she was talking with, prices changed and is just over priced for this year. We will look at it again next year.

Need stall cleaners- Lets post on facebook and possibly reach out to MSU to post to all 4-H groups.

Wendy mentioned the announcer for the MECA challenges and she will reach out to her to see if she would be interested in announcing our shows. If they are not interested, we could reach out to Mr. Jansen to see if he would. Offering free camping and lunch to anyone who announces.

We also need a ring steward, Judy said she would be willing to help find someone.

Michigan Horse Council- Tabled to next meeting in order to get more information.

Banquet Review- Possibly out grown Boones, let's all start looking at other options. Everyone had good food and enjoyed themselves. Raffle was a little low this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Open Board Seat- Will have Lilly make a post for two open spots, along with a form for anyone interested to fill out.

Judy made a nomination for Rene to be our new secretary. Rene accepted. Erika will get materials from Rieley and get them to Rene.

Rene made the motion to organize the board members' roles, then form committees for all remaining tasks and duties. These will go in hand with the roles already listed in our by-laws. Colleen seconded

Erika-Northwestern Michigan Fair Sunday grandstand event. \$500 payout to the club and need 8 volunteers to run the booth, do we want to do this again this year? We can open it to our membership to help as well. Need a minimum of 4 adults to take the money. Yes we will do this again this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Awards- Alisa, Roxanne, Rene and Erika would like to be on this committee. Will have a budget to vote on at the next meeting. Colleen has a shilo account if we want to order anything from them.

2. Sponsorship- Erika Sprenger 2 paid so far, let's all work together to get more sponsors. People can pay via Venmo or Paypal as long as they pay using friends and family so we are not charged a fee. Lets create an incentive for our membership to help bring in sponsors. Will have Lilly make a post that anyone who brings in a sponsor between now and the tack sale will be entered into a drawing for a Schneiders gift certificate. Drawing will be done at the tack sale.
3. Banquet-Erika Sprenger and Judy Arnold joined the committee
4. Showbill- Lilly Garno, Alisa Forton, Colleen Forton on this committee
5. Sweepstakes- Committee established- Alisa

ROUND TABLE

- ★ Cassie- Nothing
- ★ Erika- Nothing
- ★ Colleen- Nothing
- ★ Wendy- Club need a photographer for the August show, Erika and Lilly have reached out to Tristyn with Pink Lotus Photography and she committed to being at our show.
- ★ Rene- Nothing
- ★ Alisa-Nothing
- ★ Josh-Nothing
- ★ Roxanne-Absent
- ★ Judy- Would be willing to create a sign up genius for show help. Such as gates, ring steward, and other show needs.
- ★ Amy- Absent
- ★ Lilly-Absent

Meeting Adjourned at 9:28 pm.

NMAWHC January/February 2024 Treasurer Report

Checking Beginning Balance \$6,995.33

Debits

01/05/24		\$28.75	USPS Raffle License
01/05/24	Ck#3081	\$50.00	Raffle License
01/05/24	CK#3082	\$95.60	Rieley Runkle (awards)
01/11/24		\$240.00	Robin Gildner (Patches)
01/16/24		\$190.70	Michaels (Frames)
01/16/24		\$52.93	Harbor Freight (awards)
01/17/24		\$153.80	Blaines (Awards)
01/17/24		\$86.68	Menards (awards)
01/18/24		\$31.24	Olesons (awards)
01/19/24		\$120.20	Kwik Print (banquet)
01/19/24		\$31.20	Trophy Trolley (member of the year)
01/19/24		\$58.70	Walmart
01/19/24		\$224.30	Michaels (frames)
01/22/24		\$367.50	Embroid Me (embroidery)
01/22/24		\$155.00	Going Green (Anna Bays Award)
01/22/24		\$4.44	Menards (Awards)
01/22/24		\$37.08	Family Fare Flowers
01/22/24		\$300.00	Cash Box
01/23/24		\$52.29	Wendy Wheelock (Photos)
01/26/24		\$250.00	Remington Shively (Banquet Cakes)
01/26/24		\$4075.76	Boones

Credits

01/22/24		\$2295.00	Banquet
01/22/24		\$2097.97	Paypal
01/22/24		\$300.00	Cash Box
01/22/24		\$52.68	Walmart Return
01/24/24		\$77.75	Michaels Return
01/26/24		\$554.00	Sponsorship, Michaels Return,

Membership

Checking Ending Balance \$5781.56

Savings Beginning Balance

\$3709.76

Ending Balance

\$3709.76

Banquet Break Down

Blue Tickets	\$920.00
Red Rickets	\$535.00
Meal Tickets #1 \$30	\$390.00
Meal Tickets #2 \$35	\$1610.00
Meal Tickets #3 \$25	\$500.00
Kids Meals	\$195.00
Non Eating Tickets	\$50.00
Family Membership	\$35.00
Adult Membership	\$25.00
Youth Membership	\$40.00
Sponsorship	\$100.00
Total	\$4430.00

Respectfully Submitted by Erika Sprenger 2/7/24