

**Texas Hunter and Jumper Association
Board of Directors Special Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Monday September 10, 2018
Conference Call**

Call to order at 12:05 by Suzanne Warmack.

1. Roll call by Angeleah Cleek.

- Present: Stephen Lang, Colleen Brombach, Linda Moore, Robert Yaffe, Lynn Walsh, Doug Brombach, Katja Kallenberger, Bob Brawley, Matt Cyphert, Kim Cox, Kimberly Brunson, Vicki Hunton, Katie Cox, Suzanne Warmack, Ellen Eakin, Angeleah Cleek, Patty Roberts, Jane Thacker, Amy Uniss-Coleman, Lindsey Black, and Gayle O'Rear.
- Absent/excused: Brittany Hildebrand

2. Reading of the meeting minutes from April 3rd Rules Meeting.

- Stephen Lang moved to waive the reading of the minutes. Lynn Walsh seconded the motion. All were in favor.

3. Report of the Finance Committee by Linda Moore.

- Linda Moore provided a fiscal year-to-date profit and loss statement through August 31, 2018. She reported that THJA revenues are down compared to prior years. She is seeing a declining trend of approximately \$10,000 per year.
- Linda Moore moved to close THJA's jumbo CD account at Prosperity Bank and place half the funds in a new CD and allocate the remaining half to operating funds. Doug Brombach seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Suzanne Warmack reported that THJA has submitted the appropriate application to the USEF for permission to charge a \$3 competition fee to all entries at THJA recognized shows. She requested confirmation that the proposed purpose of the fee was for clinics and other educational opportunities for members. All were in agreement. Colleen Brombach suggested that THJA could host a clinic at the banquet. Additionally, THJA's Sponsorship Committee is already in the practice of awarding sponsorships for educational opportunities. As such, this purpose could be fulfilled without significantly increasing expenditures.
- In following up on the motion made at the last meeting to hire a tax attorney to assist THJA in the change to 501(c)(3) status, Suzanne Warmack reported that she spoke with Jerry Converse and another colleague in the non-profit world. These individuals recommended applying as a newly formed entity rather than changing status. Jane Thacker and Doug Brombach both indicated that they had some experience with this type of status change and volunteered to assist in exploring the possibility of a status change without forming a new entity.

4. Report of the Rule Book Committee by Jane Thacker.

- As part of a follow up on previously approved rule book updates, Jane Thacker requested an editable version of the rule book. Robert Yaffe agreed to send it to her in a Word document.

5. Report of the Nominating Committee by Katja Kallenberger.

- The following were not present at the last meeting to confirm their intent to renew their expiring positions:
 - 10AL – Matt Cyphert
 - 19AL – Jane Thacker
 - 22AL – Lindsey Black
- Katja Kallenberger reported that the directors in the expiring positions intend to renew their positions.
- Stephen Lang has submitted notice that he will be moving to Emeritus status. Suzanne Warmack will be moved from an At-Large position to Stephen's Central Region position. This will leave a vacant At-Large position.
- As Trapp O'Neal and Jessica Harries have both resigned, there is also a vacant Southern Region position and another vacant At-Large position.
- Katja Kallenberger indicated that Annie Kartsotis has submitted her resume and is interested in joining the board. Katja moved to nominate Annie for an At-Large position. Doug Brombach seconded the motion. All were in favor.
- Vicki Hunton indicated that Sharon Soderquist has also expressed interest in joining the board. Vicki agreed to send Katja Kallenberger Sharon's contact information.
- Lindsey Black suggested inviting a vet to join the board. As Gustavo De Cillo is involved in many of the horse shows, the board agreed to invite him to join THJA and the board. Patty Roberts agreed to reach out to him.

(Note: later in the meeting, Patty reported that she received text confirmation from Gustavo that he is interested in becoming a THJA member and a board member.)

6. Report of the Prize List Review Committee by Linda Moore and Gayle O'Rear.

- Linda Moore reported that all shows for next show year have been applied for, with the exception of Robert Barton's shows, and that the committee has four prize lists to review for the current show year.

7. Report of the Exhibitor Show Standards Committee by Lynn Walsh and Colleen Brombach.

- Lynn Walsh and Colleen Brombach both reported that they have not received complaints regarding show standards. Both also reported receiving many positive reports regarding Great Southwest Equestrian Center's efforts to improve its facilities and horse shows.
- Suzanne Warmack requested any available information regarding show attendance. Lynn Walsh stated that Pin Oak attendance was consistent with prior years, and Kimberly Brunson indicated shows in Tyler have had the same or larger attendance.

- This sparked discussion on the apparent disconnect between consistent show attendance and declining THJA membership. Amy Uniss-Coleman suggested exploring the idea of collaborating with surrounding state organizations to recognize points earned at shows in those states and to encourage membership across all organizations involved.
- Linda Moore pointed out that the surrounding state organizations would need to have rules and reporting mechanisms that were compatible with THJA's.
- Bob Brawley shared that Oregon and Washington state organizations share memberships. Committees were formed on each side to align the organizations' rules and specifications. He reported that this has been extremely successful, and that it has also drawn members to participate in both organizations' banquets. Bob volunteered to reach out to surrounding associations to gauge their interest in this idea. Patty Roberts and Katja Kallenberger volunteered to assist.

8. Report of the Sponsorship Committee by Patty Roberts.

- Patty Roberts reported that the clinic concept discussed in previous meetings has not materialized. She also reported that although the Sponsorship Committee has received requests from WCHR and Zone Finals, the committee has suspended awarding sponsorship funds.

9. Report on the Web Site and Information Systems by Robert Yaffe.

- Robert Yaffe reported that he moved the website to a new internet service provider.

10. Report on USEF and USHJA News by Lynn Walsh and Patty Roberts.

- Lynn Walsh reminded that, beginning in the 2019 show year, all adult competing members, owners, and trainers will be required to take Safe Sport training.
- Lynn Walsh also reported on discussions within USHJA regarding the prevalence of Premier rated horse shows. Many shows have stepped up to meet the increased standards for Premier shows, but USHJA believes too many shows are receiving Premier ratings. The USHJA is considering a standard for Premier rating that examines the number of "A" rated sections that fill at the show. She indicated that the idea will be presented at this year's annual meeting for feedback from the membership.

11. Report of the Membership Committee.

- As part of a follow up regarding previously discussed trainer membership incentives, Doug Brombach discussed a prior incentive in which THJA conducted a drawing for a cruise for trainers. The drawing was intended to recognize trainers, encourage them to be THJA members, and incentivize them to attend the banquet. Trainers were required to be present at the banquet when the drawing winner was announced. Doug indicated that the idea was well-received, and the banquet was well-attended that year.
- Doug Brombach moved that the board approve a budget of \$1,500 toward a trainer cruise to be awarded annually to a trainer present at the banquet. Vicki Hunton seconded. All were in favor. Colleen Brombach volunteered to research available cruises for this year's award.

12. Report on the THJA Annual Awards Banquet by Suzanne Warmack.

- Suzanne Warmack confirmed the location of this year's banquet as the Bob Bullock Texas History Museum and discussed developing plans for entertainment, menu, and a raffle. Vicki Hunton volunteered to assist in encouraging trainers to contribute barn baskets to this year's raffle.

13. Other agenda items:

- a. Follow up on High-Point Award presentation at Pin Oak II 2019 by Lindsey Black.
- b. Status of THJA merchandise by AJ Design by Lindsey Black.
 - Lindsey Black had to leave the conference call, so items a. and b. were not discussed.
- c. Status of continued research, editorial, and interest in advertising for potential new version of the In & Out by Suzanne Warmack.
 - Suzanne indicated that she has spoken with many people, including advertisers, who are very interested in rejuvenating the In & Out. The group agreed that the publication would be called "THJA News" and that the inaugural issue would be launched at this year's banquet.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 5th at 8:30 AM at the AT&T Conference Center in Austin, TX.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 PM.