

BOD Meeting August 23, 2023

Call to order by **President Anne Murphy at 7:02 pm.**

Roll call: **An attendance chart is in the meeting packet.**

Minutes from July 26, 2023:

- Motion made by Ron to approve the July 26 minutes, seconded by Floyd. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- The financial report is in the meeting packet. Nothing new to report.
- Nancy moves to accept the financial report as presented; seconded by Floyd. Passed.

Legislative report:

- Jolene discussed the training and use of Humane officers in Wisconsin. Humane officers investigate complaints on animals, abuse, bites, hoarding and other situations.
- The registration for Humane officers is now open to interested people. There is an initial training for Humane officers and then continuous education classes are required each year.
- A discussion was held on how in the past the Equine Foundation sponsored some continuous education classes for Human officers in horse handling and large animal rescues. The classes were offered in different districts and at the Midwest Horse Fair.
- Jolene will be at the September meeting in person to present the brochure she is working on along with a template letter for directors to send to their appropriate legislator to introduce yourself as an equine advocate.
- Dana read an email from someone who reached out to him regarding some property with conditional use permits. If anyone has any resources to help with this question, they should contact Dana and he will respond to the email appropriately. Lila stated that this person would need to go to her county board for direction on this situation.

Midwest Horse Fair Report:

- A report was included in the meeting packet; nothing additional to report.

PR Committee Update:

- The PR group will be at the following events:
 - State 4 H horse show on Sept 16- West Allis
 - WIHA (Wisconsin Interscholastic Horsemanship Association) is Oct 27-29- Madison.
 - Caroline Trail ride on Sept 29- Oct 1
 - Anyone interested in helping at any of these events should contact Bonnie.
 - PR is starting to order some prizes for the 'spin-the-wheel' game at MHF. If anyone has any equine toys in good shape to donate, let Bonnie know.

Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:

- Redesign of the WHC logo & Name Discussion- Logan Sechler:
 - There is no new information. The committee has the new log designs; they will be presented at the September meeting.
- Determine the needs of the Equine Industry update- Anne Murphy:
 - There has been a slow response with the retail survey; only seven retailers responded. 80 postcards were sent out to retailers with information on how to access the survey; seven cards were returned as not being deliverable. It was a challenge to send out a mass email due to spam and phishing filters, so the post cards were used to communicate to retailers about the survey.
- Youth Initiative Discussion- Anne Murphy:
 - Anne has not gotten through to 4-H yet. They are working on the POA group. Cricket reported the 10-15 Tennessee Walker group youth will be joining WHC through this youth program.
- Reevaluate District Functions- Katie Bachhuber:
 - Katie has reached out to two other people who are interested in helping with this issue. A meeting will be set up in the next few weeks with the committee and a report will be presented at a future meeting.
- Research Potential of Executive Director or PT Marketing Individual:
 - There was no report as this issue was put on hold last month due to the WHC's consideration in hiring a CPA to assist with the financial reporting and processes of the organization.

Old Business

Coalition of State Horse Council's Fall Meeting Update- Nancy Edwards:

- The meeting that was to be held in November in Wisconsin will not happen due to lack of interest. In place of this three day meeting, there will be a regular fall one-day meeting on November 10 (this date may change).

Committee Volunteer Discussion- Anne Murphy:

- Anne reached out to different committees and asked for the name of the committee chairperson. Anne announced all of the chairpersons that were reported back to her but there are still some committees without a chairperson.

AHC Representative Update:

- Nancy Edwards will be the primary representative with Anne Murphy being the alternate.

New Business**Proposed Bylaw Submission First Review and Discussion:**

- There are six proposed changes in the meeting packet. These proposed changes are:
 - Article VIII- Committees, Boards & Events; Section 2- MHF: The Chair of the MHF will respond as soon as possible to any queries and/or other information sent by WHC BOD members. (New addition)
 - Article VIII- Committees, Boards & Events; Section 2- MHF: Change the name of the MHF Board to MHF Executive Committee
 - Amendments: Change the bylaw submission wording from 30 days prior to the March & September monthly BOD meeting to state: Notice shall be given by the 15th of February and the 15th of August.
 - Article V- Management; Section 2- Executive Board- Add Treasurer to this section.
 - Article VI- Duties of the Officers; Section 3- Secretary: Add Secretary shall keep minutes for the EBOD and the BOD. (BOD is not currently stated in the bylaws)
 - Article VI- Duties of the Officers; Section 3- Secretary: Add- "and on occasion any other meeting if requested by Officers or Committee Chairs, depending on the availability of the Secretary.
- A discussion followed.
 - Jim Harris stated the definition of a board and a committee. Jim also read part of the by-laws and why the MHF is a board and not a committee.
 - The treasurer does not need to be a director so therefore is an ad-hoc person on the EBOD. The omission of Treasurer as part of the EBOD was done on purpose due to this fact.
 - The omission of the Secretary having to take notes at the BOD meeting was also done deliberately.
- Lee motions that all of by-law submissions that are presented in the meeting packet are viewed as discussion topics and not by-law changes; seconded by Nancy. Passed. These topics will be discussed in more detail in upcoming meetings.

Other:

- AHC Survey- please complete before 9/29/23.
- Point of interest: DNR annual permits may be moved to date of purchase and not calendar year. If this passes, it may go into effect on January 1, 2024.
- Tara Leroy is the president in district 4 and she reported that district 4 is going to provide two sponsorships in their district for the equine community.
- The new Smartboard technology has been very hard to hear tonight. Directors who are on the Zoom call had a hard time hearing anyone in the office and the directors in the office could not hear those on Zoom. Darla will contact the vendor we purchased the board from and troubleshoot and find a better mic and speakers, so communications are improved.

Future Meeting Dates:

- September 27, 2023
- October 25, 2023
- November & December- no meeting

Motion made by Scott and seconded by Floyd to adjourn at 8:13 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary