

MHRI Board meeting
Wednesday February 1, 2017
Perkins -Lakeville

Present: Ron Banks, Mark Corless, Bob Lems, Ulf Holm Johansen, Greg Budach, Jessica Johnson, Rick Magee, Cindy Ivy, Vern Devine, Michael Banitt, Justin Anfinson (Rick, & Jessica attended Via Skype), and Dan Poprawski

Absent:

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Agenda- Mark moved, & Vern 2nd to approve the agenda.

Minutes: Justin moved to approve the minutes from 1/3/17 as amended which was 2nd by Mark & carried.

Treasurer's report: Vern moved & Mark 2nd the treasures report for 2/1/17 & it carried.

Executive secretaries report: Dan mentioned that he had sent out all of the 1099's as required as well as ballets to all paid members from 2016 & 2017.

He talked about the Twin Spires ADW contract & that it has been signed by both tracks & approved by the commission. Express bet was finalized at the last minute.

Dan then pointed out that included in our packet is the report on purses for 2017; we are up over \$126,000 over the same period last year. Dan will head to Las Vegas for the annual HHI convention on Sunday February 26th. He also mentioned that we need to start thinking about a judge for our county fairs.

Marketing update: Jessica mentioned that they have met with Running Aces and are planning some open houses, and have changed "Owner for a Day" to "Ownership Experience". Winners of a betting contest will participate. Charity night & Dan Patch day are being planned again but we don't have the dates yet. We plan to do jog cart rides on Saturdays & Sundays again this year. The team is looking into bigger & better prizes for finals night this year.

We discussed the proposed Bonus program at length. Dan distributed an outline reviewing the suggested bonuses. Cal Expo horses with a minimum of 10 starts at Cal Expo would get 10% bonus for any win at Aces. There were other bonuses proposed including Frasier downs that we discussed. We made a phone call to Ben Bluhm to discuss the proposal & the changes we felt it needed. He agreed to cap the Cal Expo horses at \$1500 & to eliminate the 5% bonus for Cal Expo horses with less than 10 starts. He also agreed to eliminate the bonus for Frasier downs horses & increase the Minnesota owned bonus from 5% to 10% with a cap of \$2500.

There will be no cap on Minnesota Bred horses. Dan will revise the proposal reflecting our wishes. Ulf moved which was 2nd by Bob for Dan to get the revised version to Ben tomorrow. Motion carried.

We discussed raising money to support the fairs. Mark made a motion that all owners & trainers must be members of MHRI to be eligible for stall reimbursement at Aces 2nd by Jessica & carried.

We discussed the need to vote on the \$70,000 that the MRC has offered for county fair racing to extend our season. Bob moved to accept the MRC proposal for \$70,000 for each of the next 2 years to fund county fair purses, 2nd by Vern & carried 10:1.

MHRI Board meeting
Wednesday February 1, 2017
Perkins -Lakeville

Website discussion: everyone has had an opportunity to view the proposed new website layout & with no objections we will move forward.

Dan mentioned the points system & valuation for awards makes no allowance for class. We may want to look at this for future discussion at meetings.

Annual meeting is set and ballots and notices have been mailed out for February 25th. The agenda will remain similar to last year.

Ron Pierce has agreed to come & be our guest speaker.

Michael moved to adjourn 2nd by Justin & carried

The next meeting to be determined at the annual meeting.

MHRI Board meeting
Wednesday February 1, 2017
Perkins -Lakeville