

MHRI Board meeting
Sunday, July 17, 2016
Running Aces Horsemen's room

Present: Mark Corless, Bob Lems, Michael Banitt, Ulf Holm Johansen, Greg Budach, Jessica Johnson, Vern Devine, Rick Magee Cindy Ivy, Justin Anfinson, and Dan Poprawski

Absent: Ron Banks

Justin moved to adopt the agenda which was 2nd by Jessica & carried.

Review of minutes Mark moved to approve the amended minutes 2nd by Michael & carried.

Treasurer's report by Greg Budach with a motion to approve after adjusting for the missing Wayne Oke check for \$400 by Mark, 2nd by Vern & carried.

Ben from Running Aces visited with the board to start open discussion regarding the 2017 dates which need to be in by October. He proposed the idea of a fall meet at Running Aces in 2017 to help extend our season. He suggested a "Fall Festival" and was open to any suggestions for time of day, conditions etc. This would all be in the event that the commission will not allow us funding for fall county fair extended meet racing. The weekend only racing would help tremendously with the cost and would still be pari-mutual but with conditions more like we see at the fairs & more relaxed qualifying times etc.

Ben mentioned the idea of partnering with California & Cal Expo, offering a bonus or incentives for those horses that race at least 75% of the meet here earning bonus money when they get out there. The reverse would also be effective here. It would be a way to compete with those going to Illinois where they are paid for shipping in as well as no stall rent. Ben mentioned that extra money dedicated for Minnesota bred's if not spent will be carried over to next year. He made some suggestions for how to allocate the extra money available this year to create incentives for fuller fields & extra money for splits.

We spoke briefly about the number of horses not getting in to race currently at Running Aces and how to make adjustments so that doesn't happen. We also discussed next year on the 4th of July that we have no races other than for 2 & 3 year olds. Mark also mentioned that he had talked with the president of the St. Peter fair about not racing on Wednesday next year. He told him it wouldn't be an option. They will have to race on Thursday if they want racing. They also won't have an ambulance on site but will have paramedics. Horses being entered & not getting in will not be penalized for racing at the fairs.

We discussed the extra money available for Mn. Breds and how to best spend it. Adding it to fuller fields as well as bumping the purses for finals night. Dan had put together a proposal for increasing purses based on field size and splits.

We need to come up with a plan on what we're presenting to the commission regarding fairs for next year.

Cindy asked about a Hambletonian party. Dan will work to organize a party with food in the horsemen's lounge.

Jessica moved to approve Dan's proposal as presented for the remainder of the 2016 season which was 2nd by Justin & carried.

Next meeting Monday July 25th 7:00 p.m. at Running Aces horsemen's lounge.

Justin moved to adjourn 2nd by Jessica & carried

MHRI Board meeting
Sunday, July 17, 2016
Running Aces Horsemen's room