

BOD Meeting September 27, 2023

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

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

Minutes from August 23, 2023:

- Motion made by Ron to approve the August minutes, seconded by Gail. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

- The financial report was available at the meeting.
- The review is still moving forward; Ron and Darla are sending the information to the auditors. The auditors have not confirmed that they will have the review completed by the October meeting.
- Scott moves to accept the financial report as presented; seconded by Dana. Passed.

Legislative report:

- Jolene said there is no movement on the 'buggy bill'. If/when a hearing is scheduled, we will need to get people to the capital to talk against the bill.
- Jolene discussed the process of sending letters and brochures to our state legislatures in our districts and introduce ourselves as horse owners and the impact of equine in the state of Wisconsin. Brochures and sample letters were presented at the meeting. Darla will send the sample letter out to WHC directors via email in a word document so we can customize it before sending it out.
- To find out who to mail the brochures and letters to directors can go to this website: legis.wi.gov. Once you get to the site, there is a tab titled '**who is your legislature**' and you will see who to mail the letters to. The letters should be sent to the state capital to the appropriate legislature person. (if you click on the name of the legislator, their capital address will pop up)

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:
 - The State 4-H show was attended last week- it was a nice event.
 - WIHA (Wisconsin Interscholastic Horsemanship Association) is Oct 27-29- Madison.
 - Colorama Trail ride on Sept 29- Oct 1- Nancy and Bonnie will be attending.
 - Wisconsin Farm Tech Days 2024- Cadott WI (near Eau Claire) in August. Katie has reached out to some District 1 members who may be interested in attending this event.

Long-range Planning (LRP) Reports:

- Determine the needs of the Equine Industry update- Anne Murphy:
 - This is still a work in progress. There has been very little response from equine retailers.
 - WEPA had a business meeting last week and announced that the organization will become inactive but still support the veterinarians in the state.
 - Anne attended a continuing education program at the Epic campus representing Equine Foundation and the WHC. Anne had a positive experience with the attending veterinarians who attended.
- Youth Initiative Discussion- Anne Murphy:
 - Very few youth applications have been submitted.
 - Logan and Dana suggested a survey be created for youth to find out what they 'want' from WHC. A suggestion was made to create a work group to look at getting the youth more involved with the WHC.
 - Several people at the meeting volunteered to be in the workgroup: Cheryl, Heather, Logan, Bonnie and Nancy; Cara and Kristina may also help as time permits.
- Reevaluate District Functions- Katie Bachhuber:
 - There is a zoom meeting tomorrow night, Sept 28, with people from all the districts to get districts that have been inactive reactivated. Lila has volunteered to be the chair of this committee.

Old Business

- **Committee chairs:**
 - Lila asked if there is a chair for each committee. Most committees have chairs but not all.
 - Mike Kroll, chair of the membership committee welcomed the two new directors to the group.
 - Pat Stevenson will be the new chair of the awards committee.
 - Nancy will be chair of the Long-range planning committee.
 - Dana volunteered to be chair for the bylaw committees.
 - Policies/procedures committee is still open for a chair.

- Lila would also like each committee to report monthly to the BOD. Committees will be listed on the meeting agenda going forward and reports will be presented at the monthly meetings.

New Business

- **UW Vet School Dean's Luncheon Recap- Anne Murphy:**
 - Anne attended the luncheon with the vet school. The meeting was educational. The veterinarian school is expanding to allow more people to graduate as veterinarians.

Other:

- AHC Survey- please complete before 9/29/23.
- Central Sand Hills project may put horse trails and camping at Devil State Park. Cricket would like all the directors to comment on the master plans to support horse trails and camping at Devil's state park. The master plans were sent out to directors in August for review.
- The EBOD has brought forward a proposal to move the scholarships from WHC to the Equine Foundation (EF). The scholarship program would still be supported financially by the WHC. The scholarship committee would need to be under the EF and would no longer be a WHC committee. The money for scholarships would be included in the EF budget requests if the move is approved.
 - Nancy motions that WHC moves scholarship funding to the Equine Foundation beginning July 1, 2024, Gail seconds motion. Passed.
 - The WHC bylaws would need to be adjusted if the scholarship committee is moved to EF.

Future Meeting Dates:

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

Motion made by Ron and seconded by Jill to adjourn at 8:49 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Jill Feller
WHC Secretary