



AMERICAN SADDLEBRED HORSE ASSOCIATION MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

February 14 and 16, 2013

A regularly-scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the American Saddlebred Horse Association was held on Thursday, February 14, 2013, commencing at 4:00 p.m. EST, and on Saturday, February 16, 2013, commencing at 2 p.m. EST, pursuant to written notice dated February 4, 2013. All Directors of the Board were present in person at this meeting, namely: Betsy Boone; Randy Cates; Redd Crabtree; Bret Day; Bob Funkhouser; Chuck Herbert; Carl Holden; Germaine Johnson; Margaret McNeese; Tandy Patrick; David Rudder; Kenny Wheeler; and Bill Whitley. The group thanked retiring board members Minna Hankin, Bill Marple, Scotty Matton, Lisa Siderman, and Judy Werner for their service, and presented retiring board members with a commemorative gift. The group welcomed incoming board members Jackie Hale, Stacey Kipper, Holly Nichols, Leslie Rainbolt-Forbes, and Janet Thompson, as well as returning board member Chuck Herbert. Karen Winn, the Executive Director of the ASHA; Lisa Duncan, Registrar of the American Saddlebred Registry; Scarlet Hall, the Controller of the ASHA; Cynthia Lowell, the Communications and Technology Manager of the ASHA; Fred Sarver, the saddlebred representative on the Kentucky State Fair Board; Joellen Blout, representing the American Saddlebred Museum; and Ashley Hallock, Young Professionals representative, were also present.

The meeting then proceeded as follows:

1. QUORUM; ADOPTION OF AGENDA; MINUTES. Tandy announced that there was a quorum for the meeting. Upon Motion made by Redd Crabtree and seconded by Chuck Herbert, the Board approved the proposed Agenda for the meeting. Upon Motion made by Bill Whitley and seconded by Chuck Herbert, the Board approved and ratified the Minutes from the October 30/31, 2012 Board Meeting.

2. WCHS. Fred Sarver reported that the new President of the Kentucky State Fair Board, Clifford “Rip” Rippitoe, would be in attendance for our WCHS Roundtable at the 2013 ASHA Convention, and he mentioned that the big 2013 Farm Machinery Show was currently underway at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds. He explained that Junior Park and Junior Park Championship classes have been added to this year’s WCHS, and that entrants will be required to qualify to show in these classes. The group discussed the possibility of ‘expanding’ the WCHS by an additional day (or two), and suggested to Fred that the WCHS could commence on the Friday or Saturday before the commencement of the State Fair. A Task Force comprised of Redd Crabtree, Kenny Wheeler, Chuck Herbert, Bret Day, Tandy Patrick and Bob Funkhouser will discuss this further.

3. MUSEUM. Joellen Blount mentioned the Museum's Friday evening reception which would celebrate the opening of the Museum's new exhibit, "The Art of Selling with Saddlebreds", and she also mentioned the deadline of March 25 for submission of items to the Museum's 8th Annual Art Auction to be held in July. Joellen also reported on the Museum's young adults art contest, as well as new fund-raising efforts for which commemorative plaques recognizing donors will be placed around the walls of the Museum.

4. UPHA. Bret Day reported on the successful 2013 UPHA Convention held at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, where over 400 were in attendance for the Saturday night dinner. The 2014 UPHA Convention will be held at the Intercontinental Hotel in Chicago, and the exploratory committee continues to discuss a possible "joint" convention in 2015.

5. YOUNG PROFESSIONALS. The Board commended Ashley Hallock for being in attendance at our meeting. Ashley discussed the need to develop the concept of a "lifestyle" rather than just a sport, and the need to make horse shows "fun" for young people. Bret Day noted the lack of young people who are involved in the breeding of horses, and the need to foster and encourage younger folks to become involved in breeding.

6. REPORT FROM REGISTRY. Lisa Duncan reported that 2012 registrations were down about 3% from last year; transfers were down about 1.6%; but foal crop registration was up by 6.7%. She also reported that stallion service reports declined by 17% from the prior year, and that breedings were corresponding down by 16%.

Lisa also reported that the Registry was working on mechanics for online registrations, transfers and signatures; and she explained that the Registry may need to implement charges for items such as notices of liens on horses (for which the Registry has not previously charged, but which require time and attention from Registry staff). The Registry continues to work with the Australian saddlebred registry in an attempt to coordinate registration (DNA sharing is an issue). Lisa reported on new Registry programs, namely the "Faithful Friends – Wall of Honor" recognition of favorite horses (the proceeds of which will help fund the Technology/Computer Upgrade Project), and the "MareHarmony" program which will be up and running very soon, with information on broodmares that are available for lease.

Lisa noted that the final Grand National payoff checks will be mailed out in early March; we are encouraging recipients to donate their proceeds to the "Faithful Friends" program.

7. FINANCIALS. Treasurer Carl Holden presented year-end financial statements to the Board, and was pleased to report that unaudited reports showed a net income of \$29,000 for 2012, compared to an operating loss of \$229,000 in 2011. Carl also shared a report from Merrill Lynch on the ASHA's investment accounts, showing appreciation of 14.7%. The annual audit will be conducted at the end of February, and we expect that the ASHA Audit Committee will receive the report in late April, to be presented to the Board at our July meeting.

Carl also presented the proposed budget for 2013 to the Board, with pro forma net income of \$66,000 in 2013. Following discussion, upon motion made by Redd Crabtree and seconded by Bob Funkhouser, the Board voted to approve the 2013 Budget, subject to any exceptions or changes necessitated by the audit.

8. REPORT FROM YOUTH COMMITTEE. Youth Committee Chair Germaine Johnson reported that eight different scrapbooks had been prepared by different youth clubs which she shared with the Board, and she described various youth activities that would take place at the Convention. The group suggested the possibility of a link to a Web page for kids on our ASHA Web site. Germaine also mentioned the very successful golf-cart decorating contest at the WCHS.

9. PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Tandy distributed annual conflict of interest statements which all Directors signed and returned. The group agreed that we will sell our suite and tickets for the WCHS for 2013 (with the hopes that we will be able to afford to keep this for ASHA use in future years). Tandy explained that a meeting was scheduled with ASHA staff next week to revise and clarify the ASHA's document retention policy; also, that all ASHA Committees are being 'repopulated' for the coming year. She also presented a summary of 2012 donations to the ASHA, and stressed the need for 100% participation by board members going forward.

The Board discussed election of new Directors in 2013 (to take office in 2014); following discussion, upon motion made by Germaine Johnson and seconded by Randy Cates, the Board unanimously agreed that voting for new Directors will take place November 1 – 30, 2013, both electronically and 'by hand', and that we will accelerate the schedule for selection of new Directors accordingly.

10. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT. Karen reported on fundraising for our new technology project, including the awarding of a \$6,772 grant from the USEF. Karen also reported that our year-end membership number was 6,996 members, which represented a 5.9% increase over 2012, and Karen explained that approximately half of the votes received for new Directors was via online voting, with the other half by paper ballots.

11. BYLAW REVISIONS. The Board reviewed various proposed changes to the ASHA Bylaws presented by Tandy, which were consistent with discussions of the Board at our October Board Meeting. Following review and consideration of the proposed changes, upon motion made by Chuck Herbert and seconded by Redd Crabtree, the revisions to the ASHA Bylaws were unanimously approved. The new Bylaws will be posted on the ASHA's Web site.

12. YEAR-END AWARDS. The Board reviewed changes to the specifications for the ASHA's Year-End Awards, presented by Tandy. Following review and consideration of the proposed changes, upon motion made by Betsy Boone and seconded by Scott Matton, the revisions to the ASHA's Year-End Awards specifications were unanimously approved. The new Year-End Specifications will be posted on the ASHA's Web site.

13. 2013 MEETING SCHEDULE. Upon motion made by Redd Crabtree and seconded by Bob Funkhouser, the Board unanimously approved the proposed schedule of Board and Executive Committee meetings for 2013.

14. ELECTIONS. Bill Marple, Chair of the Nominating Committee for Officers, presented the proposed slate of ASHA Officers, Executive Committee Members, and Registry Board members for 2013. Upon motion made by Carl Holden and seconded by Randy Cates, the Board unanimously approved the election of the following officers of the ASHA for 2013:

Tandy Patrick, President; Bob Funkhouser, Vice President; Betsy Boone, Secretary; and Bill Whitley, Treasurer. Upon motion made by Kenny Wheeler and seconded by Bill Whitley, the Board unanimously approved the election of Randy Cates, Margaret McNeese, and David Rudder as additional members of the Executive Committee. Upon motion made by Bob Funkhouser and seconded by Bill Whitley, the Board unanimously approved the election of the following individuals as members of the board of the American Saddlebred Registry for 2013: Redd Crabtree; Brian Curran; Chuck Herbert; Carl Holden; Gail Kline; Scott Matton; Margaret McNeese; Kim Skipton; Janet Thompson; Judy Werner; and Kenny Wheeler.

The Board then voted on three directors to serve as the Nominating Committee for Officers, in accordance with the new ASHA Bylaws. Upon motion made by Bill Whitley and seconded by Randy Cates, the Board unanimously elected Chuck Herbert, David Rudder, and Kenny Wheeler to serve on this Committee. The Board then accepted nominations for two Directors to serve on the Nominating Committee for Directors. Following voting by secret ballot, the Board elected Holly Nichols and Leslie Rainbolt-Forbes to serve on this Committee.

15. FIRST TIMER PROGRAM. Director Randy Cates reported on plans for continuance of this successful program at the 2013 WCHS. Upon motion made by Chuck Herbert and seconded by Carl Holden, the Board unanimously voted to provide a free membership to the ASHA for any “First Timers” who were not already members of the ASHA (this would be for the period September – December, 2013).

16. 2013 CONVENTION. The group discussed various aspects of the Convention, and agreed to focus on increasing attendance at the 2014 Convention.

17. NEW BUSINESS. The Breeders’ Committee made a recommendation that the 4 year old sweepstakes classes at the WCHS in three-gaited, five-gaited, and fine harness divisions would count towards the Breeders Hall of Fame Award, and that winners of the three-gaited and five-gaited pony classes would count towards the Broodmare Hall of Fame Award. Upon motion made by Bill Whitley and seconded by Germaine Johnson, the Board unanimously approved these changes.

Redd Crabtree suggested that the ASHA Board should recommend drug and alcohol testing for exhibitors at USEF shows (which would specifically exclude any prescription drugs). A group composed of Germaine Johnson, Margaret McNeese, Leslie Rainbolt-Forbes, and Janet Thompson agreed to review this.

Kenny Wheeler shared the exciting idea of having a ‘celebrity class’ at Devon, where winning hunt seat riders would ride winning Saddlebred horses in a special exhibition class. The Board noted that perhaps this could be duplicated at the National Horse Show in November, as well. A suggestion was made that we should add a “park pleasure amateur” division to the state pleasure awards; the Board agreed that we would need more information on numbers of entrants from Susan Harris before further discussions on this. Karen presented a proposal from US Rider (a sort of “Triple A” for horse trailers); the Board pointed out that this program was not available for commercial haulers, and expressed a desire to have US Rider as a corporate sponsor rather than the proposed corporate “partner” where the ASHA would receive a portion of fees received from folks who signed up for the US Rider program. Betsy explained the desire of the Riding

Lesson/Instructor Committee to formulate a “Riding Program Council” with representatives from various locations across the US, and encouraged the Board to assist in soliciting folks for this Council.

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION. The Board went into Executive Session, to discuss personnel matters.

19. ADJOURNMENT; NEXT MEETING. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m. on Saturday, February 16, 2013. The next regularly-scheduled in person meeting of the Board will be on Tuesday, July 9th, at 11:30 a.m. There will be telephonic conference calls of the Executive Committee, and Board members are urged to participate in these also, on the second Monday of each month starting at 5:30 p.m. Eastern time; upcoming calls will be on March 11, April 8, May 13, and June 10.

Submitted by:

Tandy Patrick, President
American Saddlebred Horse Association