



VQHA BOD Meeting

Williamsburg, VA

Friday, January 28, 2022

Attendance

Suzanne Gonzales, VQHA President

Tim Cohill, VQHA Vice President

Laura Boardwine, VQHA Treasurer

Carolyn Merritt, VQHA Secretary

Jeaneane Griffin, VQHA Central Region Director

Steve Meadows, VQHA Past President

Loretta Tozer, VQHA Director at Large and banquet Committee Director

Clearance Green, VQHA Honorary Director

Shay Nicely, VQHA Bylaws Committee Director and Webmaster

Cory Balsis, VQHA Points and Membership Officer

Lisa Vignerot, VQHA Director at Large and VA Bred Director

Kevin Babcock, VQHA Northern Region Director

Cathette Plumer, VQHA AQHA Programs Director

Matt Guthro, VQHA Director at large

Beth Guthro, VQHA Youth Director

Eddie Faulk,

Todd Hulings, VQHA Ways and Means Director

Jessica Hendrickson, VQHA Awards Committee Director

Becky Meadows, VQHA Shenandoah Region Director

Julie Rogers,

Charlie Rogers, VQHA South Central Region Director

Suzanne called the meeting to order at 7:12pm and thanked everyone for coming out. She requested that everyone keep their reports brief as there is a lot to cover in the meeting.

A roster was passed around for sign in for attendance.

Loretta Tozer thanked everyone for coming out to the banquet and hopes that it will be a great experience.

A motion was made by Lisa Vignerot to approve the audio recorded meeting minutes from the previous meeting, which was seconded by Jeaneene Griffin, and the motion carried.

Laura Boardwine passed out bank statements and breakdowns and asked if anyone had any questions about the spreadsheets. The general account is in the best shape it has been in a while and she thanked everyone for their efforts to get it looking so good. The horse show account has a net of approx. \$8,500. There are a few more bills for the banquet but should still be sitting well. 1099's are done, and taxes are due May 15th, 2022. Clearance Green made a motion to approve the treasury report and Shay Nicely seconded, the motion carried.

Jessica Hendrickson thanked the show committee for all their hard work and she is looking forward to presenting awards tonight. The plan for an awards catalog is the goal for next year and plans are being put forth to try and make that happen.

Tim Cohill is working on a clinic for March 5th, 2022 at Doswell. Matt Guthro will be doing the ranch riding clinic and there will also be an all around clinic with Tommy Sheets. The all around clinic is already full. Individuals are also welcome to come and ride if you just want the opportunity to school your horse at the show grounds. Tim plans to have a cornhole tournament. Lisa Vignerot has offered to plan a movie night to encourage folks to stick around and hang out and socialize. There will be a food truck coming to serve lunch, which is included for clinic attendees and others can purchase what they want. Lisa Vignerot volunteered to make a banner for Virginia Horse Board to have at the show. Tim asked that we encourage as many folks as possible to come out and support the event. \$25 auditing fee for those wanting to participate in the clinic without riding in it. The open show committee meeting is tomorrow at 9am. Tim says he has lots of ideas but nothing nailed down at the moment. He would like to get a grant for awards and have youth and adult divisions. Tim would like to figure out a way to have an open show program again and is open to discussing ways to have shows and points count towards awards from VQHA. At this time however, the idea will have to be tabled until funds are available to support the idea. Tim agrees that things need to be ironed out long before moving forward, and grant money would certainly be needed to make it happen. But please reach out to him with any ideas you may have.

Corey Balsis has copies of the 2022 membership form for those still needing to fill out and submit their memberships. Currently VQHA has 172 members. Of those, approx. 50 are senior/life memberships. Cory also handed out clarifications and changes for the points system/rules, and reviewed those.

Crystal Speks asked everyone to please come out to the amateur meeting tomorrow at 10am. There are a lot of bylaw revisions to discuss and they will also be holding elections.

Kevin Babcock states that there are no updates from the Northern Region.

Jeaneane Griffin states that the next meeting for the Central Region will be February 8th – details to follow.

Becky Meadows has no updates from the Shenandoah Region.

Beth Guthro states that the VQHA Youth will hold their meeting tomorrow at 1pm. Kyle and Amanda are both out sick and will phone in. They will be discussing letters of intent, fundraising, 2022 elections etc. Beth states they will be voting on the Bobby Chaffen Award which the youth give to another youth for sportsmanship and the Jenny Leaf Award which is presented to the adult who has helped them the most throughout the year.

Michelle Might is very excited that our new VQHA Queen Sierra Lucks will be joining us tomorrow for crowning.

Lisa Vignerot states that the Virginia Bred program has received \$5,000 in grant money and she is also excited to report that there has been lots of interest in participating this year. She would like to do an Equine Chronicle article and make up flyers to be distributed. There will be HS, WP, Trail and Ranch at the Lexington Show. Caroline Vessley has donated a show saddle to be given out as well. Lisa states she plans to hold back at least \$1,000 in the account to have on hand for the start of next year. She has already purchased ribbons for the show. Classes will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the spring breakout show in Lexington. There were several questions regarding stallion nominations, and Lisa clarified that whoever nominates the stallion will receive the stallion money. To participate in the VA Bred program, horses must be born in the state of Virginia

Lisa Vignerot also reported that the auditing committee is to start after taxes have been submitted this year.

Todd Hulings of the ways and means committee reports that there are a few items left over from the first auction that was held back in the spring. He would like to get a few studs to donate breedings and get a few more big ticket items listed and have another sale.

Suzanne states that the Show Committee will meet tomorrow at 10am in the Red Room.

Suzanne is working on the agenda for tomorrow's general membership meeting as well. She states she plans to open up the floor with discussion about the many bylaw changes and introduce the board members. The dates for the Doswell Show have been set for May 20-22 and there will be a ranch special event and a novice show. She reports that there was a great turn out at the novice show in Doswell in the fall.

Cathette Plummer spoke about the trail ride and horseback riding program and distributed flyers. She made a motion that VQHA join the VA Horse Council. The motion was seconded by Lisa Vignerot and the motion carried.

Steve Meadows reported that a new form will need to be filled out and sent in to AQHA to remain in compliance with the affiliate program.

Shay Nicely of the By Laws committee states that there are several changes that need to be made to the by laws to bring them up to date and allow for better clarity and consistency. These changes will need to be presented at the General Membership meeting. Proposed changes include.

- Article 4 Section 5 – can serve on the board if current or former resident of Virginia.
- Article 4 Section 1 – proposed change to include Webmaster and Ways & Means.
- Article 5 Section – add Webmaster Description
- Suggest adding a section to include who has the final say in the interpretation of the bylaws.
- Need to add recreation committee to the list – Cathette is currently chair.
- Article 4 Section 2 – Suggest changes to the bylaws pertaining to officer voting – currently very limiting due to specific dates outlined and method of voting. Recommend moving voting to align with the Yearly Awards Banquet/General Membership meeting.
- Clarify voting from non-voting board members and use terms such as Officer and Director to denote positions.

Steve Meadows made a motion to make the roles of Membership Office, Chief Information Officer, Ways & Means Officer, Recreation Officer, Youth Officer, and Points Officer, and have each as a voting member of the board. Charlie Rogers seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Lisa Vignerot recommended an electronic form of voting and doing away with mail in ballots. Lisa then made a motion that voting be moved to align with the general membership meeting in the first quarter and will have an in person as well as electronic option as well. This motion was seconded by Todd Hullings and the motion carried.

- Article 4 Section 13 – recommend modifying to read “the board of directors shall accept and review resumes and hire from the applicants for possible paid positions. Carolyn Merritt made a motion in favor of the change. Lisa Vignerot seconded and the motion carried.
- Article 2 section 4 – recommend fine tuning to include code of conduct. Shay Nicely made a motion to include a code of conduct and Cory Balsis seconded and the motion carried.

The next meeting will be Wednesday March 23rd at 7pm at the Spring Breakout Show in Lexington VA in the East Complex Building. Plan to bring food to share.

Cory Balsis made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Meadows seconded. Suzanne closed the meeting at 9:29pm.