



VQHA BOD Meeting

via Zoom

Tuesday, October 4th, 2022

Attendance

Suzanne Gonzales, VQHA President

Tim Cohill, VQHA Vice President

Laura Boardwine VQHA Treasurer

Carolyn Merritt, VQHA Secretary

Shay Nicely VQHA Chief Information Officer

Loretta Tozer, VQHA Director at Large and Amateur Director

Eddie Faulk , VQHA Director at Large

Clearance Green VQHA Honorary Director

Debby Steiner, VQHA Points Director

Cathette Plumer VQHA Recreation Program Director

Kevin Babcock, VQHA Region 1 Director

Jeanenne Griffin, VQHA Region Director

Lisa Vignerot, VQHA Director at Large, Auditing, VA Bred

Samantha Groves VQHA Director at Large

Denise Duncan VQHA Awards

Pam Dyson VQHA

Suzanne welcomed everyone to the meeting which she called to order at 7:03pm. With 14 members currently logged on Suzanne determined criteria for a quorum had been met and thanked everyone for participating this evening. With no new news to report she went straight into tonight's agenda.

Carolyn Merritt had emailed out the previous meeting minutes from the August 9th 2022 with the invite to tonight's meeting. Everyone verbalized their affirmation of having reviewed the minutes. There were no motions to amend the minutes, so a motion was made by Laura Boardwine to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Shay Nicely, and the meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Laura Boardwine confirmed that she had emailed out the Treasurer's Report prior to the meeting. The horse show account shows \$7,265 deposited into the account from Venmo for stalls. Sanctioning fees shows \$16,979. Martinganza and The Little River have already submitted their sanctioning fees. Laura is also expecting to receive more from the November Doswell Show and the Pre-Turkey Circuit Show in Herndon, likely around \$1,000-\$1,500 or slightly more.

Tim Cohill had no new business to report at this time

Cory Balsis was unable to attend tonight's meeting but we would all like to wish her a very happy 50th anniversary!

Loretta Tozer gave a report from the Amateurs. The Cricket Golf Cart fundraiser has collected \$9,0200.50 to date. The cost of the Cricket was \$6,602.03 so there will be a profit. There are still more tickets to sell. She would like to see the Amateurs make \$5,000-\$10,000 off this fundraiser so please please please either buy tickets and help sell tickets! The plan is to keep selling tickets and have the drawing for the winner at the VQHA Banquet in February.

No representatives were able to attend tonight's meeting to update on the Youth.

Cathy Herbert was unable to attend tonight's meeting but still requests that all information to be published in the newsletter be submitted by the 15th of the month.

Michelle Might was unable to attend tonight's meeting, however there have been revisions made to the queen's application and they have been uploaded to the website. VQHA is still looking for a new queen mom. There will be a Facebook post made to help with the search.

Lisa Vignerot with the Auditing committee states that no audits have been done as of yet, however she needs all accounts for the past 3 years submitted to her by January 31st, 2023. A

group of students from Mary Washington's CPA school will be doing the audit for free as part of a school project. Lisa will also make sure they have signed a non-disclosure form for VQHA.

Lisa Vignerot also spoke on the VA Bred program. She states that the VA Horse Industry board has given \$5,000 in grant money for the VA Bred. She has already ordered ribbons and is looking for donations for the ranch and trail events. They will not be able to give out a saddle this year. Lisa says she will reach out to try and get some sort of other big ticket prize secured to help encourage more participation. Her goal is to double participation for 2023. Maybe add a barrel class? The biggest VA Bred classes are the ranch. Breeding in VA is down. It was suggested that the VA Bred classes be moved from the Spring Breakout to one of the smaller VQHA shows, but Lisa's concern with trying to VA Bred at the Doswell Shows is low participation.

Lisa then brought up that officer elections have been continually tabled. It was discussed at the banquet back in January that elections would be moved to coincide with the annual VQHA Banquet. Elections are supposed to be staggered every 2 years – secretary and treasurer position on even years and president and vice president on odd years. The Nominating committee would recommend keeping the full slate of officers for this year uncontested. Lisa continued to express her concern that VQHA is in violation of its own by-laws because the time period for elections has already come and gone. Tim stated that it was his understanding that at the banquet it was voted on that the board would make revisions to the by-laws to move the elections to the same time frame as the banquet/annual meeting. Suzanne asked that as chair of the Bylaws committee Shay form a subcommittee to meet and come up with the details of the changes to elections and report back to her on or about 10/18/22. Tim agreed that was the best way to handle it and then the board would need to call a special meeting to present the changes to the general membership. It could potentially be presented at the November Show in Doswell. Shay stated that his committee would be comprised of Carolyn, Connie, Cathette, Lisa, Tim, and Suzanne.

The Ways and Means Committee is pushing for fund raising ideas.

The Show Committee is excited about the upcoming Jack O Lantern Show in Doswell in November. Carolyn has 2 dozen mane and tail brushes to donate for random prizes. Cathette will have something from Champion to donate. Caroline Vessley has donated the all around awards and the circuit awards will be thermal cups and embroidered beanies. Suzanne will send the updated prize list to Shay in PDF form to upload to the website. Tim will also send Shay a PDF of the sponsorship form. Suzanne has ordered the ribbons with the money VQHA received from the VA horse Industry Board. Linda Falls has been having health issues and will be having surgery the week of the show so her daughter Tori will be running the show office. Suzanne has asked Laura to reserve the hotel rooms for the judges and staff. Lisa's friend Christi Hughes will

be announcing at the show Fri/Sat/Sun. She lives locally and will not need a hotel room. Carolyn will try and get mums and pumpkins donated again this year to use as decorations for the jump course and place around the show grounds. Eddie Faulk states that the stalls are sold out and there is a waiting list of approximately 20 people. There will be no temporary stalls this year. It was deemed to expensive to rent stalls at this time. Clearance Green states that he is trying to talk to the facility about putting in more permanent stalls.

Preparations for the VQHA Annual Awards Banquet and Meeting are well underway. Loretta would like to get board approval to sign the contract for the banquet to be held at the Fort Magruder Hotel in Williamsburg VA (same place as last year) for February 3rd-4th, 2023. A \$500 deposit is required. Loretta feels this is a great time for the banquet because is after the Florida shows and before the AQHA Convention. A motion was made by Cathette to proceed and seconded by Laura and approved with the exception of Lisa Vignerot who objects to the dates because she will be out of town in WV. Loretta states that her Banquet Committee has been working hard already! VQHA will need to book 51 nights for the weekend in order to have the facility rental fee waived. For 1-19 nights it would cost \$2,000, for 20-29 nights it would cost \$1,000, for 30-39 nights it would cost \$500, for 40-50 nights it would cost \$200, and for over 51 nights the fees are comped. VQHA will receive a discounted room rate. The Board meeting will be Friday night. There is an option to have Friday night's board meeting catered at \$40 per person. It would cost approximately \$1200 depending on exactly how many show up. Loretta recommended based on the difficulties experienced last year with getting meals and getting to the meetings that we go ahead and absorb the expenses associated with catering the meeting. Cathette made a motion that the meeting be catered and the motion was seconded by Laura and carried with no opposition. VQHA will also have a hospitality suit like last year. VQHA received a \$5,000 grant from the Virginia Horse Industry Board for awards. There is approximately \$16,000 in the awards fund and another \$1,000 to \$1,500 coming in from sanctioning fees. Loretta states that she needs nominations for the Hall of Fame so she can order the belt buckle. Clearance suggested Mike Jennings. Connie Christopher was also proposed. The VQHA Executive board will also need to vote on the Skeeter Hembry award. Lisa Vignerot already has the award. The VA Horse Council was at the banquet last year. The VA Horse Industry Board will be invited again this year.

Lisa Vignerot updated everyone on the Virginia Horse Industry Board grants. VQHA has received \$5,000 to go towards ribbons and circuit awards. Also grant money was recived for year end awards. The grants are to help boost our funding since our awards are behind the 8 ball so to speak compared to other organizations. There was another \$5,000 awarded to the VA Bred fund. Overall VQHA has received \$15,000 in grant money from the VA Horse Industry board. The VaHIB offers grants applications quarterly. The next due date is December 1st for 1st quarter which ends in March 2023. Lisa indicated that the Hunter Horse Shows are getting a large amount of VaHIB funding. VQHA got a lot of pushback. Loretta fought really hard for our grant money and VQHA did get everything they applied for. The money from the VaHIB come from

money collected on coggins and taxes on horses races and sales tax on horse feed. Stock horses like QH/Paints need to be a part of the monies too, not just TBs/hunter types. Loretta states that we are leaving money on the table and VQHA needs to push harder for our fair share. Suzanne thanked Lisa and Loretta for their hard work on behalf of VQHA.

The Awards Committee, Pam Dyson and Denise Duncan, need a clear budget for year end awards. Lisa states that we need to order a banner for the awards banquet with the VaHIB logo for folks to have their picture taken in front of. There is \$16,979 not counting grant funding. Usually work with a budget for the banquet and awards. Loretta has to front the monies out to do the banquet, but the banquet usually winds up paying for itself. Loretta states that worse case scenario the banquet will cost approximately \$5,000. There is approximately \$15,000 set aside for awards. Denise would love for folks to send them ideas on what and where to get good awards. It was noted that as of current, not as many members have met the qualifications to earn a year end award as last year. There are still 2 more shows left that are VQHA sanctioned, the Jack O'Lantern show in Doswell and the Pre-Turkey Circuit in Herndon.

Cathette reports that there is a new recreation program starting December 1st for 2023. She encourages all to participate that it is a lot of fun.

Regional Director Kevin Badcock states that the Northern Region will sponsor classes at the Doswell show in remembrance of Skeeter. Tim thanked the Northern Region for that sponsorship and will send a sponsorship form. Central Region Director Jeanenne Griffin states that her region's next meeting will be next week, but no other news to report. Suzanne indicated that the VQHA Regional Director Positions will be discussed at the next BOD meeting. She requested that the Secretary compile an attendance record for the Regional Directors positions, and all other positions while at it.

Unfinished Business was discussed. Since VQHA will be using grant money from the VaHIB for the ribbons for our upcoming show, it has been decided that the VaHIB logo will be on the ribbon button and VQHA will go on the streamers. Ribbons have been ordered for 1st-6th place as well as grand and reserve ribbons. Suzanne will call and adjust ribbon order to add more 1st and 2nd place ribbons, which are the ones that VQHA tends to run low on. Lisa asked if the company could offer us a discount. Ribbons are \$1.90 each. Suzanne states she donated ribbons to the last show to help with costs.

With no further business to discuss, Suzanne suggested we schedule the next meeting for Tuesday, December 6th at 7pm via Zoom. Tim made a motion to conclude the meeting and Shay seconded. The meeting adjourned at 9:09pm.