



VQHA BOD Meeting

December 6th, 2022

Attendance

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

Scott Troutman, VQHA Director at Large

Todd Hulings, VQHA Ways and Means Director

Matt Guthro, VQHA Director at Large

Cory Balsis, VQHA Membership Officer

Beth Guthro, VQHA Youth Officer

Kelly Wayman, VQHA Queen Director

Cathey Herbert, VQHA Communications Director

Tim Cohill VQHA Vice President noted a quorum and called the meeting to order at 711pm. He stated that Suzanne is still on the mend and unable to attend the meeting. He asked Laura to start the meeting with the Treasurers Report.

Laura asked if everyone had received the email she sent out with the Treasurer's Report. She reviewed the total indicating over \$17,115.00 in the general account and all monies were in for the year. Lisa Vignerot asked if the former VQHA Queen Sierra returned any of the funds given to her. Tim stated that Sierra had told Loretta that the funds had been spent on photos, clothes, etc. Loretta states that she has gotten the sashes back from Sierra and that Connie is very upset about the whole situation and how it was handled. Lisa said she will never again donate to a VQHA Queen after this stunt. Tim recommended that going forward, all monies raised for the VQHA Queen go to an account set aside for the VQHA Queen and the Queen will have to send in a request for reimbursement for qualifying items.

Loretta spoke on the Banquet and Awards Committees stating that it is in the best shape it has been in for quite a while. Approximately \$2,800 has been spent on awards so far. Tim reminded that \$5,000 has been received via a grant from the Virginia Horse Industry Board for VQHA to use for awards. There are also several awards that Suzanne had left over that she got for the show. Tim asked about getting a 4Square to use in the show office for VQHA Shows and at the banquet to collect funds. He asked Laura to please look into purchasing one. Laura states she is still waiting to get info for Linda in order to close the books. There are still some Social Security info needed for the 1099s. Lisa states she will need that info as well for the auditing. Lisa requested that Laura bring all that info to her at the banquet.

Tim updated everyone on the March Clinic to be held again in Doswell VA. The grant applications have been submitted and VQHA is waiting to hear back if we are approved for monies to help with holding the clinic. Tim wants to discuss if VQHA wants to have the Clinic if we do not receive the grant monies. The Clinic will likely only break even without the grant contribution. After some discussion the consensus was that we should proceed with the Clinic even without the grant funding. It was agreed that it was more important to keep people engaged by hosting a clinic versus making money off of it. Todd and Loretta agreed that it is a great outreach event. It will be held the first weekend in March and the committee is taking suggestions on clinicians. Bob Johnson and Bud Lyon were both suggested by Cathy Herbert. Tim thanked Matt Guthro for being the clinician last year and commented on the great turnout for the event. Loretta states she will find out on 12/19/22 if VQHA got the grants. Matt Guthro recommended Shannon Quinnelin as a good clinician and states that she is in easy driving distance which would save VQHA on travel and hotel expenses. Tim said the last dressage clinic was a big hit, and that he would love to do another dressage clinic in the future. Due to stall restrictions at the Doswell facility VQHA is limited to what they can plan there. Tim will be meeting again with the show and clinic committee again soon.

Cory Balsis states that there is nothing new with the membership to report. She will start sending out membership reminders soon. Cory said that sometimes signing up for memberships at the shows can be tricky because there is often a delay in receiving forms and funds and it can cause issues. Cory recommends that members sign up in advance. Cathy would like to put out positive vibes in the news letter regarding the increase in VQHA membership and rise in show numbers to help highlight our organization. Cory states she will have a membership table set up at the banquet. Cory will send info to

Shay to post on the website and Facebook. Cory is helping Pam and Denise send out the VQHA Year End Awards letters for projected results.

Debby Steiner states that the final points have been sent to the webmaster to format and post. Debby has concerns regarding the Select Amateur and Amateur designation. Debby states she will give folks a few weeks to review the points and get back to her with any discrepancies or concerns. Tim asked about what happens in the case of a tie in a class. Cory states that there are co-champions and both get champion awards. Per the Show and Contest Rules it states that there are co-champions and a reserve champion for each class with qualifying point totals.

Beth Guthro gave her report on the VQHA Youth. There have been no Youth meetings recently due to horse shows and holidays, but the next meeting will be coming up soon. Kyle is reaching out to the Hyltons – the youth want to present them an award for their sponsorship for the Youth World Show. In the next youth meeting they will discuss requirements for going to the Youth World Show. There will be a requirement for volunteer hours at the Spring Breakout Show. Beth had VQHA kids at the Virginia 4-H show in Lexington VA for outreach and to help with the VQHA Pizza Party. Beth said it was a big hit and a great outreach idea. Loretta mentioned doing a clinic just for the youth. Tim mentioned an outing for the youth like a trip to Kings Dominion or Busch Gardens. The goal is to try and get more kids active. Cathette states she will get Beth in touch with the Virginia 4-H Director to help get more 4-H kids to become VQHA members.

Loretta introduced Kelly Wayman our new VQHA Queen Mom. Karsyn Green has taken over as our new VQHA Queen. Kelly is proud to report that Karsyn has already reached out to over 30+ businesses for sponsorships! Kelly Herd has donated several necklaces for Karsyn for her use and also to donate for the silent auction. Her crown and belt buckle are on the way. Karsyn has set up a VQHA Queen Facebook page to help promote VQHA. Shay requested a bio and photo to be emailed to him so he can update the website. Time suggested Kelly get in touch with Laura the treasurer to make sure the financials are all covered for the incoming funds from the sponsorships. Debby asked Loretta about writing a grant applications for funds for the Queen. Loretta stated that it could absolutely be done, but that it would have to wait to go in the 4th quarter grant request time frame.

Shay updated everyone regarding the new VQHA Zoom Account that has been set up for the organization. He states that he is working on reformatting the points and they will be posted to the website soon. Shay requested Loretta to send him the info on the Banquet in PDF format so it can be posted to the website as well. Lisa states that she has VA Bred stuff to send to Shay as well. Shay requests things to be sent in PDF format. Tim asked if there was anyone that had been with the organization long enough to write up a little history about the club to post on the website. Clearance states he had some things he could put together to share regarding the club.

Lisa Vignerot states that the auditing will begin in late February, early March so she needs everything submitted to her prior to then, preferably just bring stuff to her at the banquet.

Cathette Plumer requested that everyone send in their 2022 horseback riding hours asap. She will be starting up with 2023 hours soon. Cathette asked Shay to post an update on the Facebook page reminding everyone to send in their hours. Shay responded asking Cathette to please email him exactly what she wants posted and he will share it out to both Facebook and the webpage.

Denise Duncan could not make the meeting tonight but Loretta states that she is hard at work on the awards and that they will be amazing again this year.

Loretta Tozer states the next VQAHA Ammy Meeting will be 12/13. They will be discussing elections to be held at the Annual Amateur Meeting the weekend of the banquet. President and Secretary will be elected on the odd years and Vice President/Treasurer on the even years.

Loretta went on to give her report on the banquet. She requested that members book their rooms and send in their forms ASAP so she can get a head count. The forms have been updated to show fees added for using Venmo or Credit Cards. She needs the forms and funds to be turned in ASAP. This year there will be a silent and live auction, a basket challenge – with the winner receiving a free stall at the spring breakout show, and lots of fun with a Mardi Gras theme.

Cathy Herbert of the Communications Committee reminded everyone to please send their info to be placed in the monthly newsletter by the 15th of each month. She wants to keep the newsletter as interesting as possible to make VQHA look like a vibrant and active club.

Shay held a meeting on 12/05 with the bylaws committee to review the revisions made to the elections process. Tim shared that the changes were made to allow the elections to coincide with the annual meeting in the 1st quarter. The changes will simplify and streamline the election process. There was a discussion during the bylaws meeting regarding an electronic voting system being added in the future. Shay shared screenshots of the changes made to the bylaws. Article 4 Section 2 was heavily revised pertaining to the specific deadlines and dates of elections etc. The changes make elections align with the annual meeting which is held in conjunction with the awards banquet. The nominating committee will make their recommendations and nominations will also be taken from the floor. Carolyn read the motion made at the general membership meeting back in January 2022 made by Todd Hulings and seconded by Lisa Vignerot stating “that the VQHA BOD revise the bylaws to move the elections to the first quarter to align with the banquet [general membership meeting], and then present the exact changes to the general membership,” which gave the board permission to review and make changes. Loretta asked who was up for elections. Shay stated Secretary and Treasurer were up for election in 2023. Laura stated that she planned to run for re-election in 2023. Cathette stated that VQHA should change the rotation so that the President and Vice President are elected in opposite years. Tim states he will reach out to the nominating committee.

Lisa Vignerot spoke about the Virginia Bred program. She thanked Caroline Vessley for the generous donation this year including a training saddle. The VA Bred program was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Virginia Horse Industry Board and also has some other really great items to give away. She plans to start publicizing heavily after the first of the year. She is asking Mike Jennings to list the horses that are VA Bred Eligible on his sales site. Lisa also states that she plans to hunt down VA Bred eligible horses to let their owners know that they can compete in the classes. She states she will reach out to NSBA, SuperSires, and Premier Sires. This year they will also have halter classes for mares and geldings/studs. She has over \$15,000 in prizes to give out this year.

Todd Hulings gave his report on the Ways and Means committee stating that they need to start raising sponsorship funds for the May horse show. He plans to reach out to Charlotte at CP Custom saddles about donating another saddle for the Legends class which was a huge hit last year. He recommended that VQHA start yearly sponsorships. Todd outlined the importance of keeping VQHA's

head above water. He would like anyone with ideas to reach out to him. Cathy states she can highlight VQHA sponsors in the newsletter.

Tim reported that the Show Committee feels that the profits from the horse shows sponsorships should go back to the horse show. Those monies should be used to build the horse show up and make the next shows even better. He asked the board's opinion. Cathette made a motion to keep show funds for the show and Scott Troutman seconded, the motion carried with no opposition. The next VQHA show is the May Doswell Show. The last Doswell Show profited \$8,000. \$4,500 of sponsorship money made from the Doswell show will stay with the show. The stalls all sold out. Tim wants to roll that money over into the next show to help make it grow and to make the circuit awards better. He mentioned again possibly adding four square in the future to help with taking credit cards at the shows. Tim also brought up the need for purchasing a printer/copier for VQHA. Lisa states she has a printer available that she can donate. Tim thinks a commercial grade printer would be a good thing to have and it can be written off as an expense.

Kevin Badcock Director of the Northern Region states he plans to meet sometime next week.

Jeanee Griffin Director of the Central Region states she will be scheduling a meeting soon.

Under unfinished business, Lisa Vignerot showed off the award that her husband Marc made for the Skeeter Hembry Award. The award is to recognize the unsung hero in the organization. Lisa states that the award is for the person that is always behind the scenes working hard and deserves recognition. Lisa needs to have the recipient's name prior to the banquet so she can have the plaques engraved. There will be the large trophy to be owned by VQHA and a small award to be given to the individual. The banquet committee will meet and vote on the award recipient. Please send nominations to Loretta ASAP – the next banquet committee meeting will be 12/14.

Under unfinished business, Tim brought up the need for VQHA to name a new AQHA Director. Tim has the forms. Per Cathette, this person will have to attend the AQHA Convention and attend other meetings and will go before the AQHA Committee to be vetted and voted into the office. The individual in this role will be VQHA's representative to AQHA. The role is usually occupied by someone on the board. Cathette states that she is over the age limit to be able to participate per AQHA rules. Tim asked if Matt Guthro would be willing to take on the position and able to attend the convention. Loretta voiced her approval of Matt, saying he was a very good choice. Lisa Vignerot expressed an interest in the role stating that she is an amateur and she feels it would be good to offer a different perspective since it is usually a professional that serves as the AQHA Director. Per Tim, the executive committee will meet and make a decision on a nominee to send. Lisa said she enjoys going to the AQHA Convention to share her ideas and perspective. Cathette says the convention is a lot of fun. Tim says they will vote between Matt and Lisa and asked if anyone else wants to be considered to please let him know.

Under new business, Loretta requests that future meeting dates be placed on the website - to include all meetings, show committee, banquet committee, amateur meetings, board meetings, etc. Shay said he would be more than happy to post those dates if the committee heads would please email him the dates and times to share to the calendar.

Having no further business to discuss, Tim reminded everyone that the next board meeting will be held in person on Friday 02/03/23 @ 715pm at the Fort Magruder Hotel in Williamsburg VA. The meeting was adjourned at 901pm.