

UMECRA Board meeting

March 11, 2022

Present: Sarah Mowrer, President; Linda Mowrer, Vice President; Deb Moe, Treasurer; Janet Sarver, Secretary; Jon Wagner, Past President; Peggy Pasillas, Director at Large; Theresa Meyer, Director at Large; Dr. Jen Lorenz, Veterinary Representative; Linda Jacobson, Rider Representative, Tracy Johnson, Rider Representative; Dr. Wesley Elford, Rider Representative; Barb Gardiner, Wisconsin Regional Director; Janette Sasena, Awards Chair

Present by Zoom: Sarah Maass, Minnesota Regional Director; Sandra Wright, Michigan Regional Director, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Illinois Regional Director

Guests: Carol Wagner, Tony Troyer

Absent: Kim Fosler

10 am Meeting called to order by Sarah Mowrer

Minutes of the 1/22/22 meetings have been approved on the IO account and published in the newsletter and website

Treasurer's report - Deb reviewed financials from convention and silent auction. The Silent Auction receipts totaled \$4,249 resulting in an allocation to other funds as follows: \$1,062.25 - Convention Fund, \$531.13 - Scholarship Fund, and \$2,655.62 - Trail Fund. The 2022 Convention received \$5,694.71 from banquet fees and dispersed \$8,574.97 in expenses resulting in a net loss of \$1,818.01 after including the silent auction proceeds. Memberships are at 180 total compared to 166 this time last year with 66% of renewals happening online. One ride has not paid a sanctioning fee. Deb reviewed corrections to the 2021 financial reports which decreased net income from \$3,296.85 to \$1,449.07. The correction was due to 2022 membership renewals received in 2021 incorrectly recorded as 2021 income. Jon made a motion to approve the corrections as submitted. Peggy seconded. The motion passed. Deb raised a concern about posting the financials on the website for security reasons. It was suggested to publish the annual financial report and any corrections to the annual report in pdf format on the website along with being in the newsletter. Deb was asked to consider all items that impact finances and provide a recommendation to the board regarding a possible change to our fiscal year end date. Jon motioned to approve the 2022 year-to-date Treasurer's report, Barb seconded. Report passed.

Secretary's report – Janet reported there have been no trail funding requests received.

Committee Reports

Standardized Vet Check – Dr. Jen reported the committee has discussed how to help vets access training, such as presenting at the UMECRA annual convention. They will re-organize the vet handbook and clarify guidelines in vet checks. The committee will have more details for the board in November.

OLD BUSINESS

Illinois Horse Fair – Nicole reported their booth was a success. They did two presentations that people attended, had a lot of foot traffic and many volunteers to help.

Convention Update - Kim confirmed that the contract has been signed for the 2023 convention in Dubuque, Iowa. Nicole stated that she talked to her presenters and the Friday night speaker has been confirmed.

Traveling Trophies – moved to new business

Insurance – Deb stated that there is no change in the rates. Rates will remain \$45/day for rides which UMECRA will pay half. \$20/additional insured which each ride pays or splits if multiple rides use the same ride site. Deb made a motion to accept the insurance costs for the current ride season. Seconded by Jon. Approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Detroit Horse Power Sectioning Fees and future penalties in reference to rule 2-0. Deb reported the ride manager stated that it will be two weeks for her to get a check for the fees. Discussion of Sanctioning Rule 2-0 sanctioning requirements and how it is written. Theresa made a motion to have the rules and bylaws committee review the wording of 2-0 for a vote in November. Seconded by Deb. Approved. Peg made a motion that Detroit Horsepower must pay their fee by March 19 or UMECRA will deny sanctioning. Seconded by Sarah Mowrer. Jon made an amendment to request proof of SERA's agreement with DHP to pay rider fees. Theresa seconded. Discussion. Jon withdrew his amendment. Motion passed.

Hall of Fame Award Ruth Stewart – Linda Mowrer stated that when Ruth Stewart got the award in 2013, an allocation of money was set aside to have a portrait done. Ruth has requested that the money go to a charity instead of for a portrait. Kim stated that there should be a future discussion about the amount a time an award can be delayed. Linda made a motion to approve the charity donation request. Jon seconded. Approved.

Insurance for Clinic – Deb proposed that UMECRA cover the insurance for endurance riding clinics and mock rides for this year. Linda Mowrer made a motion that UMECRA pay half the insurance for the clinics similar to rides. Peggy seconded. Discussion. Nicole said that any clinic that gives her a flyer gets put on the website. Insured clinics can also be listed on the AERC website. Deb stated that we currently do not require clinics to be insured to be put on the UMECRA website and that this topic can be discussed at the November meeting. Motion passed.

Article VIII Section 3 - Membership.

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY. Membership in this organization shall be limited to active members only. Such active memberships shall be granted to individuals, to families and to endurance and/or competitive trail rides.

(a) All persons shall be eligible for an individual membership.

(b) Family memberships shall consist of one or more related, or coupled as significant other, adults and/or children of such adults who are less than 18 years of age, all of whom reside in the same household.

(c) Endurance and/or competitive rides shall be granted a membership on proper application approved by the Board of Directors.

(d) Each member shall abide by the rules and regulations established by the corporation.

Section 2. DUES. No endurance or competitive trail ride, individual, or family shall become an active member of this organization unless or until it/s/he shall first pay to the corporation the annual dues which shall be set by the Board of Directors from time to time.

Section 3. RIDER REPRESENTATIVES. Individual members and family memberships of the corporation shall be entitled to vote for the four Rider Representatives who shall serve as delegates to the annual or special meetings of the corporation. Ride managers are not eligible to be elected as Rider Representatives. Family memberships shall be entitled to ~~as many votes~~, up to ~~a maximum of two~~ votes per family membership ~~as there are adults within the family unit~~.

Theresa reviewed this rule and that it has not been followed consistently. Discussion on topic of voting for junior riders and whether they are considered an individual member if they are not part of a family membership. This impacts who can vote in rider representative elections.

12:19 recess

12:50 back to meeting

Article VIII Section 3 - Membership Continued.

Discussion of wording on who qualifies as an individual membership. Deb motioned to change section three that family members will be entitled to 2 votes per membership and to strike as written. Theresa seconded. Roll call taken – 7 no (Sarah Mowrer, Jon, Barb, Dr. Wes, Linda J, Tracy J, Dr. Jen) , 8 yes (Peggy, Theresa, Linda M, Deb, Janet, Nicole, Sandra, Sarah Maass). Motion passed.

Scholarships – Dr. Wes stated that the scholarship account is adequately funded and that the silent auction money of \$515.31 could be better used in another area. Jon has reached out to the Community Foundation of Southern WI fund manager to clarify the process about reducing contributions to the scholarship fund. Deb suggested that this can be reviewed at the yearly meeting in January so there is current information on the accounts before making a change. Agreement to carry this over to the November meeting.

Elite Eight Awards – Peggy asked if this award structure was a temporary arrangement when it was passed last year. Theresa reviewed that the board went to Elite 8 and raised member fees to fund the awards as UMECRA was losing money on awards. A move back to Top 10 may result in an additional raise in fees to afford the additional awards. Discussion. Deb advised waiting to discuss another

change in awards structure until the current changes to fees and awards have been in place for at least a year. Agreed.

Rookie Top Five Awards – Sarah Maass reviewed data that showed a lack of consistency over the last 12 years in giving top 5 awards for Rookie endurance and Rookie comp. Janette stated that this years missed awards are being given retroactively. There are 6 novice awards missed since 2018. Jannette said that she has extra lightweight jackets in stock to use. Janet motioned that the 6 people since 2018 who did not get a jacket will be given the option to get a jacket. Linda seconded. Passed.

UMECRA Awards – Janette presented a summary of awards. She requested the ordering of awards be given to her to streamline the process and communication. Agreed. She would like to offer an alternative to an Elite 8 jacket for riders. Board agreed on this and that Jan can search for a embroidery business as a backup to our current provider. Discussion of replacing two travelling trophies with plaques. The rider's choice and family plaques will continue until they are full. Deb motioned to discontinue the travelling trophies and use the plaque for the family award. Peggy seconded. Voted and passed.

Janette stated that the 100 Miles in a Day plaque is \$20 more expensive than the cost of the nomination for the award. Jon motioned that the fee be increased to \$75 effective immediately. Tracey seconded this. Approved. Discussed the need for someone to contact Purina to sponsor the Novice award jackets. Purina sent \$750 in 2020 for this purpose. Janette will work with Purina to request a new contract and look at ideas for novice awards. Board asked Jan to prepare an awards budget for the November board meeting.

USEF International competition – Theresa talked about changes such as a need for volunteers to serve on zone committees, organizers willing to put on LITE rides for FEI Novice Qualifying events. Dr. Wes asked for clarification. Theresa reviewed parts of the five point plan that was presented at the UMECRA convention and will send the presentation slides to the board to review. Sarah Mowrer suggested that we could wait until next year to join up with USEF. Theresa agreed to ask Joey Mattingly to see if he would speak with the board in a separate meeting. Agreed.

Additional topic: Nicole presented a request from Tony Troyer to ask the Rules Committee/Bylaws to look at Section 7 and how it pertains to elections. Jon read the bylaw on elections. Sarah Mowrer stated that this topic will be moved to the Rules Committee and reviewed again in November. Agreed.

Peggy – motion to adjourn. Deb seconded.

3:37 meeting adjourned.