

UMECRA Board Meeting Minutes

Grand River Center Dubuque, Iowa

January 21, 2023

Attending: Sarah Mowrer, Linda Mowrer, Sandra Wright, Barb Gardner Linda Jacobson, Sarah Maass, Peggy Pasillas, Theresa Meyer, Deb Moe, Janet Sarver, Dr. Jen Lorenz, Nicole Mauser-Storer, Robin Schadt, Kim Fosler, Tracy Johnson, Dr. Wes Elford, Jon Wagner, Janette Sasena

Meeting called to order by the President Sarah Mowrer at 7:07am

Secretaries report:

- The 2022 Annual meeting minutes were approved through the IO account. Jon moves to approve. Wes seconded. Passed.
- Janet presented a trail grant request from Jon to the Southern Kettle Moraine Horse Trail Association. Approved. Suggestion that the maximum amount be raised from \$300 to \$1000. Request for increase in maximum amount tabled and bring to March.

Treasurers Report:

- Deb reviewed year end financials. There was a loss of three members.
"The end of 2022 marks the completion of two ride seasons with more typical impact on UMECRA's financial data. Additional detail has been added to line items, enabling more meaningful comparisons across years. 2022 marked the start of membership fee increases, which lifted our income by approximately \$2500 for the same number of members. This, in addition to a very successful silent auction, combined with fewer expenses for advertising and printing, helped offset a decrease in rider fees and an increase in award expenses. "
- Linda M stated that an audit was done last night and everything passed. Linda J motioned to approve, Peggy seconded. Passed.

Committee reports:

Vet committee

- o Dr. Jen stated that all changes made to the vet handbook from the November meeting were posted on to the Board IO account for review. Dr. Wes asked about the section on the vet check area regarding the timing of the exam and the hold. Dr. Jen reviewed that this area was written to allow flexibility for the vets at the rides. She will email this section to the veterinarian committee and

give two weeks for feedback. Theresa stated she will need it by March 1st to give out to the ride managers.

Rules committee

- Theresa stated that the MDDA part of the rules is not being reviewed and will not be presented at the annual meeting,

Ride calendar

- Theresa reviewed the 2023 calendar. Nicole suggested that rides could swap locations more freely so there is flexibility in the calendar. Concern that the more rides that are added, the more each ride has their attendance diluted. Discussion regarding how the board can be more active in the ride calendar. Jon stated that the board needs to do a better job of protecting established rides. Robin stated regional rides have started to have more pull for their riders. Nicole will form a committee to look at this issue. Theresa moved to approve the ride schedule as amended. Linda M second. Passed.

Old Business

Insurance increase

- Deb reviewed the increase in liability insurance and the need for an addendum so that there is an aggregate of 2 million. This would add an increase of \$5 per day for the ride managers to pay. The board approved this rate at a prior meeting. Discussion of which rides are covered as Michigan has their own policy. Sarah Mowrer will put this on the agenda for the March meeting.

International Competition

- Theresa stated that the rules of the LITE ride has been changed. Ride managers can pay a \$50 fee to have a LITE ride in addition to their own ride. There will be couple LITE rides this year so people can start qualifying their horse to move into international competition.

Article VII: Section 3 rider representatives

- Theresa reviewed the rule change as listed. Jon made a motion that the board reconsider this proposal. Kim seconded. Jon reviewed history that individual memberships have always been 18 years and older. Discussion about junior members. Kim called the question, Linda M seconded. Agreed to end discussion. Sarah Mowrer restated Jon's question about the motion to NOT go to the annual meeting. Passed.

Awards

- Deb stated that the Shining Light award will be supported by an anonymous donor for the next 10 years. Peggy made a motion to accept this donation, Jon seconded. Passed. Details will be discussed at the March meeting. The awards report will also be reviewed at the March meeting.

LD Weight Divisions

- Jon and Linda J presented concerns about how weight divisions and LD rides and that it has caused extra cost for ride managers. Sarah Mowrer asked for more information on the complaints. Jon stated that the weight divisions in LD cause less competition and it would be beneficial for LD to go back to everyone competing together. People who ride lots of miles in LD would get Top 10 or perhaps Sweet 16. Jon stated that some ride managers don't like the extra costs, extra reporting for weight divisions and it destroys the concept of LD. Agreed to add this topic to the March meeting for the board to review.

New Business

Alcohol and Language

- Sarah Mowrer will remind ride managers to watch their language and keep alcohol under control. Sarah Mowrer will write a letter to the subject of the complaint from this summer's incident. Sarah Maass stated that she would like to see positive language with juniors at rides.

Unsafe horses

- This topic was added in the vet guidelines.

UMECRA Photo Storage

- Deb will set up a new website Umecraphoto.com where members can submit ride photos to share. She is donating the cost of the start up. Peggy and Janet volunteered to help moderate the site.

Silent auction

- Dr. Wes stated that the scholarship fund seems adequate and that a portion of funding for it could be freed up for other things. Discussion. Will move to March meeting.

AHA National Ride

- Sarah Maass stated this will be a 3 day ride open to all riders. She has a ride manager team set up and is in discussion with AHA on awards and registration. AHA and UMECRA have some differences in CTR judging rules. Sarah Maass motioned to allow the AHA judging rule for the 40 CTR at AHA nationals and to waiver the UMECRA rules. Passed.

2024 Convention

- Michigan will host. Location will be the Terrance Bay Hotel in Escanaba, Michigan.

Elections

- Clarification of Michigan regional representative, director at large positions.

Awards

- Janette Sasena asked if the novice jackets donated by Purina should have the UMECRA logo on the back. Will review this at the March meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Deb motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:35am, seconded by Kim.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Sarver UMECRA Secretary