

NMDA Minutes January 8th 2020

Called to order at 1:05PM

Present:

Barbara Burkhardt-President

Maribeth St Cyr-Secretary

Susan Reed-Youth Chair

Sarah Turner-Membership Chair

Winnie Fitch-Treasurer

John Collins-Vice President-arrived a few minutes in

Standing rules have been updated and should be on web quickly.

December minutes were corrected and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

\$15,865.60 General Fund

\$3966.83 Education Fund

\$6068.48 in CD

Year end financials are done, water cooler is purchased, Sarah is reimbursed

Winnie is pursuing liability insurance for the trailer as well as looking at our liability insurance for our events.

Vice President Report:

Banquet is finalized. About 20 people have confirmed attendance. A brief discussion ensued regarding videos at the banquet, and what color the programs at the banquet should be.

The prizes for year end awards have been received. The bill was \$284.90

The trailer is completed and is at Cherry Tree Farm.

No mini-grants have been submitted.

The total education fund spend for 2019 was:

\$75 went to Barbara for mini-grants

\$185 went to members to go to the Bill McMullen clinic

Kathleen Martin's February 2019 unmounted clinic was \$96.28

Membership:

52 registered on our USDF roster. 2 more applications have come in but one neglected to send a check.

Sarah's notes on the USDF Convention:

There was a lot of discussion regarding what to call non-competing membership. The concern was that non-competing members designated might be considered "less than". The discussion was tabled.

More discussion regarding the distinction between Junior and Young Rider designations. Junior could be 15 and under and Young Rider 16- 21. The physiological differences between 12-year olds and 20-year olds was discussed. That was approved and is at USEF to consider.

Another issue was creating another adult division of 55 and older for amateur competition.

USDF is now responsible for the licensing of judges instead of USEF. Funding for this was discussed.

One of the overriding themes was communicating with membership. Facebook, websites, email etc. Much discussion around USDF's ability to communicate and putting more info at www.yourdressage.com

Bringing in younger people as riders and participants in show management and administration was also much discussed at the National, Regional and GMO level.

Sarah discussed the issue that may arise when we have our banquet as the Annual Meeting since the \$25 price tag may be a little steep for people that just want to attend the meeting.

Maribeth agreed that the price tag for the Annual meeting was an obstacle for her in the past and recommended that although the price for the banquet was reasonable, that an Annual Meeting for the club should be free. Sarah recommended improved communication including her own confusion regarding the fact that our Awards Banquet was also a Membership meeting.

Maribeth recommended that a free venue be provided along with refreshments for our Annual Meetings.

Sarah mentioned that at the GMO Roundtable "wine and discussion" gatherings were well attended. GMO's can also post their events on the USDF website.

Sarah suggested out of the box thinking regarding communication and events.

The roundtable also revealed that unmounted education was very popular i.e.: seminars, riding simulations, biomechanics etc.

How to increase Youth involvement was discussed, some of the ideas from the meeting included stick horse competitions, prix caprilli tests, mounted games, toilet paper pairs, dollar bareback. Kids want to participate in groups instead of individuals so that is something to keep in mind.

Sarah is also recommending that we participate in equestrian events at places like WNCR in order to improve our presence in the equestrian community.

Youth: Susan has put together an event with Diana DeBlanc to put on a presentation regarding Diana DeBlanc's work with the Rhino Sanctuary in South Africa last year.

Susan is also working with Laurie Mauderly at Top Notch Farm to put on a flatwork event for the jumpers at her barn.

Susan's students are interested in doing musical riding events. Susan suggested creating an event that would be free for kids.

Maribeth proposed a Ride A Test event (see attachments) for members only.

Members would ride a test of their choice up through second level, then while the test is being scored Mary Beth would provide a ten-minute lesson on one of the movements within the test just ridden in order to improve that movement. Auditing would be free to members and non-members. We could do this for 20 members. The cost would be about \$760 and the cost could be covered by a grant from USDF.

Sarah was concerned that a grant wasn't a sure thing.

Winnie moved that we do the Ride a Test Event whether we get reimbursed or not.

Susan seconded.

John, Maribeth and Sarah approved

Barbara abstained

Barbara brought up the USDF awards. Barbara included instructions in her President's Message to the membership so that those that are interested would be able to participate.

Barbara reviewed the requirements and responsibilities and suggested that we add a line to the show entry form for the horses USDF# for those that want to participate in Regional Schooling Show Awards.

A brief discussion was held regarding our regular collaboration efforts with the other GMO's in New Mexico. We agreed to be sure we shared show schedules and events with the other clubs in order to avoid conflicts.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm