

All members and interested public welcome.

President Teresa Heine welcomed all members present: Barbara Burkhardt, Kathleen Martin, and Winnie Fitch. Absent: Valerie Simpson, Susan Reed.

Officers' reports:

Secretary: Minutes of 8/8/18 meeting were approved with corrections as noted.

Treasurer: Treasurer Winnie Fitch stated \$20,523.87 currently in checkbook with some sizable expenses in future to be discussed. Winnie will call Valerie Simpson to go over the financial records per stipulation in NMDA By-Laws. She is also searching for an online accounting program specifically for non-profits.

Vice-president: Barbara Burkhardt will donate belt buckles for western dressage riders who qualify for championships. She has done an informal survey of potential award recipients and has found that most would like gift certificates to local tack shops or on-line vendors. Tote bags will also be used as awards at year-end meeting.

Committee/Liaison reports:

Membership: Winnie Fitch reports no new members since last month with membership standing at 94. 2019 membership forms, made after acquiring information from other Board members, will be included with ballot mailing. The return address will be NMDA's PO Box.

Shows: The August 19 show at *Roy-El Morgan Farms* in Espanola was a financial success though somewhat low on entries. Good food, lovely setting and arena, and a nostalgically sad good-bye to Erlene Seybold-Smythe, our host, who has closed down the Morgan farm after 50+ years of breeding, training, selling, and showing Morgan horses. Show manager, Kathleen Martin, will present a financial report at October meeting.

Sandia Vista Equestrian Park show on 9/9/18 was a financial success also. The NMDA welcomed for the first time, and enjoyed working with, judge Michell Combs of Phoenix AZ. People generally liked the venue where footing was good, warm-up areas adequate, and plenty of on-site grilled food was available...thanks to Gina and Scott McKay for grilling. As there is no wind break, it is recommended to avoid this venue in windy seasons. Show manager would like a "closed" office area to do scoring and other duties.

Cherry Tree Farm show on October 28: Winnie Fitch, show secretary, will follow-up with Karen Lensyk on judge's contract though it is settled that she will judge this show. Facility contract not yet received. Winnie announced that, as this show is close to Halloween, the NMDA will sponsor a costume class for "kids of all ages."

No reports from Youth Committee (chair vacant) or Member-at-Large.

Old business:

2019 nominations: Barbara Burkhardt is running for president, John Collins for vice-president, and Valerie Simpson for member-at-large. Biographies are in and will be posted by September 18. Ballots will be available via USPS to all members by October 1. The deadline for ballots to be returned is November 12; results will be posted on website, in Facebook and in an E-mail blast by November 15. The new membership year begins December 1, 2018.

Barbara Burkhardt requested a vote on her proposal to return the former “Conflict of Interest” article to the Standing Rules removed as a result of changes made to By-Laws by the work of a committee of board members in 2016. After considerable discussion, a vote was taken: 2 yes; 2 no. Tie. Tabled for discussion when more Board members are present.

Discussion on protocol for managing the NMDA website for use by members and fee-based use by non-members as stipulated in the Standing Rules. Kathleen Martin will put together a “straw horse” proposal for next meeting after talking with each board member, the webmaster Harold Bascomb, and others in the general membership.

Re concern of conflict of interest with Kathleen Martin serving as NM representative for The Dressage Foundation: Maureen Mestas contacted TDF and “they advised no conflict exists for them or for our GMO.”

New business:

USDF a) will raise dues for the 2020 membership year to \$24 instead of current \$20. Will this necessitate an increase in NMDA dues?

b) test changes for 2019 will require printing new tests. Barbara Burkhardt recommended purchasing masters for copying.

c) NMDA representative to the 2018 convention in Salt Lake City. No representative available; rep would pay own expenses. Kathleen will check with SFDA to see if NMDA can “piggy back” on what it might be doing. Report at next meeting.

Winnie Fitch shared ideas for new show office supplies such as replacement of some bins which were breaking down, an NMDA-owned extension cord, etc. She will present a comprehensive wish list at next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Martin, secretary

