

# MSBOA MEETING MINUTES

July 2, 2024

MHHA Office 185 Main St. Augusta, Maine

Start Time 6:00 pm

Board members present in person: Carolyn Corso, Francis Hanley, Peggy Tardif, Rhoda Underhill, Mel Grant and Steven Wilson.

Via Zoom: Claire Ryder

Absent: Josiah Reed

Guest: Sara Fernald

Call to order: President: Carolyn Corso 6:17 pm

President's Remarks: Carolyn spoke with Shane Bacon regarding the updates/changes to Chapter 9 and he agreed to move the Commission review date to August.

Secretary's report:

Last meetings minutes were previously emailed to all board members, no questions or concerns.

Motion to accept the minutes from the meeting on June 4, 2024 by Fran Hanley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peg Tardiff; unanimous.

Treasurer's report: Fran Hanley gave the report and provided a paper copy to the Secretary to file.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report by Rhoda Underhill, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mel Grant; unanimous.

Still no word on our non-profit application, so we are still just waiting for approval from the State, could take a few months.

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee: Fran forwarded the current criteria to the Board for input on potential changes, in hopes of reaching more applicants, will take the suggestions to the Committee.

Fairness Committee: Provided the Board with their proposed changes at the last meeting.

Public Relations: The Board would still like to obtain more economic impact surveys back. Peg has created a printed copy of the survey and will be handing it out in both paddocks with a drop box for returns.

Chris Basford has been in contact with Channel 6 a southern tv station. Someone who previously worked with the Board gave him the previous contract, it was much higher

than we are currently paying for our Northern commercials/ads. Chris will take it back to see if they can do something comparable.

The Ramsdell's have asked if we would be willing to donate to the Pembroke Fair being held August 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, we have done this in the past.

Motion to donate \$500 to the Pembroke Fair by Fran Hanley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chris Basford:  
unanimous

Motion to donate \$500 to Cornish Days by Rhoda Underhill, 2<sup>nd</sup> Carolyn Corso:  
unanimous

#### Old Business:

Banners: Banners have been received and one hung at Cumberland, Rhoda will hang one at Bangor next race day. The extra will travel to each fair.

Charlie Horne- Fair Dates: Time is approaching to change the ad for the first Fair. Carolyn has a very nice picture of a Stakes finish from Topsham will use that for the next ad.

On suggestion from Sara Fernald, Rhoda will ask Shelley Gilpatrick for some close Stake win photos from previous fairs to use in upcoming tv ads.

Live Race Day- public promotion: Promotional items have been received. Carolyn asked that we have a shared signup sheet for the fairs so keep track of who will be handling the raffle. Also, the Board discussed, if approved by Shane Bacon that they will also do a t-shirt toss for selected fair dates and a hat toss at the finals, that will also be a shared document for people to sign up, once approved.

#### New Business:

Chapter 9- Fairness Committee provided their proposed changes at the last meeting, the Board went through their proposals, accepted, made comments, adjustments as necessary and sent it back to the Committee.

A motion for the 2-year-old February 15<sup>th</sup> Continuation form to be due no later than June 1<sup>st</sup> of that corresponding year or the horse would not be eligible in the future was made by Chris Basford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mel Grant: 7 yes; 1 no: Steven Wilson. More discussion is needed on this topic.

Proposed changes are being sent back to the Fairness Committee once they meet and review the Board will discuss via email. Once a decision has been agreed on by the Board the proposed changes will be sent out to the Membership for their approval.

#### Public Comment:

None

Adjournment: 9:27 pm by a Motion to adjourn by Rhoda Underhill 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mel Grant:  
unanimous.