

MINNESOTA HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2012

Held at The Ostberg Architects, Saint Paul

In attendance:

Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present	Name	Present
Betsy Kieffer	X	Sharon Golden	X	Becky Nay	X	John Puckett	
Mary Armstrong	X	Tracy Grandstrand	X	Patti Nelson	X	Brenda Roloff	X
Lisa Brustman	X	Sara Hogan	X	Linda Ostberg	X	Nicole Salazar	X
Mary Jo Cody	X	Elzabeth Lampert	X	Heather Parish	X	Stewart Underhill	X
						Ashley Woodhouse	X

Linda Ostberg called the meeting to order.

1. **Minutes:** Lampert moved and Roloff seconded approving the October Board meeting minutes. The motion carried.
2. **Treasurer's Report:** Lisa Brustman provided the treasurer's report. For the end of October, there was \$3,649.80 in the MHJA checking account, \$11,883.70 in savings, \$7,874.27 in the MHJA Horse Show checking account, \$100.21 in savings, and \$70,863.53 in the Harvest Horse Show checking account and \$100.21 in savings for a total of \$94,471.72. The newsletter is over budget for the year and there is still one more issue to print. Hogan moved and Salazar seconded approving the Treasurer's Report for October. The motion passed.
3. **Credit Card Update:** Brustman reported that there would be a significant cost involved of about \$1100-1500 to implement a credit card option on the MHJA website. It will not pay for itself. She recommends tabling the discussion for now. Lampert moved and Ostberg seconded approving this plan. The motion passed.
4. **New Officers:** The following slate of officers was presented for 2013: Tracy Grandstrand, President; Elzabeth Lampert, Vice-President; Sara Hogan, Secretary; and Ashley Woodhouse, Treasurer. Roloff moved and Nelson seconded approving this slate. The slate was approved.
5. **Harvest Show:** Kieffer reported that after we pay the bill to the State Fair, which should be about \$24,000, and make our usual \$5000 donation to We Can Ride, we should be left with a balance of approximately \$17,000 in the Harvest Horse Show checking account. That is an increase of about \$8000 over the ending balance in 2011, meaning that we achieved our goal of not losing money. Both Kieffer and Grandstrand feel that it is unlikely that we can raise more sponsorship money in the future than we did this year. Now is the time to start seeking out corporate sponsorships. The AgStar arena was free this year, and it actually made money for us (over \$8000 in one day alone). For next year, it needs to have a better schooling and lunging area. MHJA will also need to rent jumps and hire a manager for the future. Grandstrand suggests improving the contract that our affiliate shows must sign with MHJA. We need to have better enforcement provisions, especially with regard to the use and care of our timers. They must be returned at the end of each show and maintained in good condition. Lampert raised the question of whether the Harvest Show should be run by a board rather than by a committee. Should we look into hiring a manager who already has a set of jumps?

Regardless of who runs the show, Kieffer suggests that the MHJA board should have oversight. Nelson suggests appointing Greg Novak to investigate management options. Grandstrand raised the concern that we have to consider how to maintain a good relationship with the Fairgrounds. Nelson will ask Greg Novak to put together a committee to investigate options for managing the Harvest Show.

6. **Year -End Banquet:** Hogan reported that to date, we have received reservations from only 43 adults and 9 children. Hopefully, many more will come in this week.
7. **Points Update:** There were at least two instances in which members who intended to be competing members mistakenly joined MHJA as sustaining (non-competing) members. How should we prevent similar mistakes from being made in the future? The wording on the membership form has already been changed for 2013 to “competing” and “non-competing” members. Salazar suggests that competing and non-competing members should be listed separately in the directory. That way possible mistakes might be caught earlier. The two girls who joined as sustaining members in error are not in contention for Champion or Reserve Champion in their divisions. At most, they might have received a sixth place award. Underhill suggests that we as a board could be liable if we voted to excuse their error when the rules and categories were clearly explained in the membership materials. Trainers need to take some responsibility for educating their customers and making sure that they join the appropriate membership category. Kieffer suggested that we put something on our website similar to what is on the USHJA website (i.e. what kind of membership is right for you?). She will ask Sarah Donnell to post something similar on the MHJA website. Nay also suggests that competing and non-competing members receive a separate confirmation letter. Lampert moved and Salazar seconded having Grandstrand contact the trainer of the two girls to explain why the board cannot grant an exception to allow their points to count. The motion passed. The board also discussed whether the MHJA should continue to award double points at all Minnesota horse shows. The majority seemed to feel that we should return to single points, but the discussion was tabled and will be brought up again at the annual meeting in December.
8. **Future Meeting Dates:** The annual meeting will be held on December 10 at the University of Minnesota Equine Center. All members are welcome to attend. On the agenda will be double points and membership types. The first board meeting of 2013 will be on January 14th.

Roloff moved and Salazar seconded adjourning the meeting. Motion carried; meeting was adjourned.