

**MICHIGAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL OPEN MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Saturday, January 12, 2019**

Meggen Baynes called a meeting of the MQHA Board of Directors to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Comfort Inn and Suites, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan. The following Directors and staff were present: Meggen Baynes, Kathy Christensen, Barb Foster, Sasha Glover, Megan Hirschman, Mike Huntoon, Rob Kirkpatrick, Monty Montgomery, Chris Perniciaro, Allyson Thompson and Kris Woroniecki. Morgan Warda and Jeff West were excused. 12 members were in attendance.

AGENDA: Sasha Glover made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of Dr. Smith from MSU speaking. Allyson Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

MINUTES: Mike Huntoon made a motion to approve the January 13, 2018 Annual Membership minutes as presented. Megan Hirschman seconded the motion. Motion passed with none opposed.

GUEST DISCUSSION: Dr. George Smith from MSU addressed the group and explained he was attending to generate enthusiasm to raise \$3,000,000 to get the MSU Pavilion Covered Area project off the ground.

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT: Finance Committee Report 2018 YE, submitted by Finance Director, Megan Hirschman. *The MQHA Board of Directors and Finance Committee knew that 2018 would be a challenging year after AQHA announced at the end of 2017 that some significant changes in fee structures would reduce income to MQHA by about \$13,500 (\$10,000 in additional sanction fees, and a reduction of \$3,500 in ARC Funding that went towards Year-End Awards). In a proactive approach the Finance Committee pulled together a Town Hall Meeting and invited trainers, judges, and members to help us develop a plan to keep the Association in the black and help provide great benefits to our members. The feedback from this meeting was fantastic, and we were able to implement many of the recommendations for the 2018 year. Because of this, I am happy to announce that 2018 was a financial success and has allowed us to provide some additional membership benefits and increase our awards program, and scholarship opportunities for our youth members.*

*The financials are currently tentative (not all year-end awards have been booked), but over-all we should end 2018 in a much better financial position than we were in 2017. This success is due in large part to our outstanding sponsors— **thank you for your continued support of this organization!** We were also able to generate income by getting sponsorship support of many of our exhibitor activities during our horse shows and increased office fees by \$1.*

Highlights of 2018: Entry fee revenue increased by 7%, NSBA entry fee revenue increased by 66%, Sponsorship and Donation revenue increased by over 45%, Queen donations were up; and Additional funds were generated to support Year-End-Awards.

Challenges of 2018: Show approval and sanction fees were up over 75% from the previous year, Credit Card processing fees continue to increase year after year, and facilities continue to be a challenge in expenses and finding quality portable stalling.

Where are we headed with this success? Into 2019 with some exciting new ideas and plans. The MQHA Board will be bringing back the February MQ horse show to give our trainers and exhibitors another chance to show in Michigan in the winter months. We will also be bringing back some of the MQHA sponsored exhibitor activities throughout the show season. The MQHA Board of Directors will also make a commitment to support Youth Scholarship opportunities. The MQ Board is committed to provide quality Year-End Awards to our exhibitors and will continue to do so.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

CLINIC: Allyson Thompson presented her report. *This committee has not been very active during 2018, although we were represented at the 2018 Expo. Exciting plans for 2019: At the suggestion of our President, Meggen Baynes, we are*

pursuing a clinic at the Harbor this year. This is in the planning stages and details will be forthcoming. Preliminary ideas are to have a trail clinic on Sunday. We are hoping to add a video component to our booth at the Expo this year.

CONVENTION: Sasha Glover welcomed everyone to the Convention. He explained the new format and hoped everyone liked the new facility. The Committee worked hard to revamp and improve things adding some better touches to the event. The Friday night cocktail party went well. He is hoping that the clinics are well attended this afternoon. There were 219 dinners sold. He thanked everyone for their attendance and their support.

EASTER SHOW: Monty Montgomery presented his report. *2018 brought another successful show for MQHA with support once again from Toledo Ticket Company as a major sponsor along with many other generous sponsors providing approximately \$8,000 in sponsorship monies and other gifts including a light breakfast and snacks daily.*

The team tournament provided enjoyment for all and amateurs, youth and small fry exhibitors participated.

Total AQHA entries were just under 6,000 total, down slightly from 2017 although the NSBA entries were up from 2017. Stall and camping revenues were also down jst slightly due to Easter being early in April and competing with neighboring shows.

The Easter show this year will be later in April. The dates are April 17-21, 2019.

This year we are trying to put together another fun event such as a novice challenge combined with another show or two. Details will follow in the near future.

Once change to the schedule is the flip-flop of Saturday and Sunday schedules to make Sunday shorter.

FUTURITY: Chris Perniciaro indicated that the overall numbers for the show were up considerably due to the removal of the restrictions on the futurity classes. The show will be at MSU again, September 12-15, 2019.

HARVEST CLASSIC: Chair: Meggen Baynes, Co-Chair: Barb Foster and Rob Kirkpatrick. Report submitted by Meggen Baynes. *The 2018 Harvest Classic was moved to September because of MSU's availability, as it is every 3 years or so. The show was preceded by the Futurity just 2 weeks prior and many training barns were already preparing for the QH Congress that week. With those variables being out of our control, the committee was happy to have sustained a minimal loss of \$700 over the year prior, still be a profitable show with a net income of approximately \$14,800. Exhibitors enjoyed a prize booth where they could choose from Gumby Cash or an actual item. 2nd through 6th place exhibitors could choose between a 50 cent Gumby Cash piece or a ribbon. The 2019 show will be held again in September and then will move back to November in 2020.*

HALL OF FAME: Mike Huntoon presented his report. *The Hall of Fame Committee came to the decision to put Bill Bayne into the Hall of Fame as well as Quincys Lil Feature. Chris Baldwin has agreed to do the presentation for Bill and Kevin Cubitt will be doing the presentation for Quincys Lil Feature.*

HARBOR CLASSIC: Megan Hirschman reported that the Committee for the Harbor Classic decided to add one day to the event, shortening the show days up while still allowing for all of the classes. There was positive feedback on the showbill and it is expected it will run similarly for 2019. The fun activities were well attended and seemed to be enjoyed by the membership. She also stated that Ludington is in the process of several exciting updates. The income for the event was down about \$3000 which was expected with the additional day of expenses. NSBA entries were up by almost double from 2017. AQHA entries were down some. The camping and stalls were comparable for 2017.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Report submitted by Kathy Christensen. *MHC Expo – reached out to volunteers and scheduled days and times for MQ members to work the booth. Sent thank you notes to volunteers. Sasha Glover updated the rack card show flier.*

QUEEN: Queen Committee, Minae Kroeze, Andrea Armbruster, Heather Werkema-Smith and Kathy Christensen-Chair. Report submitted by Kathy Christensen. *In the spring I ordered the Queen Crown and Buckle, and I divided up the AQHA handbook between the 4 committee members, each of us taking a section to create the 2018 Queen contest test. I called and emailed previous sponsors for the 2018 event. Minae Kroeze also obtained sponsorships. While at the Harbor Classic show, the 2018 Queen, Lauren Barnes was crowned. Also crowned Princess Ava Hathaway, and Jr. Princess Callie Giffin. Estimated Queen gift value \$4214.00. Princess' also received gifts. Thank you to the 2018 Queen sponsors! Warren, Laurie, and Corrine English, Jack & Nancy Christensen, Millbrook Tack, MacKenzie Kastle, West Family, AnnaMarie Cooper, Laurie Zwiers, Chris Frantz, Deanna Bailey, Brenda Arnold, Stephanie Morgan, Rene' Holstege, Jim & Joni Roth, Peachy Clean, Heather Werkema-Smith, Kathy Christensen.*

The Queen Committee requested the event be moved to earlier in the year. Previous Queens had expressed a need for more time to prepare for Congress. The 2019 Queen event will be held at the Easter Eggstravaganza. The Queen committee and the board approved changes to the MQHA Queen Rules and Regulations which will allow residency exceptions provided the candidate can prove involvement with MQHA. Any exceptions will be first granted through the Queen Committee. The Queen Contest rules flyer, and the application were updated. Current Queen Lauren Barnes will be attending the Convention. I did order the 2019 Queen Crown and Buckle on January 8, 2019. Millbrook Tack will again sponsor the Queen Buckle.

STALLION SERVICE SALE: Chris Periciaro reported that there are 96 stallions enrolled in the 2019 auction. Gohorseshow is going to do an interview with the committee for publication.

SUMMER SERIES: Chair: Meggen Baynes, Co-Chair: Barb Foster and Allyson Thompson. Submitted by Meggen Baynes. *The 2018 Summer Series was held again at the Midland County Fairgrounds in Midland, Michigan with 4 judges, as opposed to 5 the year prior. The show proved to be profitable with a net income of approximately \$17,500. Many sponsors helped make this event possible, including Toledo Ticket Company for sponsoring the "Gumby Cash", Mary Wilkosz of A&W restaurant for a daily light breakfast, McCarthy Warda Performance Horses for the Wine and Cheese party, Winter Performance Horses for the hospitality booth, Northfork Farms for the gift card giveaways, Tiffany's Show Horses for the Small Fry prizes, Renee Holstege of Totally Outfitted for sponsoring some of the All-Around/Reserve All Around prizes. The committee and MQ Office are working to finalize plans for the 2019 Summer Series that will be held once again in Midland.*

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK: Report submitted by Kathy Christensen, chair.

MQ Marketplace group - 7486 members

Maintained and monitored entries and requests to join.

MQHA page – 4190 likes, 4203 followers

Posted pictures from events, updated headline photo, membership still gets much information from FB posts.

Website – office continues to update the new website and the information found there.

WINTER SPECTACULAR: Meggen Baynes stated that the MQHA Board has worked hard to bring back the MQHA Winter Spectacular horse show that will be held on Feb 1-3 with the annual new and used tack sale. The show will be a two-judge event running with the 4H Benefit Clinic again. It is hoped that the event will be affordable with just two judges, will get people out and showing again to start the season and that MQHA is able to support it financially. There are quite a few stall reservations to date.

YEAR END AWARDS: Monty Montgomery presented his report. *Continually trying to provide different awards for the year end, this year we will spend approximately \$40,000. This year Toledo Ticket graciously picked up the tab for the \$3,500 ARC award credit that was discontinued by AQHA. The silent auction held at the Harbor Classic provided an additional \$1800 applied to this year's budget. Many thanks to Toledo Ticket and the many people who provided items at the silent auction. Also, many thanks to Kris, Heather and Amanda at the MQHA office whose help has made this task much easier.*

YOUTH: Sasha Glover stated that the youth had a successful year, supporting a World Show team and two NYATT teams. Jeff West is stepping down as youth advisor and Board member. He is taking on the responsibility of the Committee.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business

NEW BUSINESS: No new business

ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS:

Elected to a three (3) year term:

Heather Coe (2022)

Sasha Glover (2022)

Danielle Lindsay (2022)

Monty Montgomery (2022)

Elected to a two (2) year term

Austin Gooding (2021)

Denise Morgan (2021)

President: Kathy Christensen

Vice President: Megan Hirschman

Vice President Elect: Mike Huntoon

Youth President: Katherine West

Show of the Year: Harbor Classic

Member of the Year: Tom Carter

Sportsperson of the Year: Monty Montgomery

Mother of the Year: Ginger Baxter

Father of the Year: Ryan Lindsay & Jeff Moody

Youth Sportsperson of the Year: Katherine West

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:10 a.m by unanimous consent.