

NMDA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APRIL 9, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Marybeth Perez-Soto, President.

Board Members Present: Marybeth Perez-Soto, Susan Dezavelle, Virginia Gredell, , Barbara Burkhardt, John Collins, Donald Simpson. Board members absent: Rena Haynes, Mary Jastrzemski, Harold Baskin

Minutes of March 2013 were reviewed and approved with one correction regarding Cindy's attendance. Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

1. **Financial Report.** Postponed to next meeting, Treasurer not present.

2. **Membership.** Virginia reported 12 new members for a total of 136. The Welcome Letter that Marybeth had drafted was reviewed and a suggestion was made to add something about encouraging the members to volunteer. Virginia will send out the letter with the test booklets. There are 6 Business members now

Motion made and seconded to approve the Membership report. Motion carried.

3. **Schooling Shows**
 - a. Cindy reported that the April Show has 22 rides already.
 - b. There was some discussion about future show dates and about maybe having fewer shows to have more attendance at each show. Discussed the possibility of having two arenas at Luna Rosa. Susan will consider this if she can assess the need to accommodate the volume of entries. Suggestion made to send out an email in advance to determine the interest.
 - c. We have not heard from the Arab club this year about all their shows being counted for NMDA year end awards. Barbara will ask Mary J to contact the Arab club about their interest in this.
 - d. Prizes/Business Members – Paul's is selling gift cards at a discount. They are getting a business membership in exchange. Marybeth reported that Barn Dogs is thrilled about having their logo on the web site
 - e. Luna Rosa – Susan has not heard back from Louanne about the "banner trade" and will follow up.

Motion made and seconded to approve the Schooling Show report. Motion carried.

4. **Recognized Show Update.** Donald reported that he had issues at the last show with last minute memberships.

5. **Scholarship/Education Fund.** Barbara presented a proposal for changing the fund to an educational fund with the idea that volunteers would earn "vouchers" for volunteering at the NMDA shows. Volunteers could use these vouchers as credit toward educational events put on by NMDA. This would give opportunity for more NMDA Members to benefit from the Fund and encourage volunteers. Several methods for assigning the voucher value and ways to track vouchers were presented and discussed, including tracking volunteers who work a half day versus a full day and the amount each time period is worth. Discussion continued about various ways to administer the program and keep track of vouchers, how many can be given out and if they can be transferred to other NMDA Members. There was also discussion about the possibility of applying these vouchers retro-actively to the February schooling show. Several proposals were made including a way to split the fund between "scholarship" and "education" and dollar amounts for each. No decision was made. Suggestion was made that we need Rena's input as Treasurer. Will continue the discussion at the next meeting. One proposal was made and passed:
A proposal was made to formally change the "Scholarship Fund" to a "Scholarship/Education Fund".
A deadline was set for Applications for the present Scholarship of July 1, 2013. Motion made to accept this proposal by Marybeth, second by Barbara and motion passed. Members will be notified by Marybeth of this change in a Yahoo email blast.

6. **Year-End Awards.** Marybeth presented a request from a NMDA Member to have NMDA support a “college” award for the Member’s students who are in college classes and planning to compete in dressage. The request included having a special category for these students to receive year end recognition. After discussion, a recommendation was made to allow the requestor to present these recognitions herself at our annual banquet, but not to have an actual NMDA class or award for these students. Board Members present all agreed to this recommendation.
7. **Dressage Foundation.** It was reported that the Dressage Foundation has scholarship money not being used and wants to encourage dressage riders to apply. We will pass out pamphlets and remind our Members about this opportunity
8. **State Fair Dressage Demo** – John reported that the date for this is possibly Sept 10 or Sept 11. He has not yet discussed fees. John will send out a Yahoo email about interest in demo rides.

New Business. None.

The next Board meeting will be May 14 th at the 66 Diner
The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Dezavelle, Secretary