

**American Hackney Horse Society- 2017 Board of Directors Meeting
January 18, 2017 4:00pm CST, Westin New Orleans Canal Place**

Meeting Agenda

I. Call to Order: Andy Freseth, President.

II. Roll call – Mindy Preston, Recording Secretary

Members Present: T.J. Blevins, Rich Campbell, Andy Freseth, Rodney Hicks, Brooke Jacobs, Tom Lowry, Bo Lucas, Toni Nastali, Carl Nichols, Mindy Preston, Maureen Quackenbush, Matthew Schuckert, Kent Swalla, Karen Waldron

III. President's Report: Andy Freseth

Andy was asked by USEF board to approve rule changes and he approved them.

There are several people with unpaid monies to The Society and will be discussed in the appropriate committee reports.

IV. Executive Committee Report

Andy gave an update on the executive secretary position. The executive committee hired Taylor Gregory as interim executive secretary until the full board of directors could meet to make an official decision. Taylor had been helping the UPHA office prepare for the convention. The UPHA Executive Secretary, Suzanne Donaldson, shared that Taylor was well versed and a self-starter. Taylor graduated from Midway University in 2013 with a major in Equine Management with a concentration in Marketing and was looking for a long term commitment.

V. Office Report

Membership: 946 Members in 2016
966 Members in 2015
1014 Members in 2014
989 Members in 2013
988 Members in 2012

Registrations: 358 registrations in 2016 (more registrations are still be completed. It looks like several of the incentive registration participants may not have sent their DNA by the deadline and several had issues with them, but they are being completed.

314 Registrations in 2015
295 Registrations in 2014
381 Registrations in 2013
340 Registrations in 2012

Facebook: Facebook is doing great with Horse Lingo taking over with the help of Maureen Quackenbush.

VI. Financial and Treasurer's Report: Toni Nastali

Sales are up \$1,100 in 2016 mainly because of the incentive registration. Expenses are up for 2016 due to the new web design, Horse Lingo, printing of the directory (funds received in prior year), new computer, just to name a few items. The balance sheet reflects the new Merrill Lynch account and all accounts are reconciled. Profit and Loss is higher than 2015, but that was explained in the expenses section. Toni did speak to the attorney for the Stableford estate and there should be a final distribution in the first quarter of 2017. The CD that expires March 31 will be transferred to the Merrill Lynch account. All LBS but one has been paid.

Matt Schuckert made a motion to approve the financial report, Kent Swalla seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Josh Greer joined the meeting to make a presentation. The American Horse Council (AHC) approached the UPHA to join them in an Economic Impact Study. The UPHA had tossed around the idea of doing their own study, but it was going to cost around \$40,000-\$50,000. The UPHA Executive committee has voted and pledged \$25,000 to the AHC. With this money the UPHA will become a sponsor of the AHC. This impact study will be able to have custom breakouts and generate UPHA's own data. The UPHA would like for the AHHS to partner with the UPHA Foundation, however the AHHS name would not be included. The UPHA also intends to reach out to ASHA. This will be a nationwide study, drilled down by states. The Society's questions will be included and will work with UPHA to develop questions. Propriety rights will be in writing. Karen asked if the AHHS has a 2017 budget proposal. Andy stated that at present time the budget is not ready and this request came in two days prior to this meeting. The UPHA would like a response in the next thirty days.

VII. Foundation Committee Report: John Wrather, Chair, Brian Yount, Mindy Preston

Brian Yount gave an update on the Buck Stops Here Program. He has raised an additional \$26,000 from two donations in addition to the \$10,000 by The Society. The donator of the \$25,000 has asked that \$7,500 of the money be earmarked to hire a professional company to manage the program. Brian has hired Reverie Marketing, who helped him put the project together, to handle the legwork on the project to get it off the ground properly. He is meeting with the company January 20th to go over the literature that needs to be produced, the verification forms, production of the advertising materials and the phone calls that need to be made. This will help to take work off of the committee members. He will contact Eva at Horse Lingo to get started on Facebook. The goal is to have the program launched by the end of February. The Foundation will put the committees together and Reverie will be in contact with the committee chairs.

Carl Nichols suggested that a written proposal should be received from Reverie Marketing stating what they will do for that amount. He and Bo would like to be able to announce the program at the Southeastern Hackney meeting on February 25th. Andy asked Brian to meet with Carl to discuss this.

VIII. Committee Reports and Discussion

Annual Awards: Brooke Jacobs, Chair, TJ Blevins, Maureen Quackenbush
No Report

Audit Committee: Vern Houston, Chair, Junior Schut
Vern will do the audit with Junior and Toni prior to the March meeting

Budget Committee: Toni Nastali, Junior Schut, John Wrather, Keith Johnson
Budget will be ready by the March meeting

By-Laws: Maureen Quackenbush, Chair

Looking for a solution to Article V, Section 2 in regards to Term of Directors. She wants to talk with Toni, but there is plenty of time.

Convention: Andy Freseth, Chair, Rich Campbell

Bill Morreny from USEF will be here to speak and during one of the meetings there will be a discussion about the Kentucky State Fair dates. The 2018 convention will be at the Omni Plantation on Amelia Island, January 31-February 3.

Open Competition/Dressage Committee: Sandra Surber, Chair, Karen Waldron

Karen spoke with Sandra during the USEF Annual Meeting. Devon and Syracuse are holding classes so that will be a great plus. Karen has reached out to those on Facebook on the open page on Hackneys and the other purposes they are being used for and has had a great response. There are other directions these horses and ponies can go. Sandra will have a lot of time on her hands and is willing to help with any of the committees.

National Breeder's Futurity: Matt Schuckert, Chair, Bo Lucas

It will once again be held during the All American Classic. The committee is working on donors for extra money. The committee will keep a check on payments coming in, and to make sure the notices are being sent out. Andy asked if there will be a grace period and Matt said there would be because the 2017 notices have not been sent out. Toni said she could be used as a point of contact. Andy added that it would need to be paid up more than one day before the show. Rich added that there should be a penalty if it is paid late.

Limited Breeders' Weanling & 3 year old Stakes and Stallion Auction: Tom Lowry, Chair, Rodney Hicks, Matt Schuckert

The LBS Grand Event will be held March 24 & 25 at the Horseshoe Casino in Elizabeth, Indiana.

Friday Events

Board Meeting will be at 12:30pm

6:30pm Meet and Greet with appetizers and cash bar (looking for sponsor)

7:00 – 9:00pm Darrel Kolkman will present the History of the Hackney with a video presentation along With Q & A session.

For the youth there will be a pizza party with games

Saturday Events

8:00am Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 11:30am "From the Judges Perspective" with Melissa Moore, Josh Greer, Rodney

Hicks breakdown of divisions with Q&A

Saturday bus trip to Churchill Downs for the Youth

11:00am – 1:30pm Lunch Break

1:30pm Discuss changes, USDA update, USEF update, UPHA update, Convention update, Social media etiquette session

4:30pm General Membership meeting

6:00pm Dinner, Junior Exhibitor Regional Championship Awards, Silent Auction

7:15pm LBS Stallion Auction

The committee would like to do pre-registration and wondering about PayPal. Toni will check on PayPal, but should be able to. The office does accept credit cards. Toni will sponsor the Friday evening Meet and Greet. Steve Kildow will send the agenda to Maureen Quackenbush.

Long Range Planning: Carl Nichols, Chair

Carl has several people committed to the committee and they will meet before the March meeting. They will break down the planning as follows:

1-2 years

3-5 years

5-10 years

Carl has spoken to University of Georgia Equine Department and wants to speak with University of Kentucky Equine Department.

Nominating: Rodney Hicks, Chair, Matt Schuckert

No Report

Promotional/Education: Karen Waldron, Chair, Brian Yount

Karen reported that they have been waiting on USEF and what they have rolled out in the Educational Center

segment of their website. They were also waiting to see the year end financials. Karen encourages everyone on the board to make educational videos to be able to stream on website.

Regional Associations: Maureen Quackenbush, Chair

No report

Registry Review: Carl Nichols, Chair

Carl wasn't sure of the responsibilities of this committee. Andy stated that this committee handles discrepancies with registrations and transfers.

Trophies: John Wrather, Chair

No report

UPHA Liaison: Andy Freseth, Chair, Rich Campbell

Discussion occurred during different points of meeting

Youth Medallion: Mindy Preston, Chair, Kent Swalla

A letter will once again be sent out to show managers offering a discount for early sign up. The results page was also streamlined to make it easier for show secretaries to complete and return to the AHHS office.

Junior Exhibitor Regional Championship: Mindy Preston, Chair, Brian Yount

Points have been tallied. Family ownership/leases are currently being verified.

USEF Committee: Andy Freseth, Chair, Karen Waldron, Present chairman of USEF Hackney Committee

Andy felt like the AHHS did not have a good communication process with USEF so he has created this committee. Andy received a phone call from Jennifer Mellencamp about USEF meetings. Karen was attending the USEF Annual Meeting so Andy asked her to attend these meetings on behalf of AHHS. Karen gave the following report from the 2017 US Equestrian Annual Meeting The new Strategic Plan for the 100th Anniversary was the focus of the week and unfolded over multiple days with the USEF Board and USEF Staff. The emphasis will continue to be on addressing concerns for all levels of competitors as well as ways to bring more equestrians into the organization. The plan includes two tiers of membership the standard for a competitor and the Fan level. Competition Lite the new concept for show management will be under the protection of the USEF at a lesser financial fee with scaled down services. The international programs will find the best exhibitors and best horses to invest in requiring proof of points and ability. The US teams are being sponsored to be in contingency for medals not just to be competing for the sake of competing. The new President, Murray Kessler, repeated daily that he would no longer tolerate cheating and substance abuse by any discipline or breed organization. I believe that the USDA has made their endeavors to ensure Horse Welfare extremely clear to all. This is no time to congratulate anyone on a job well done. It is time to evaluate what we as a Breed and multiple disciplines must require of all members to protect and defend the horses and clients that we are representing. This will mean self-policing and zero tolerance for abuses and rule infractions. From the Drug and Medications council held by Dr Schumacher, he addressed the Four levels of drug abuses and charges. The day we arrived the Hearing Committee had set a \$24,000 fine on a level 4 offense. It was made very clear that the testing will be thorough and the fines will be set. USEF now has their own Laboratory that will be testing several other organizations samples as well. They are hoping that some of the supplement makers will have their products verified and approved for usage in competition horses. Since the supplements are not FDA approved there is not solid evidence of the effects of these medications or the ingredients listed. There have been numbers of cases of horse deaths due to mistakes in compounding or supplements used incorrectly. Last year 20 Polo ponies died due to greatly increased amount of selenium that was incorrectly formulated. There is wide spread abuse in drugs that impact Gaba receptors and have Progesterone effects with the result being a calming impact. Some of these drugs require 3 to 6 months to wash out of the system. It is vital for all competitors to understand every ingredient in the medications they may use, to question USEF representatives when in doubt and to know the life span on any medication prior to competition. Some medications will be allowed with a medication form but must be withdrawn 24 hours prior. Check with your vet and know your rules to compete on a fair and level playing field. Breeds and Registry Meeting addressed the request of USDA for microchipping horses in the US. Many breeds already microchip but the conflict may

come if they require a particular type and number of the US microchip. There are multiple brands with different numbers and it would cause a great deal of confusion trying to limit the chip readers. These older chips must be grandfathered in. The American Horse Council is pushing back on the USDA desired 840 chip which is the number used in food consumption animals. It will be the Breed registries that track the horses not the USEF. The USHJA is the registry having the greatest need for the microchips and a Horse Identification Document. Since many of their competing horses are cross bred and not registered it has been extremely difficult for buyers and show events to verify the age and history of many of these horses. In the Hunter Jumper shows there are classes for 5,6, and 7 year old horses with horses not showing in their correct age group. The impact of these problems in the USHJA registry have them trying to get all breeds to follow their example. Since the Hackney must be registered to show there are not the same issues. But having a plan in place for future microchipping may be wise as the Hackney pony and horse expand into the Sport horse disciplines where they will need further proof of breeding and age. It's questionable if FEI horse passports are going to have adequate verification since they do not always show full registration papers. We must find out if the DNA tests required by the Hackney registry has the full level of information that will be needed in the future. Town Hall meetings reiterated the drugs and medications issues that the USEF is focusing on. New President Maury Kessler said multiple times each meeting that he will make sure to "stop the cheating" in our equestrian sports. Introduction of the new logo and name is for brand identification and to make equestrian sports feel more accessible. US Equestrian logo follows closely with those of other National and Olympic sports. Thirty videos are on line for member viewing on the new Educational Center link in the website. The Promotions Dept will be putting out many more videos. This is a great opportunity for the AHHS to work with their team to produce material both within the standard show type of pony and horse as well as Hackneys in other disciplines. There is a Hackney horse owner/member with an upper level Dressage Hackney Horse that can share great clinic and training videos to expand the ideas for our members. There is now a lower tier Fan membership level of \$25 a year for non-competing members which will give them full access to the Educational center and USEF TV. The live streaming and archives of all disciplines are greatly expanding. Two courses that are being required for all licensed officials and should be necessary for trainers and coaches are the Safe Sport training and exam and the Concussions training. For the Safe Sport there is a different site safesport.org formulated by the US Olympic Council. The training focuses on the awareness and understanding of the many levels of abuses that can occur with a coach or trainer. Also Dr Lola Chambless, neurosurgeon from Vanderbilt University, has a video that we all should pay close attention to in every equine discipline. This is directed to explain traumatic brain injuries, concussions, returning to play or ride and helmet safety. People have no idea of the millions of dollars of direct costs that a traumatic brain injury will place on the injured and family. Indirect costs and loss of income can be far greater. She is emphasizing the ability to understand what must be done once an accident has occurred. Do not press someone to get right back on the horse!!! Research has shown that its highly probable that after a concussion there will be another concussion event. The CDC website has an online course called Heads up Concussion Training for concussion and head safety. I feel we as a board must have a conversation on the many directions and disciplines Hackneys are qualified to represent. Just by posting a Combined Driving video I have had numerous California drivers send photos of their single and pair horses extolling their stamina, endurance and minds for such types of training. All Board members could reach out to their circles and find many owners and trainers using our horses for different disciplines. Let's give our members direction on how every pony and horse can be developed for a sport expanding the desire to own a Hackney and preventing such numbers of ponies and horses from ending up in Stock Yards. Horse Welfare is our responsibility as well as wise and thoughtful breeding principles.

IX. Old Business

Bylaw change already discussed

Website update: Mike has it about ready to go. It looks user friendly; there are a lot of photos. It should go live next week. An email blast will go out announcing the new site and will also be posted to Facebook.

All types of photos have been received for the Hackney Spirit contest put on by Horse Lingo.

Kent asked if the new website will be able to generate copies of the registration papers. The current printout is not sufficient. Toni is meeting with the IT person next week and she will get an idea of costs involved to make this happen.

Kent also asked about the status of AHHS membership numbers being included on USEF membership cards. Andy said that while he was at the USEF office last week, he asked about that. Apparently Ashley had told USEF that the AHHS board was no longer interested in this project.

X. New Business

Executive Secretary Position – Toni shared the highlights of Taylor Gregory’s resume. She is a horse person, has an equine management degree with a concentration in marketing from Midway University. She has interned at various stables. After some discussion Carl Nichols made a motion to hire Taylor Gregory based on the Executive Committee’s recommendation at \$15/hour with health insurance benefits with a review in 90 days. Kent Swalla seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Carl asked if the registrations are being backed up off site and yes they are.

Carl also mentioned that Toni is making trips to the AHHS office at her expense. Carl Nichols made a motion that the AHHS pay her travel expenses. Rich Campbell seconded, however Toni declined.

Date Change for KSF

There will be discussion during the convention. Andy encouraged everyone to attend the meetings and discussions. Andy feels they will ask this board’s opinion so there will be a conference call in two weeks to discuss and come up with the board’s recommendation.

Rich also brought up the judging committee that was created to put together the judges for 2018. The committee did not include a person from AHHS or ARHPA.

The Cobtail Mare class will be reinstated.

UPHA/American Horse Council Economic Impact Study

Maureen would like more answers and to wait and see what and how much the other groups do. This was tabled and will be discussed at the conference call in two weeks.

Member Registration Application Process

Andy presented an application that had not been completed properly. This person never completes the applications properly and Andy asked the board’s permission to contact this person and discuss the proper way of completing the applications. The board agreed. Andy would also like for the proper steps of completing an application to be included on the AHHS website.

XI. Executive Session

No executive session

XII. Round Table

Maureen thanked Andy and Toni for their time and efforts put into the office. Matt also thanked the executive committee for handling the executive secretary position in a timely manner.

VI. Motion to Adjourn

Matt Schuckert made a motion to adjourn and Kent Swalla seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:28pm.