

NDA January Board Meeting Minutes:
January 8, 2018 Misty's Havelock, Lincoln NE
Submitted by Margo Hamilton

Attendees:

Jane Fucinaro
Heidi Helmer
Kathy Hanford
Margo Hamilton
Judy Seward
Kayla Scheiffer
Angie McClelland
Jennifer Rawlinson
Kathy Lewis
Miya Higgins
Kim Higgins

Guest: Kate Plutec of Lancaster County 4-H Office

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order by Jane Fucinaro at 6:36pm

Officer Reports:

Secretary: Approval of October Meetings, moved by Kathy Hanford, Seconded by Heidi Helmer, motion to approve October 2017 minutes approved

Approval of meetings from NDA Annual Meeting. Judy Seward moved to approve minutes from Annual Meeting. Angie McClelland seconded motion. Motion to approve Annual Meeting minutes carries.

Guest Katie Plutec joins NDA January meeting to propose sponsorship of a Western Dressage award for the Lancaster County Fair. Board discusses the necessity of full representation of both Classical and Western Dressage sports. Discussion of adding additional Western Dressage specific award to parallel the NDA Dressage award given each year. Heidi Helmer motions to approve funding of a NDA Western Dressage Award, Miya Higgins seconds the motion. Motion to fund a Western Dressage Award for Lancaster County 4-H carries.

Discussion follows of growth of Dressage at the State 4-H level. According to Plutec the number of dressage riders needs to increase in order to keep the sport of dressage in the State 4-H show. What can NDA do to help encourage that competition?

L-Program: Jennifer Rawlinson presented current information about the organization of USDF L program, Part II which NDA is working to host. Jennifer has spoken with show managers across the region and has secured some solid options for the program. Waiting to hear from SLADS to confirm if their show would be an option. Jennifer needs to submit an application to USDF in order to move forward with Part II of L program.

Kathy Hanford reminds all that NDA has set aside proceeds from USDF L Program Part I in the hopes of being able to host Part II which is badly needed in the middle section of the US. Part II only facilitates 10 prospective judges at a time. NDA will need to work with other GMOs in the area to fill volunteer spots, as well as develop a nice pool of NDA volunteers in order to facilitate this program. Good volunteer opportunity at Cornhusker Classic.

Heidi Helmer moves that NDA submit an application to USDF to host Part II of the L Judges Education program. Kathy Lewis Seconds this motion. Motion approved by board.

Competitions: Jennifer discusses the USEF Lite or Competition Lite program which has less strict requirements for shows than the full USEF requirements. Having some shows approved as USEF Lite would enable our Western Dressage Riders to have more WDAA approved shows, therefore making it simpler for more of our Western Dressage Riders to be able to qualify and win the new NDA Western Dressage Horse of the Year awards. Also just generally have more rated shows.

Vice President: Heidi Helmer has no report, apart from having heard a lot of positive feedback regarding the Annual Meeting Brunch and Banquet/Awards Ceremony. Would certainly consider doing this event as a brunch again in 2018.

Treasurer: Kathy Hanford presents current Treasurer's report. Kathy Lewis Moves to approve budget. Heidi Helmer seconds the Motion. Treasurer's report approved by board.

Discussion of transitioning NDA over to a cloud based system for more simple accounting and so that the duties of Treasurer can be more easily transferred to next person. Lewis, and Hanford discuss various software options as well as the affordable pricing for Non-Profit organizations. Current Treasurer wants to ensure we have a good, and well trained treasurer moving forward and would like to identify a member asap.

Junior: Miya had lots of good feedback from the NDA Stick Horse competition which was held during lunch at NDA Schooling Show Championships. Likely to try to host this event again. Looking for suggestions from board and membership about what type of fundraising Merch to sell this year.

Publicity: Report sent in from Melissa Ward in absentia. The cost to have a booth at upcoming Omaha International is \$400.00. Board discusses the benefits of going to International, needing to find people who are willing to man the booth.

Kayla Scheiffer discusses with the board how many issues of The Contact are best for this year. Board discusses 1 issue per season plus the annual Show Issue which is always quite popular. Kayla agrees that 5 issues of The Contact will be produced this year.

Fundraising: Fundraising committee has touched base with sponsors from last year, Urgent Care Clinic of Lincoln has confirmed another Grand Prix Sponsorship this year already. Discussion about other possible sponsors, and board members helping to generate some contacts or ideas for new sponsorships. Discussion of an NDA Memorial sponsorship for longtime members or horses who have passed on, purchasing a Memorial Sponsorship in that individuals name.

Education: Committee has met and discussed the idea of having a clinic or an event for each crowd of people. There will be the Pilates for Dressage Clinic again this year. Working on L Program Part II. Committee mulling over: Western Dressage Ride-a-Test and perhaps hosting another Cat Chamberlin Clinic for the Juniors.

Western Dressage: Kathy Lewis has no report.

President: Excited for 2018! NDA has formed the Volunteer Committee as proposed at NDA Annual meeting. Members this year are: Judy Seward, Kim Higgins and Diane Fucinaro.

Board discusses the possibility of adding a Finance Committee. Heidi Helmer and Kathy Hanford are in support of this idea. Although our finances are in great shape, a committee of people to look over and discuss the financial activities of the organization would take some of the burden off the treasurer.

Meeting is adjourned by Jane Fucinaro at 8:11 pm.