

MHAO BOARD MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 4, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:36PM.

This meeting was a practice zoom meeting for our General Membership meeting to be held on November 8th, 2020. Doana Anderson is our MHAO boards computer wiz that set this online meeting up. Thank you Doana for your expertise.

Roll call by the Secretary:

Present: Doana Anderson, Julie Nygaard, Gay Adams, Karen Breckenridge, Kathy Christensen, Grace Martin, Diane Pixlee, Erin Silver and Natalie Woodland

Not Present: Becky Bean, Shirley Champion, Mary Grimes, Karen Weideman, Nancy Eidam and Martha Woodland

Quorum met

Treasurers Report – Karen Breckenridge as of October 31st, 2020

General Checking	\$19,096
Savings	\$25,499
Futurity	\$12,676
Nancy Falk Trust Donation	\$12,654
OMC Checking	\$11,248
Total Fixed Assets	\$ 1,177
Paypal Online	\$ 194
Other Current Assets	<u>\$ 293</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$82,837.

High Point – Gay for Erin Silver before she joined the meeting

Erin is considering adding a separate category for Virtual Show points earned to be included in our High Point program starting in 2021. Nothing else to report at this time.

Emergency Fund Committee – Julie, Karen and Diane

Julie gave a brief outline for the parameters for this committee. It was discussed to add this to the bylaws or to include it in the procedure manual. A motion by Kathy suggested only including it in the procedure manual. Diane seconded and motion passed.

The fund set aside is \$1,000. Julie reported that the first donation of \$250.00 was made in September 2020 to Shady Shadows 'Go Fund Me' account. The committee felt that this was a worthy cause. These people lost everything in the fires this Fall, and are planning to rebuild their Morgan farm. The committee is currently researching other suggested situations.

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Youth Committee – Diane Pixlee and Grace Martin

Grace reported that she is working on the Newsletter and would like to interview Allison Deardorf about her experience as a 2020 Morgan Grand National judge. Great idea, Grace!

Diane is unsure if the 2021 OMC will be able to happen so the Youth of the Year material has not been ordered yet.

Diane will head up MHAO Virtual Shows for our Junior exhibitors in the PNW. She will use the outline provided by Leslie Arnould. Leslie has given her okay for us to use her outline and to move forward. Awards still need to be worked out and fit into the budget. The shows will run (one each month) starting in February, followed by March and April. Karen moved for approval, Julie seconded, motion passed. This will be our first run. Once comfortable in doing these virtual shows, more may be added, and we can look at possibly including Amateurs. We will need to be sure we have the budget to handle the cost of awards.

Stallion Service Auction – Gay Adams

Last year we had 22 stallions that generated over \$15,000 in bids. My goal this year is to get 25 stallions. Two major stallion events have been added – the Stallion Sweepstakes out of New England, and a stallion auction with the Superior Horse Sale November 20th. Both events are large and include a lot of stallions. The Superior Sale added a stallion auction and the last I heard, had over 100 stallions offered. These are both good for the Morgan breed, but could make my ability to pull in stallions to our auction harder. Stallion owners get tired of donating breedings. I am starting my quest for stallions now. We will see how it goes this year.

Futurity – Gay Adams

There are currently 30 horses enrolled. Gay reminded people to get their horses nominated to avoid the late fee after December 31st. It goes from \$45.00 to \$100.00 after the first of the year. Two breeders/trainers have retired this year – Nancy Eidam and Catherine Cloud. Nancy was a major supporter of the Futurity. Gay asks that if anyone knows someone who is raising a 2020 foal, they encourage them to enter our Futurity.

Promotion – Kathy Christensen

Kathy reminded everyone to send in their horse pictures before the end of the year for the new stand-up banners. The pictures need to be of high quality but not be just show pictures. Send in the happy, fun pictures of everyday life with your beautiful horses. We want to show the versatility of the Morgan Breed. She will bring it up at the General Membership meeting.

Kathy would also like to get a virtual store up and running to sell branded items as a fundraiser for MHAO. The masks were a great experiment to check out how this might work. Possibly do this before OMC so exhibitors can sport their new gear at the show.

We also have a U-Tube superstar in our organization; Maddie Arnould has been doing short videos and doing a great job promoting the Morgan horse. Kathy Christensen was her beautiful

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assistant in the last one that I tuned in to watch. It was mentioned that we should interview her for the Youth newsletter.

Spring Clinic – Erin Silver

Nothing pursued so far. Waiting to see how COVID goes.

Membership – Doana Anderson

43 total people have already renewed for 2021, for a total of \$1,045.00 The mailed Directories have been sent out (and they are beautiful). Only two were returned and Doana will check on resending them with updated addresses. Doana asked a question as to what type of online directory members want. She is open to suggestions while deciding what to design for the club. She will bring it up at the General Membership meeting.

Scholarship Committee – Gay reported for Mary Grimes

We missed getting the funds out before the Fall term for our 2020 award. Gay will get it out to Natalie Woodland's college before her Winter Term starts.

Open Incentive & Ride/Drive – Gay reported for Shirley Champion

It was discussed that Virtual shows may be more prevalent next year because of the current pandemic. It was decided that through our Open Incentive program we will include/accept Virtual Shows for reimbursement. Members may ask to be reimbursed up to \$25 per show and up to \$100 per year. The form will be updated to include these Shows.

NEW BUSINESS –

The Foal contest winners will be announced at the General membership meeting on Sunday November 8th. First place went to Ellen Atkinson and is #15 as shown on the website. Ellen wins \$100. Second goes to Morgan Christensen and is #7 as shown on the website. Morgan wins \$75. Third place goes to Shannon Olson and is #1 as shown on the website. Shannon wins \$50. All participants will be notified.

Board Elections – reported by Julie Nygaard, Secretary

The President position has not been filled. A few write in candidates were handed in but no one has accepted the job. Because we only have 15 Board positions that we have declared, and 15 Board members have been elected, the President position can only be filled by someone already on the Board. If not filled by the end of the General Membership meeting, the Vice President will lead until a President can be appointed off the Board. The chain of authority as outlined in the By-Laws will be followed in the meantime.

Vice President – Kathy Christensen

Treasurer – Karen Breckenridge

Secretary – Julie Nygaard

Youth Director – Grace Martin

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2021 -2022 Directors – Sara Breyman, Shirley Champion, Nancy Eidam, Mary Grimes, Sandi Humphres, Gay Adams, Diane Pixlee, Martha Woodland

2020 – 2021 Directors – Doana Anderson, Erin Silver, Karen Weiderman

Huge THANK YOU to Gay Adams for being President for 5 years and running the club with the utmost class and expertise! You will be hard to replace....

Humanitarian Award Proposal from Patricia Carlson – Gay Adams

There was a discussion about the proposal received from Patricia Carlson for an MHAO Humanitarian Award. A beautiful outline was sent via email to study before the meeting. This would be an award for our Morgan people that go above and beyond to help others out in difficult situations. It was decided that the recipient doesn't need to be a current member of MHAO, but does need to be part of the Morgan community. It was suggested that the winner or winners, have their picture and story of how they helped out in the Stable Sheet and that a history be kept in our Directory and on our website. It was decided that the Emergency Fund Committee will oversee the nominees suggested. A motion to approve the proposal was made by Julie Nygaard and seconded by Karen Breckenridge. Motion passed. Nominees will be requested at the General Membership meeting, in the next Stable Sheet, and via our main Facebook page.

The next meeting will be a ZOOM General Membership meeting on **Sunday, November 8th 2020 at 1:30pm**. The President of AMHA, Tony Lee will be our guest speaker.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22pm. Trial Zoom meeting successful!

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Nygaard – MHAO Secretary