

WDAFL BOARD MEETING

December 28, 2019 7:00 PM Conference Call

Meeting was called to order by Joanne at 7:02 PM. In attendance were Marie-France, Susan, Natalie, Wendy and Marjie. Lauren has resigned from the board.

Secretary/Membership Report:

Susan presented the November 24 minutes for approval. Mari-Frances moved to approve the minutes, Wendy provided a 2nd. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Report:

Wendy will submit a treasurer report early in January by email which will provide the final financials as of December 31.

Championship Show

Susan had questioned why we were billed for 2 hours of arena lights. She thought we had discussed not using the lights since the rate is \$40 per hour. A couple of people remembered the lights being on either Friday or Saturday night for people that were schooling. We all agreed to set and post time limits for lighted arena use at next year's show.

High Point Awards Program Changes

Joanne suggested we consider giving awards to 10th place, using a straight average rather than median when determining final results, and consider limiting participation per horse/rider pair at no more than 2 years for any specific level. Discussion was had. Marjie made a motion to use a straight average rather than the median score. Wendy provided a 2nd to the motion. Motion was approved. The other suggestions were not approved. Susan will work with Becky to get this change posted on the website.

Youth Member on the Board

Susan had emailed a suggestion that we appoint a youth member to the board to provide input on operations from the youth perspective. Discussion was had. Ultimately, Susan moved that we establish "Teen Ambassador" position. This position must be a high school age member. The position will be a non-voting position. An announcement on the website will be made that we are seeking a teen member for this position. Interested volunteers should submit a paragraph or 2 about why they would like to serve and how they could benefit the association. Board will review all submissions and make a selection at their February meeting. This will also be announced at the Annual Meeting on January 18. Natalie provided a 2nd. Motion approved. Susan will work with Joanne to finalize the article and Becky to get it posted on the website.

Annual Meeting Meal

Wendy (Shady Oaks Stable) has graciously determined to sponsor this meal. She will be providing a salad bar with protein choices. Coffee, tea and water will also be provided. Members can bring their own alternative beverages should they desire. If people ask to donate to contribute to the meal, they

should be encouraged to bring finger foods. Posters will be hung to specify the meal and meeting is for members or prospective members. Joanne is working on the program for the evening. She is having some problems with the layout and may send to Logan (graphic designer) to complete the final copy. It was suggested that Natalie bring some membership applications for possible people wanting to join, as well as some high point program applications.

New Board Members

Through the voting process, one professional nominee had an objection filed against them. The board discussed how to handle this as it has never happened in the past. Susan moved that since this person is a professional, they would be better seated to the advisory board, rather than the board of directors. Marie-Frances provided a 2nd. The board agreed, provided that Joanne's further investigation into the specific objections filed do not clearly reveal justification for the objection.

New Board Organizational Meeting

Wendy moved to schedule this meeting for January 12, 7:00 pm, via conference call, so that announcement of the full board can be made at the annual meeting on January 18. Susan provided the 2nd. Board approved.

Treasurer Additional Info

Wendy reported that she has been working with our CPA with regard to necessary requirements including 990 (Non profit IRS certification), Liability insurance, Directors and Officers insurance, SunBiz filing, and other issues. The CPA is donating her time to provide info, but Wendy is doing the work.

Adjournment

Wendy moved to adjourn the meeting. Susan provided a 2nd. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.

Bills Coming up

Joanne reported that our insurance is due in February. We will also be paying for year end awards and any expenses for an education event and annual meeting. The year end awards have included level awards and overall awards in the categories of youth, open and amateur that have been director chairs that cost about \$100 each. These awards have traditionally been purchased through Hodges. We had about 40 participants in the awards program this year with 24 currently qualified for consideration. Lauren will be taking over the High Point program next year. She has also volunteered to monitor our social media efforts. These expenses will be reducing our financial status below what we have been carrying for the last few years.

Education Event/Awards/Annual Meeting

Discussion was had with regard to this event. Susan reported that the meeting typically was held the third weekend in January, however, that weekend is the first 2 day show in the Horse Park USEF series. Wendy moved that we host this meeting in conjunction with the USEF show on Saturday, January 18th. The motion included hosting a dinner (hopefully we can provide that free) with the education portion being a discussion with a judge (maybe Charlotte Trentleman) on the judges perspective now that

Western Dressage has evolved for a few years. Susan provided the 2nd. Motion approved. Marie-Frances will call the Horse Park about what facilities we could use there at the Horse Park. Wendy generously stated that she will sponsor the meeting up to \$500 with the affiliation covering expenses beyond that amount.

Board Nominations

Susan stated she will head up this effort. Nominations will be open for a 2 week period, ending around December 4. After nominations are closed, Susan will issue the website and social media announcements about elections being open with regard to the nominations. The election consists of announcement of the nominated members and instruction to send a message with any objections against those nominated. That period will also be 2 weeks. This schedule will result in the new board being set before the end of December. Organizational meeting should be scheduled early in January so that the board can determine the executive committee (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) and directors.

In review, Marie-Frances, Patty and Susan's 3 year terms have expired at the end of this year. Marie-Frances has served 2 consecutive 3 year terms and is ineligible to continue. Susan announced she is willing to serve on the board for another 3 year term if the board agrees.

Susan discussed serving on the board with members Lisa Walter and Leah Marshall. Both are willing to serve and Susan will nominate them. Joanne nominated Susan to continue for a second term.

Joanne reported that we need some new advisory board members. She will be nominating Holly Winkeljohn and Brian Myerhoff. The board discussed the need to involve these advisory board members in the regular business of the group. It was suggested that at a minimum, quarterly phone conferences with the advisors should be done. One call should be held in December for input prior to our education/annual meeting/awards event. Marjie volunteered to be the advisory board liaison. She will contact Charlotte about being the speaker for the annual meeting. Marie-Frances moved that we remove Karen and Kathy from the advisory board as they have not been responding to efforts to reach out to them. Wendy provided a 2nd. Motion was approved.

Membership Renewal

Susan has been working with Natalie who volunteered to handle membership in the future. The annual statement about needing to renew membership has been drafted. It was suggested that the message also ask members about any advisory board nominations. The website will be reset to handle 2020 membership. Natalie will be coordinating this effort with Becky. The board determined that the membership fees will remain at a very affordable \$25. Susan will update the paper membership application that is on the website with Natalie's address for those that don't want to join through the website.

Next Meeting: December 29, 7:00 via conference call.

Adjourn: Marjie moved to adjourn. 2nd by Marie-Frances. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.