

EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

February 4, 2024

Board Members Present: Tiffany Markstrom, Shelbey Smith , Carie Decker, Teresa Pollard, Jennifer Sherlund, Starr Brown, Amanda Gil

Members: Angela McConnell, Rob Laitinen, Alanna Wojnaroski

Absent: Ben Sherlund

The meeting was called to order at 11:08am by Tiffany Markstrom.

Meeting Minutes

Shelbey Smith **motioned to approve the Meeting Minutes for January 6, 2024.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Management Report

It looks like the club lost money but 2022 and 2023 awards ended up being paid in 2023. Each show had profit not loss. The attorney for correcting the non-profit status cost the club about \$2400.00. Carie Decker met Linda Bourque at Four Front and removed all money except for \$1.00 and moved it to Central Savings Bank, \$1400 into checking and \$2000 into savings. She didn't close the account because the CD is there and we still get monthly interest that gets deposited into that account. We get about \$50 per month in interest. The CD is set to mature in 2025. When it does, the club can switch it to Central Savings Bank.

Teresa Pollard **motioned to approve the Management Report for Year End 2023.** Seconded by Jennifer Sherlund. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Old Business

In Kind Lease/Grant

Tabled until September

Tack Sale

Shelbey Smith reported that half the tables (10) have been reserved. The rental is paid for at this point. Shelbey will be picking up the key for the hall the Thursday night prior to the tack sale and plans to be at the hall by 7:00am on the day of the tack sale. She stressed that in order to received our deposit back, we will need to follow the clean up checklist, so we need people for clean up as well as set up. She also contacted Saddle Up Magazine to have our tack sale posted in their magazine. The club is going to have a table as well to sell raffle tickets, memberships, shirts, clinic sign up. Amanda Gil volunteered to run it.

Clinicians

Tiffany Markstrom hasn't heard back from Trevor Walton but now that the club has decided to go in the Speed direction, he would not be what we're looking for. Starr Brown will reach out to Lexie Hall and Will & Brian Bannerman to see if they are available for the August date.

Tiffany was able to confirm that Morgan Lantz is able to do the pleasure clinic as well as judge the Sunday show. Tiffany is going to confirm that \$1000 will be acceptable by Morgan. The pleasure clinic will be split into Novice/Advanced sessions for Showmanship, Horsemanship/Equitation, Pleasure and Trail. It was decided that the cost for the Pleasure Clinic will be \$200/participant including stall. First choice will go to current EUPHA members and First Come First Serve. \$50 immediate deposit is due at

time of reservation and needs to be paid in full by April 15, 2024. The club also will have a registration form to properly place participants at the discretion of EUPHA/Morgan Lantz. There will be a potluck following the clinic. Shelbey Smith **motioned to approve the cost, schedule and registration creation for the Pleasure Clinic.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Rob Laitinen mentioned that having the clinician being about to have a wireless microphone would help the people watching get more from the clinic because they would be able to get to hear everything that was going on. Carie Decker said she would look into wireless/hands free microphones that will hook up with the club's sound system. Shelbey Smith **motioned to approve that Carie Decker can purchase a wireless microphone for the maximum of \$250.00.** Seconded by Starr Brown. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Judges

June – Morgan Lantz

June – Jennifer Sawyer/Elaine Page

July – Need

August – Need

Tiffany Markstrom is waiting for an email from AQHA about the Intro show before emailing AQHA carded judges. However, with discussion, the club decided to table the Intro AQHA show until 2025 so we can get everything in order and not have to rush. Carie Decker **motioned to table the Introductory AQHA show until 2025.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Suggestions for judges to contact were Trevor Walton and Afton Ruhle.

An Introductory AQHA Show Committee was created to get things organized and planned for 2025. Tiffany Markstrom, Carie Decker, Teresa Pollard and Shelbey Smith

Trail Equipment

It was decided to table until March's meeting when we can decided on a budget. Tiffany is going to get quotes for 8-10 poles from Tri-County Building because she gets a discount through her dad. Alanna Wojnaroski said she would reach out to Whiskey River. Carie Decker will look into prices for flowers and décor.

A Trail Equipment Committee was created to get quotes and a budget. Tiffany Markstrom, Carie Decker, and Alanna Wojnaroski

Showbill

We decided to start with the Speed portion of the showbill because Rob Laitinen came to help with the discussions regarding it.

Shelbey Smith **motioned to keep Leadline Barrels and Down and Back as first and second classes of the speed portion of the showbill.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Discussion in regards to the order of age divisions ensued and during the discussion, adding 13 and under Pony back onto to the showbill was also brought up. The club has recently seen the number of speed ponies grow and the fact that ponies aren't as fast as horses is duly noted. The club doesn't have issue bringing it back for the two year trial. It was decided to rotate the divisions to run in the following order, Adult 20 & Over, Youth 14-19, Youth 13 and Under, and Youth 13 and Under Pony followed by the respective Sweepstakes classes.

Angela McConnell **motioned to change the division order (see below) and add Youth 13 and Under Pony back to the showbill.** Seconded by Jennifer Sherlund. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Order of Division for each speed class:

- Adult 20 & Over
- Youth 14 – 19
- Youth 13 & Under Horse
- Youth 13 & Under Pony
- Sweepstakes (if Applicable)

Rob Laitinen was asked about order of classes since he is the main ring crew member. He said it didn't really matter as long as we ran every division for that class (see above)

Shelbey Smith **motioned for the order of Speed classes to be Barrels, Poles, Down & Back, Specials.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

The amount of "Special" classes was discussed. There were a lot of suggestions from the banquet stating that there are too many speed classes. Rotating a Special speed class was discussed and decided on. The six classes that were decided on are Flags, Around the World, Scuda, Stakes Race, Doorway, and Relay. An updated description for the Specials will be added to the rulebook at the next meeting. Teresa Pollard again tried really hard to have Indian Pickup added to the list but was vehemently shot down! Alanna Wojnaroski **motioned to remove four of the Special speed classes and add one rotating Special to the showbill.** Seconded by Shelbey Smith. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Shelbey Smith **motioned that the dates for the specific Special be set into place and they will be listed below.** Seconded by Jennifer Sherlund. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

- May 31 – Scuda
- June 14 – Around The World
- June 15 – Flags
- July 26 – Relay
- July 27 – Stakes
- August 16 - Doorway

Final discussions about the Speed section of the showbill included attire. Everyone likes the long sleeve rule and the exhibitors followed it. One change we will discuss is allowing long sleeves or EUPHA apparel. Rob Laitinen suggested that we set a rule for arena dragging. He said all speed clubs do and it's not something EUPHA has done. He said that most drag every 5 runs but we could do every 5-8 or at ring crew's discretion.

Angela McConnell **motioned to approve the Speed Section of the Showbill with all revisions.** Seconded by Teresa Pollard. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

We moved on to the pleasure portion of the showbill

Shelbey Smith **motioned to move the start time back to 9:00 am.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Halter classes were discussed first. Hunter in Hand will be kept on the showbill one more year to see how the interest is now that the club isn't sanctioning with UPHA. Teresa Pollard requested that the Stallion class be placed ahead of the Weanling/Yearling class for no other reason than that's how it has always been. Shelby Smith **motioned for Stallion Halter to be class #2 after Hunter in Hand and before Weanling/Yearling.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Teresa Pollard wanted to remove Mini Halter because we only had mini's show up at one show and historically don't have any. There was no issue with keeping it because the club is able to remove some other classes and if there are none, the classes can just move on. A Senior horse class was suggested to get added because senior horses can't compete with a prime age horse just like a yearling can't. The suggested age limit was 20 and over but with more discussion it was decided that most other associations have as well as our show demographics would support 15 and over. Shelby Smith **motioned to add a Senior Horse 15 Years & Older Halter Class** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Solid Horse was removed and Color Class was changed back to Any horse with a color that is a recognized color association (ie, Paint, Appie, Palomino, Buckskin, Roan, etc) Before moving on to Showmanship, Teresa Pollard requested that Lunge Line be moved before showmanship due to having to get babies ready twice. Shelby Smith **motioned to approve all the changes to the Halter class section of the showbill.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Shelby Smith brought up age divisions as we were discussing changing the order just like we did for the speed portion to keep the showbill cohesive. She suggested changing them to W/T Youth, W/T Adult, Youth 18 and Under and Adult 19 and Over, due to the numbers in the youth classes. The club tends to agree purely on the numbers stance but for the membership it would be unfair for a 12 year old to show against a 18 year old. They just have more experience in the saddle and more strength so the younger would lose out most of the time. The majority felt that it would be hugely detrimental to the club if we changed the ages groups. It will remain open for review at the end of the year. Angela McConnell **motioned to keep the Age Divisions as they are W/T Youth, W/T Adult, Adult 20 & Over, Youth 14-19, Youth 13 and Under .** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Shelby Smith brought up adding Leadline and Walk Only Showmanship classes as well as keeping Trail and the rail class. After lengthy discussion about not being able to justify adding 6 classes total and that Leadline is ultimately for cute factor where Walk Only is a good step up/starter, Alanna Wojnaroski **motioned to remove Leadline Trail and just keep Leadline but add Walk Only Showmanship as well as keep Walk Only Trail and Walk Only Pleasure.** Seconded by Amanda Gil. One Opposed. Motion Carried.

Walk Only Showmanship will be added to be the first Showmanship class. Leadline will be held after the 13 and Under Showmanship class, which will give adults time to show their showmanship class then get the horse ready for leadline. Walk Only Pleasure will go after Leadline and Walk Only Trail will be the first ridden trail class.

Riding Class portion of the showbill

Teresa Pollard requested that the JR/SR horse be moved to after the age division classes. She always hated having to be the first class after the breaks as well as if there was no JR horses, they would jump right to SR or they would combine JR/SR and people would be rushing to not miss their age division class. The club decided that JR/SR classes would not be combined together at all. Teresa Pollard **motioned to move Junior/Senior Horse Pleasure classes after the Age Division Pleasure Classes in the showbill.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

In Hand Trail will be kept on the showbill and Walk Only Trail will be added as the first ridden trail class.

Alanna Wojnaroski **motioned to remove W/T Novice Rider Open, W/T Novice Horse Open, W/T Pleasure Open from the showbill.** Seconded by Shelbey Smith. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Western Pleasure JR/SR horse will be moved to mirror English Pleasure. Western Riding, Reining, Ranch Riding and Mystery Class were all removed from the showbill. Ranch Riding did have some interest so if that is asked about, the club will revisit adding it back for 2025.

Shelbey Smith **motioned to add English Disciplined Rail to the showbill.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

In total, 15 classes were removed and 8 were added to the showbill.

Sweepstakes classes (not including Speed)

Since the club is offering the option for any class to have money added by individuals sponsoring a class, Alanna Wojnaroski **motioned to remove all Sweepstakes Pleasure classes from the showbill.** Seconded by Starr Brown. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Shelbey Smith **motioned to remove the Highpoint fee and raise the Office Fee to \$5/day.** Seconded by Carie Decker. All in Favor. Motion Carried. Leadline classes will have no entry fee but be subject to the Office fee like in the past. Walk Only will be a required pay class. The blanket fee will be kept to help keep it a little more affordable. Stall fees will be increased to \$25/night, \$40/weekend, \$10/tack stall and \$10 Haul in fee/horse/day. The Haul in/Stall Deposit will be removed because it was more headache than helpful. Shelbey Smith **motioned to remove Deposit information/requirement from and change fees on the showbill.** Seconded by Teresa Pollard. All in Favor. Motion Carried.

Shavings

As convenient as having shavings available was, it was another huge avoidable headache. Tiffany Markstrom has issues getting ahold of the owner, Shelbey Smith had to physically go get them and load them, and people didn't prepay and took them. Carie Decker said she would be willing to buy a pallet and just sell them but then we would need someone in charge of locking them up and getting them for people. It was decided that we won't provide shavings this year.

Rule Book

Tabled until March meeting.

New Business

AQHA Show

Tabled for 2025

Money Added

This was discussed with the showbill discussion, we further discussed the amount and division of the funds. \$50 – 1st - \$30, 2nd - \$15, and 3rd - \$5. The donor would be able to pick the class and date and if they want to do it for a day, weekend, season. Shelbey Smith will create the form.

Sponsors

Teresa Pollard will update the sponsorship form so we can start reaching out to our sponsors.

VIP Parking

This was discussed at the previous meeting and we temporarily agreed on \$20 to reserve your parking in front of the stalls by the practice arena. Further discussion a majority at the meeting didn't feel it was fair to put another fee on for parking to make it "fair." The only other options are to not allow any parking between the barn and practice arena or first come, first serve. However, the first come, first serve option was quickly shot down because the potential for people to be mad about others parking in front of their stalls. Parking is allowed on the backside of the practice arena but awnings won't be allowed facing the arena. Alanna Wojnaroski **motioned for no parking between the barn and practice arena**. Seconded by Teresa Pollard. All in Favor. Motion Carried. The parking issue will be reevaluated for 2025.

Fundraising/Raffle

We have received our raffle license and the tickets. In previous meetings, we discussed the raffle items. We decided to get a Kathy's show halter, Back on Track blanket and a Blackstone. Some speed exhibitors expressed interest in pop up barrels and pole sets for a raffle item. With further research, the poles alone would cost over \$100 in just shipping. This might be a good raffle item for the banquet where the winner will be able to take them home that night. We will be willing to ship the Kathy's halter and BOT blanket if the winner isn't present. The Blackstone will need pick up arranged. Tickets are going to be \$10.00 each. We aren't going to offer "packages (3 for \$25)," because all the sellers need to keep an accounting of the tickets for Carie Decker to turn in. The club's goal will be to sell 300 tickets. Many of the board members said they were going to buy at least 10 tickets or so. The ticket packets will be available by the Tack Sale for the members that are going to sell them.

Funds Request – Fair Board

This was discussed prior to the Showbill discussion with Rob Laitinen present. At the beginning of the discussion, the club was very against helping pay for anything since we have to pay the usage fee and in the past if we want something done to the horse area, EUPHA would have to do it. Rob Laitinen said it would be in the best interest of the club to offer to help with even a miniscule amount and state why we can only offer that amount (\$475 per weekend). Carie Decker said with the unknowns of the year, the most the club could think about giving would be \$500.00. She is going to write a letter and get the board and Rob's opinion before sending.

Ribbons

Carie Decker ordered the ribbons. She went with single, flat ribbons.

Apparel

Teresa Pollard let the group know she has some interest in exhibitors ordering apparel. She reached out to OMB about minimum orders, and while there isn't one, it's cheaper to order more. Teresa is going to get the order information to Shelby Smith so she can create a post of Facebook to see how much interest there is and if people will prepay again.

Meetings

It was brought up that meetings need to be consistent so the public knows exactly when to expect them. The club decided that the third Sunday of every month unless a holiday or horse shows are conflicts. If a member has to miss, then they have to miss.

March 17 at 11:00am

April 21 at 11:00am

May 19 at 11:am

July 21 at 11:00am

September 15 at 11:00am

October 20 at 11:00am

November 17 at 11:00am

Work bee

It was decided that we needed to get the annual work bee scheduled.

May 4 at 11:00am until when done

Back up date: May 11 at 11:00am

Next Meeting: Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 11:00am at Sidock in Sault Ste. Marie.

Adjournment: 3:20pm pm Shelbey Smith **motioned to adjourn the meeting.** Seconded by Alanna Wojnaroski. All in favor. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Teresa L. Pollard, Secretary