



**AMERICAN SADDLEBRED HORSE AND BREEDERS ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Monday, February 7, 2022 at 5:00 PM ET

1. Call to Order – Anna Marie Knipp

- a. Roll Call (via Zoom):** Present: Kristen Bagdasarian, Julie Behrends-Jones, Bob Brison, Jim Cherry, Rick Curl, Ali DeGray, Jennifer Dixon, Larry Hartsock, Anna Marie Knipp, Emily Lee, Joan Lurie, Helena Moreno, James Nichols, Joe O'Brien, Evan Orr, Christy Parker, Cliff Paulsen, Chris Schubert, Rachel Seifert, Kim Skipton and Joan Todd. ASHBA staff present: David Mount, Katriona Adams and Jean Warren. Absent: Allen Bosworth and Owen Weaver.
- b. Adoption of Agenda –** Anna Marie called for a vote to adopt the Agenda. Motion made by Chris Schubert and seconded by Julie Behrends-Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.
- c. Approval of January 5, 2022 Board Minutes –** Anna Marie called for a vote to approve the minutes from the last board meeting. Motion made by Chris Schubert to amend the minutes to reflect those that are attending, in-person, via Zoom and those absent. The motion was seconded by Kristen Bagdasarian. All in favor. Motion carried.
- d. Approval of January 8, 2022 Board Minutes –** Anna Marie called for a vote to approve the minutes from the board meeting. The minutes to be amended to reflect Rachel Seifert was not present and the minutes to reflect who was present in-person, via zoom and who was absent. Motion was made by Chris Schubert and seconded by Kristen Bagdasarian. All in favor. Motion carried.
- e. Declare Conflict of Interest –** Anna Marie ask if anyone would like to declare a conflict of interest. Anna Marie declared that she serves on the board of the American Hackney Horse Society and Kim Skipton declared that she works for the United Professional Horseman's Association part-time.

2. National Academy Championship Horse Show Discussion – Elisabeth Goth

Elisabeth Goth reported on the success of the National Academy Championship Horse Show, which was established in 1999 to grow academy riding programs. The show has given almost \$700,000 to St. Jude since 1999. Last year the show had 1,248 entries and it is moving to a four day show this year to accommodate growth. Joyce Webster, who is the show founder, has created a well laid out plan that is instrumental in the success of the show. She plans to retire in five years and is offering ASHBA the opportunity to partner with the show and eventually take it over after she retires to ensure the show continues beyond her retirement. It was discussed that the show would be an incredible marketing tool that would provide ASHBA with another gold standard program and strengthen the pathway from lessons to the show ring. Joyce would continue to administer the show until her retirement and requested that the beneficiary of the show remain St. Jude.



Emily Lee made a motion to accept the terms of the proposal and have ASHBA counsel draw up a formal agreement. Seconded by Clif Paulsen. All in favor. Kim Skipton abstained. Motion carried.

3. Executive Director's Report – David Mount

David Mount reported that the licensed officials education committee has recommended that “crooked tails must be penalized” language be put back into the American Saddlebred rules (Subchapter SB-1 General Qualifications) to clear up confusion on how to judge horses with crooked tails. Motion made by Chris Schubert to approve the rule change proposal as written and seconded by Kim Skipton. All in favor. Motion carried. David reported that EWAC has approved an emergency grant request in the amount of \$3,500 for Serenity Saviors, a 501c3 American Saddlebred rescue and sanctuary, to assist with transporting horses to a new facility in Alabama. Motion made by Joe O’Brien and seconded by Joan Todd. All in favor. Motion carried. Also, David reported on the Ocala International Horse Show. Net income was \$49,786.02 for 2021. David will report back to the board after the next scheduled horse show committee meeting.

4. Convention Task Force Report – Emily Lee

Emily Lee reported that the Convention Task Force, created in December, is recommending that ASHBA hold a standalone convention in 2023 in Lexington, Kentucky to be held in conjunction with the ASHBA Youth Conference over President’s Day weekend. Emily informed UPHA about the pending decision and they would welcome ASHBA back if we wanted to join them again. David discussed if approved we would be adding an additional day to the youth conference to accommodate the annual meeting, board meeting and awards dinner. Rachel Seifert made a motion to advise UPHA that we will not be convening with them in January of 2023 in Orlando. Seconded by Julie Behrends-Jones. All in favor. Motion carried.

5. Board Social Media Policy – Joan Todd

Joan Todd reported at Anna Marie’s request she worked with David on a Board Social Media Policy. Joan explained why it is important to have a policy and how the guidelines would help communicate effectively in crises and help avoid crises. The proposed policy was included in the board packet. Motion made by Rachel Seifert to adopt the Social Media Policy for ASHBA and seconded by Rick Curl. All in favor. Motion carried.

6. Registrar's Report – Katriona Adams

- a. **2021 Year End Statistics** – Katriona reported on the 2021 year-end Registry statistics. There were 1,286 registrations completed, which is a 4.2% increase over the previous year and 1,295 registration applications received, which is an increase of 5.2% over the previous year. There were 2,882 transfers completed, which is an increase of 9.5% increase over previous year and 2,779 transfers received, an increase of 3.6% over previous year.
- b. **Limited Registration Proposal** – Katriona Adams reported the Equine Welfare Advisory Committee submitted a proposal for a Limited Registration based on Horse Ancestry testing by Texas A&M. Staff and EWAC members had a tele-



conference meeting with a representative from Texas A&M which stated that they cannot determine the accuracy of the test. Rachel Seifert stated that this proposal goes against our mission statement to protect our breed. Chris Schubert made a motion to not accept the proposal and to not have staff spend additional time on it. Seconded by Kim Skipton. All in favor. Motion carried.

7. Treasurer's Report – Chris Schubert

Chris Schubert reported on the unaudited 2021 year-end financials. Donations for the year were \$372,280.94, earned revenue was \$444,328.77, other revenue was \$172,032.56, prize program revenue was \$389,650.66 and Registry revenue was \$434,376.80. Total revenue for 2021 was \$1,829,169.73. Non-personnel expenses were \$459,992.93, personnel related expenses were \$809,446.80. Total expenses for 2021 were \$1,729,943.93 with a net income for 2021 of \$99,225.80. Total assets at the end of 2021 were \$2,686,586.37 and total liabilities and equity were \$2,686,586.37. Chris recommended that ASHBA move 50% of the net income of \$99,225.80 into the Belle Elegant fund and the remaining 50% into the Youth Scholarship fund. Motion made by Joan Todd to accept Chris's recommendation to move 50% of the net income into the Belle Elegant fund and the remaining 50% into the Youth Scholarship fund, seconded by Kristen Bagdasarian. All in favor. Motion carried.

8. President's Report – Anna Marie Knipp

Anna Marie recommended adding an additional in-person board meeting in April or May to continue the good work and conversations about the future of our breed that was held during the January in-person board meetings and education sessions in Orlando. Anna Marie reported that the board needed to appoint the seventh member of the Executive Leadership Committee. Emily Lee made a motion to appoint for Joan Todd, seconded by Kirsten Bagdasarian. All in favor. Motion carried.

9. Additional Business – Anna Marie Knipp

There was no additional business discussed.

10. Adjourn – Anna Marie Knipp

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm ET.