

MASSACHUSETTS THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Board of Director's Business Meeting Minutes
February, 16 2017

Victory Bar & Grill, Dedham, MA

Chairman George Brown called the meeting to order at 6:50 PM.

Board Members Present

Brown, George – Chair
Andrews, Randy
Currie, Bob-alternate
Currie, Joyce
Loebelenz, Lee
Pereira, Donna
Rose, Gregg
Salim, Adel
Spadea, Anthony
Umbrello, Paul
Zizza, Anthony-treasurer

Absent

Benson, Karen
Catapano, Frank-alternate
Janjigian, Armand

Guests

Brown, Arlene –Recording Secretary
Robbins, Bill - Accountant
DiRico, Joseph
Doyle, Matthew

1.) Secretary's Report:

The secretaries report from January 19, 2017 was read and accepted

Motion to accept report: Lee Loebelenz **Second:** Donna Pereira .

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

2.) Treasurer's Report:

Bill Robbins reported that the wires from The slots has been coming in again. The projections show a much lower income than in 2016. We should still be able to run a decent race schedule for 2017. Joe DiRico asked if the treasurer's report included simulcast money. Bill responded "yes it did".

Motion to accept report: Anthony Zizza **Second:** Gregg Rose .

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

3.) Chairman's notes and comments

a. George discussed the results of the meeting with the gaming Commission that he had on 2/2. He discussed with them that MTBA wanted to introduce an amendment that would protect the breeders from the pendulum like swings in income due to revisiting the split every year. It is very difficult to put forth a stable program when we can't plan on a reasonably stable income. We also expressed some concerns with totally dismantling the Gaming Law put forth by the Gaming Commission. He also discussed the increasing support for the horse park.

Commissioner Cameron expressed some concerns that Massachusetts money was going out of state. This was discussed and a letter was sent to the Commissioner to summarize and state the facts. Please see attached letter which was read to the Board..

4.) Old Business

a.) Arlene asked about the farm visits so we can award the money to a rescue farm

5.) New Business

a.) Anthony Spadea suggested giving a stipend to a massbred that has been in training for 30 days to help the smaller outfits. Anthony zizza felt this was too difficult to police.. Adel suggested giving a stipend to the horse when he starts. Arlene warned that awards are governed by the ch 128 law and it would be difficult to change right now. Anthony Zizza suggested changing the purse structure in some way. This is something that we can look into.

b.) Anthony Zizza then presented the Board with a proposed schedule of races for 2017. The \$75k races would be reduced to \$50k and some of the \$35k races would vary from \$30k to \$15k with many more options from allowance to claiming. There would be a total of 11 races in the spring at Finger Lakes with 9 stakes and 2 claiming races in Boston in the summer. The fall schedule at Finger Lakes would include a MA Champions Handicap and a MA stallion race along with the 2 year old stakes.

Lee inquired about having some races at Laurel or Delaware for those horses that are in training down there. It was felt that you couldn't get enough horses in the same category to be able to fill the race.

Motion to accept schedule: Adel Salim **Second:** Donna Pereira .
Opposed: Lee Loebelenz **Abstain:** None

c.) A committee of Anthony Zizza and George Brown will be the "face" of MTBA at Finger Lakes to answer questions and discuss program.

Motion to elect "face": Anthony Spadea **Second:** Gregg Rose .
Objection: None **Abstain:** None

6.) Next Meeting

Date: 3/16/2017 Time: 6:30 PM Place: Victory Bar & Grill, Dedham

7.) Adjournment 8:30 PM

Motion to adjourn Donna Pereira **Second** Lee Loebelenz

Respectfully submitted

Arlene Brown