

MASSACHUSETTS THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Board of Director's Business Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2019

Victory Bar & Grill, Dedham, MA

Chairman Donna Pereira called the meeting to order at 6:47 PM.

Board Members

Absent

Guests

Present

Andrews, Randy

Benson, Karen-Treasurer

Brown, Arlene

Currie, Joyce

Currie, Robert-Sgt at
Arms

Pereira, Donna-Chair

Rose, Gregg

Reagan, Kathleen-
CoChair

Spadea, Anthony

Umbrello, Paul

Zizza, Anthony

Catapano, Frank

Janjigian, Armand

Robbins, Bill - Accountant

DiRico, Joe

Salim, Adel

1.) Secretary's Report:

The secretaries report from February 6, 2018 was read and approved.

Motion to accept report: Anthony Spadea **Second:** Joyce Currie.

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

2.) Treasurer's Report:

Bill Robbins presented a summary of finances for the month. The wires have been coming in in a more timely fashion. But there will not be enough money to cover all the Suffolk Downs races as well as Finger Lakes early races. The Suffolk Downs races are all run before June 30. Our money comes in approximately on a bi-weekly basis so there won't be enough in our account to cover all the races at \$50,000.

Motion to accept report: Kathy Reagan **Second:** Karen Benson.

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

3.) Chairman's notes and comments

Donna Pereira discussed the interests of 3 known parties interested in developing a new race track. A Quincy with the MGC to discuss their ideas of creating a mile track, youth sports fields, a music venue and a golf course. Also Sterling Suffolk who has leased Great Barrington has plans to provide a limited racing meet there next summer. We are unsure of the Stronarch group's progress.

4.) Old Business

a.) Mr. Morrissey submitted his schedule of races for 2019. The Suffolk Downs races are the same that we ran before. The only change that we made was to switch the turf mile which was scheduled for mid May with the dirt mile scheduled later in June. He had some rather unique and very interesting races for Finger Lakes. He suggested 2 open races for Finger Lakes before the Suffolk Downs meet. A motion was made to accept the races submitted by Mr Morrissey. **It is understood and stated in a contract that we must sign with Finger Lakes Management, that they have the right to choose the dates for the races and alter conditions as necessary to meet their needs as well as ours.**

Motion: Arlene Brown **Second:** Gregg Rose.
Objection: None **Abstain:** None

b.) MGC meeting is March 14 to approve our racing schedule for 2019. Because financing the races is so uncertain, we are presenting a very generic list of races for the whole year. The purses will be a range. If we try to present the races as first half and second half as we usually do, there is no way we can show that the purses for the first half can be covered. Hopefully, the Gaming Commission will understand our plight. Arlene Brown, Kathy Reagan and Andy Hunt will be at that meeting.

c.) A motion was made to fund the April races at Finger Lakes for \$25,000 each since we are so short of Money.**

Motion: Kathy Reagan **Second:** Gregg Rose
Objection: None **Abstain:** None

5.) New Business

a.) Compensation for Mr. Morrissey was discussed and a motion was made to pay him \$750 for his professional services.

Motion: Gregg Rose **Second:** Joyce Currie
Objection: None **Abstain:** None

6.) Next Meeting

Date: 4/24/2019 Time: 6:30 PM Place: VB&G

7.) Adjournment 8:10 PM

Motion to adjourn Karen Benson **Second** Joyce Currie

**** March 14, 2019:** The MGC voted to approve only 2 races for April and 2 in July for Finger Lakes. All races for Suffolk Downs are approved. They said they understood our plight so this was a compromise offered by Commissioner O'Brien. They asked that we come back in June and seek approval for the final half of the program.

March 17, 2019: Phone Conference 8:00PM. Present: F. Catapano, Paul Umbrello, Anthony Zizza, Arlene Brown, Donna Pereira, Gregg Rose, Joyce Currie, Randy Andrews, Karen Benson, Kathy Reagan, Armand Janjigian.

A discussion was conducted on the Memorandum of Understanding that Sterling Suffolk requested the MTBA sign. Paul read the memorandum which was to show support for Suffolk Downs racing agenda for 2019. Kathy offered some real concerns about the memorandum. Others expressed both concerns and support, The racing legislation is obsolete after July 1 but some members were reluctant to approve signing something they did not have in their hands to read. Since we were not at liberty to email everyone a copy, arrangements were made for those who wished to read to come to Arlene Brown's in Rehoboth or to meet Anthony Zizza in Boston. A new conference call will be made later.

March 18, 2019: Phone Conference 8:00 PM. Present: F. Catapano, Paul Umbrello, Anthony Zizza, Arlene Brown, Donna Pereira, Gregg Rose, Joyce Currie, Randy Andrews, Karen Benson, Kathy Reagan, Armand Janjigian.

Kathy listed her objections to the MOU. Because of the number of HBPA members on our the MTBA board, she felt there was a conflict of interest. After much discussion, it was decided that if the NEHBPA members recused themselves, the conflict of interest would be resolved. A motion was made to accept the MOU. The vote was recorded as NO: Karen Benson, Kathy Reagan. RECUSED: Paul Umbrello, Randy Andrews. ABSENT: Anthony Spadea, YES: All others.
Motion passed.

March 21, 2019: Suffolk Downs was on the agenda at the MGC meeting to request approval for their program. Arlene Brown again attended to support Suffolk Downs. Suffolk Downs requested an extra \$600,000 to cover the purses for all the Massbred races at Suffolk Downs and was approved. This alleviated the crunch MTBA was feeling due to cash flow.

Therefore MTBA could afford to fund the purses for the first 2 races at Finger Lakes at \$35,000 each

Respectfully submitted

Arlene B. Brown

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