

MASSACHUSETTS THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
Board of Director's Business Meeting Minutes
March 31, 2016

Victory Bar & Grill, Dedham , MA

Chairman George Brown called the meeting to order at _____ **PM.**

Board Members Present

Brown, George – Chair
Benson, Karen - alternate
Catapano, Frank
Currie, Bob-treasurer
Currie, Joyce
Janjigian, Armand
Pereira, Donna
Ricciardi, Archie - alternate
Salim, Adel
Stone, Ed
Zizza, Anthony

Absent

Loebelenz, Lee
Rose, Gregg
Spadea, Anthony

Guests

Brown, Arlene –Recording Secretary
Robbins, Bill - Accountant
Ryan, Tim
Ryan, Kathy
Ryan, Tony
Manning, Bob
Manning, Kathy
Kareh, Jacquelineen

1.) Secretary's Report:

The secretaries report from 2/25/2016 was read and accepted

Motion to accept report: Robert Currie **Second:** Armand Janjigian .

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

2.) Treasurer's Report:

Bill Robbins received a nice Thank You from Central NE Rescue, one of the horses rescues that MTBA donated money to this year. He also reported the 2015 taxes were filed. He also expects to have the final report of the long and arduous audit shortly. Their biggest complaint was that we don't have detailed reports on the simulcast money from Suffolk Down. Bill has addressed this with D. Lenzilli. Gregg rose is now an approved signer on the MTBA checks. The planned 6 spring races at Finger Lakes and 5 more fall restricted races in addition to 10 stakes races should fit into the budget.

Motion to accept report: Armand Janjigian **Second:** Anthony Zizza .

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

3.) Chairman's notes and comments

a. George Brown met with Dr. Alex Lightbaun on Tuesday. The proposed split between Standardbreds and Thoroughbreds is coming up for review. This split affects ALL horsemen so everyone is urged to comment to MGC. The

difficulty in registrations of Thoroughbreds foals was also discussed. Dr. Lightbaun is going to try to set up a meeting for George with Dr. O'Connor who is the head of the Department of Agriculture to address some of these problems.

4.) Old Business

a.) By Laws – Robert Currie asked if we should require that absentee ballots be notarized instead of having a professional company run the election by ballot. The cost would be substantial to hire a professional company so the

question of legality will be put to our lawyer.

b.) Communications – The boards requested that a simple newsletter be prepared and we could discuss a better quality product at another time. The committee will look into a price for a simple newsletter.

c.) Stakes races – Anthony Zizza asked if another stakes race could be added on the 3rd weekend of racing at Suffolk downs. We will bring this back for discussion at the next meeting.

5.) New Business

a.) Ed Stone – wants to reduce the administrative costs to 3% instead of 9% and put the rest back into raising the cap. Bill explained he uses only between 4 and 5 % for administrative costs and the rest already goes back into the purse

and awards account. Again it was pointed out to Ed that the cap can only be addressed through a change in Massachusetts General Law Ch 128 section 2. We have already been advised that it is not wise to try to change that law right

now.

b.) other new – Tim Ryan discussed the races being run at Finger lakes and objects to any money being paid to horses running out of state. An attempt was made to explain that this has made Massbreds more valuable than most other

states' homebreds. It was also explained that money was budgeted to run some races at Brockton if indeed this becomes a reality.

c.) other new – Adel Salim brought up the question of a bill that had been introduced in the House – known as H154. A rather heated debate ensued and the meeting was called to adjournment.

6.) Next Meeting

Date: 4/21/2016 Time: 6:30 PM Place: Victory Bar & Grill

7.) Adjournment 9:35 PM

Motion to adjourn Armand Janjigian **Second** Donna Pereira

Respectfully submitted

Arlene B. Brown