

MASSACHUSETTS THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
General Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2017
Suffolk Downs, Revere, MA

Chairman George Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Board Members Present

Brown, George – Chair
Andrews, Randy
Benson, Karen
Catapano, Frank-alternate
Currie, Bob-alternate
Currie, Joyce
Loebelenz, Lee
Pereira, Donna
Rose, Gregg
Umbrello, Paul
Zizza, Anthony-Treasurer

Absent

Janjigian, Armand
Salim, Adel
Spadea, Anthony

Guests

Brown, Arlene –Recording Secretary
Robbins, Bill - Accountant
Reagan, Kathy
Andrews, Carol
Shook, Melissa
Stone, Ed
Reardon, Paddy
Fisher, Mary Beth
LaMalfa, David
Carchedi, Ralph

1.) Secretary's Report:

The secretaries report from 9/21/17 was read and accepted

Motion to accept report: Donna Pereira

Second: Karen Benson .

Objection: None

Abstain: None

2.) Treasurer's Report:

Bill Robbins reported that the annual report with the Secretary of State has been filed. Also, the liability insurance for the Board of Directors has been renewed. Due to the wire transfer from Race Horse Development fund being late, the awards checks for September were slow. This will probably be true for October as well. Everything else is as expected.

Motion to accept report: Gregg Rose

Second: Paul Umbrello .

Objection: None

Abstain: None

3.) Chairman's notes and comments

George Brown reported the Race Horse Committee recommended that the split be changed to 60%-40% in favor of the Standardbreds. Also, that the split be retroactive to January 1st, 2017. He told the membership that we were in consultation with our lawyer to determine what action would be taken.

4.) Old Business

a.) Delaware race George mentioned the race we had appropriated \$20,000 for to be run at a Mid-Atlantic race track. MTBA put up the money with the details to be worked out by the hosting track. Connections from Delaware Park set up the race and determined the conditions. MTBA signed the contract with management from Delaware. The race was carried over for several days but was unable to fill. We will try again to set up the race for next year, probably earlier in the year.

5.) New Business

a.) Horse park presentation – Paul Umbrello reported that the land has been secured for the horse park and the town officials voted non-opposition to the plan. They are presently in negotiations with four investors to finance the project. The HBPA is also pursuing ways to secure the RHDF and separate out the Breeder's portion so that we are not at the mercy of the split changes making it difficult to plan a program very far in advance.

Paul also reminded us that the horse park still must go on a town referendum before being accepted.

b.) Rescue horse donation for 2018 Because of the financial difficulties caused by the split renegotiations and the retroactive payback each year, a motion was made to postpone the donation for the horse rescue programs until next year.

Motion to postpone: Karen Benson

Second: Gregg Rose .

Objection: None

Abstain: None

c.) Brief word from nominees The 5 nominees for positions on the Board of Directors for 3 years each gave a short resume.

d.) Election of board members for 2018 The nominating committee proceeded to conduct the election and tabulate results, including the absentee ballots. Results were: Kathy Reagan, Frank Catapano, Joyce Currie, and Gregg Rose were elected to 3-year positions with Ed Stone elected as alternate.

e) Election of officers Nominations and approval were unanimous for chairman, vice chairman and treasurer.: Chairman – George Brown, Vice Chairman-Gregg Rose and Treasurer – Karen Benson.

Motion to accept officers: Donna Pereira **Second:** Paul Umbrello .

Objection: None

Abstain: None

6.) Next Meeting

Date: 11/16/2017 Time: 6:30 PM Place: Victory Bar and Grill

7.) Adjournment 8:09 PM

Motion to adjourn Gregg Rose **Second** Randy Andrews

Respectfully submitted

Arlene B. Brown

MINUTES EXECUTIVE SESSION 10/24/17

1. **Ed Stone letter** Ed Stone presented his letter as his “short” resume so the Board did not go further into detail

2. **New split**

a. Financial implications

Paul Umbrello was at the committee meeting when the split was discussed. He was not allowed to present facts and expressed concern that most of the members of the committee were uninformed.

The split recommendation is 60 to standardbreds and 40 to thoroughbreds. The last split had a devastating effect on the breeding program in MA and this new one will not help at all.

b. Legal action

A motion made to put together an ad hoc committee to make a plan to address the recent suggestions to the MGC concerning the split between thoroughbreds and Standardbreds.

Motion: Kathy Reagan **Second:** Randy Andrews .

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

George Brown appointed Kathy Reagan, Randy Andrews, Anthony Zizza and himself to this committee.

Kathy explained that as a member of the Board, she cannot be legal counsel for this board but that she can provide backup support.

3. **Retroactive fees**

a. A refund of start and entry fees was given in the July stakes races. Since then it has been learned that all stakes races must have these fees. If we then refund them we are circumventing a Jockey Club rule. A motion was made to not pay the entry and start fees back and not to pay back retroactively to June.

Motion: Randy Andrews **Second:** Kathy Reagan .

Objection: None **Abstain:** None

Respectfully submitted

Arlene B. Brown