

MASSACHUSETTS THROUGHbred BREEDERS ASSOCIATION  
Board of Director's Business Meeting Minutes  
February 17, 2022 ZOOM

Chairman Donna Pereira called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

Board Members Present

Benson, Karen-Treasurer  
Brown, Arlene  
Currie, Robert-Sgt at Arms  
DiRico, Joe  
Pereira, Donna-Chair  
Reagan, Kathleen- CoChair  
Rose, Gregg  
Spadea, Anthony  
Umbrello, Paul

Absent

Catapano, Frank  
Currie, Joyce  
Zizza, Anthony

Guests

Bill Robbins  
Armand Janjigian  
Ernie Corrigan

1.) Secretary's Report:

The secretaries report from January 19, 2022 was read and amended.

Motion to accept report K. Reagan Second: R. Currie.

Objection: None Abstain: None

2.) Treasurer's Report:

Bill Robbins Cash flow a little slow in January. Probably due to pandemic and holidays. Tax returns almost done.

Motion to accept report: K. Reagan Second A, Spadea.

Objection: None Abstain: None

3.) Old Business

a) Arlene offered a suggestion for updating our by-laws to make a change in the number of directors from 12 to 9. This change will be included in a letter going out with the membership renewal applications. Since a change in bylaws requires calling a general meeting of members to vote on the change, this General meeting will be scheduled at the same time as our regular monthly meeting.

Motion made: A. Brown Second D. Pereira.

Objection: None Abstain: None

b) Contracts for 2022 will be offered at current level.

Motion made: K. Benson Second D. Pereira.

Objection: None Abstain: None

c) MDAR update: Arlene had sent out to Board, copies of correspondence between she and MDAR. The list of 2019 foals still did not include her own horse. After sending her copies of the registration and acceptance letter from Mike Gold, the horse was added to the list. (Are there other horses missing from the list?) Another correspondence to MDAR from a new farm owner was shared by that owner with MTBA. She expressed her frustration with MDAR and moved her mares to PA. A guest at the meeting expressed his concern over the disarray at MDAR stating he has been shuffled between 5 different people and still cannot get a straight answer. MDAR is not doing its job and is having a negative impact on the Thoroughbred breeding industry. Paul Umbrello emphasized that we need to require people to send copies of their registrations to us or run the risk of loss from awards and incentives due to failure on the part of MDAR. He feels there is a big issue with conflict of interest issues with the state agencies overseeing racing.

4.) New Business:

a) Armand Janjigian addressed the Board to discuss his plans for his new proposed racetrack in Palmer. He feels the citizens are more open to racing. He said he needs to build a state of the art facility for quality racing and he wants to get racing up and running as soon as possible. He is applying for the racing license and feels he may be able to offer “festival racing” this year such as that offered at the end of Suffolk Downs Course. Engineering must be done before they decide on whether to build a grass track or a synthetic track. It must be the safest track possible. He wants this to be the first of its kind of race track run by the Horsemen.

b) The Board authorized Ernie Corrigan to write articles and advertisements for magazines also to send out letters urging support for breeding, racing and sports betting legislation. The Board will discuss at the next meeting a stipend for Ernie to do this.

Motion made: K. Reagan Second P. Umbrello.

Objection: None Abstain: None

c) Anthony Spadea would like to invite a person he knows who has worked with people in other racing communities to speak about our program and offer suggestions. He wants it to be an “in person” meeting. Paul will reserve a location for this meeting which will be posted for either March or April.

d) Paul asked that we use VoterVoice to provide an update on the Sports Wagering Bill with a master letter with links to legislators be offered to our members. It provides a very easy way for people to let their legislators know they support the bill. He asked that we provide names and email addresses of business associates to reach as many people as possible. Arlene expressed concern over privacy issues.

5.) Next Meeting

Date: March 24, 2022 Time: 7:00 PM Place: ZOOM

6.) Adjournment 9:03 PM

Motion to adjourn P. Umbrello Second R. Currie

Respectfully Submitted

*Arlene B Brown*

Arlene B. Brown