

MASSACHUSETTS THOROUGHBRED BREEDERS ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes

August 17, 2023

Present:

Robert Currie-Alternate Sgt. At Arms

Kathleen Reagan- Co chair

Paul Umbrello

Gregg Rose

Karen Benson- Treasurer

Bill Robbins- accountant

Not present:

Frank Catapano

Donna Pereira- Chair: emergency at Tufts with a horse

Arlene Brown-secretary: same above

Joyce Currie- proxy vote with Robert Currie

Anthony Spadea- Proxy vote with Paul Umbrello

Joe DiRico

Armand Janjigian

The meeting was called to order. First order of business, minutes from prior meeting.

1. May meeting minutes: Due to the emergency Tufts visit by Arlene and Donna, the May minutes were not available for review and approval. The Board agreed to approve via email after circulation.
2. Upcoming elections: Candidates needed to get their candidate statements in to Gregg Rose by the end of this week. The Board discussed putting these up on the website or mailing out if Arlene is available. Kathleen will send all approved minutes to Barry at info@roosites.com to update the website.
3. Treasurer report: Receipts are up overall from last year; the accredited program should bring this down once started. The Board agreed to take up this program after the upcoming elections.
4. The Board briefly discussed a worker's compensation policy to cover incidental issues. No vote was taken on this issue but no objection to the point was made. This should be put in the agenda for next meeting for a vote.
5. Massachusetts Department of Agriculture refusal to license Massbreds. There are approximately six potential Massbred horses that the MDAR refuses to register for what appeared to be clerical error or date failures. The Board discussed letting the owners petition for benefits directly to the Board, to offer an amnesty on a case by case basis. The Board indicated without yet voting on any particular case, to contact these individual owners directly and let them know that they had the right to make such a petition to the Board without any guarantee that benefits under the program would be offered.

6. The Breeder's Bill was not taken up this legislative session. Simulcast was extended to December of 2025.
7. The discussion of payment on supplemental purses and what the exact payment schedule was, came up as some questioned the exact language. The suggestion was that a PDF fact sheet of awards be posted on the website. Paul Umbrello will do a draft for circulation to the Board; Bob Currie will also review; and possibly Karen Benson.
8. By Laws discussion: Proposed amendment language was circulated and discussed. Paul to circulate a final version for a vote this next week so that elections can take place.
9. Meeting times were discussed; starting in January the Board wishes to have the third Thursday of every month designated at the meeting time.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting: September to prepare for October elections.

Signed: Kathleen A. Reagan, Co-Chair.