

As corrected – Mar 12, 2009

RMDS Executive Board Meeting

January 8th, 2009
Perkins Restaurant

Called to order at: 6:30 pm

Present:

Beth Geier, Laura Speer, Heather Petersen, Alex Curnutte, Simone Windeler, Loni Gaudet, Lori Mitchell, Sharon Soos, Susan Williams, Lauren Smith, Nicole Donohue, Cathy Van Berg, Loni Gaudet, Debbie Wilke, **Susan Rudman**

Proxies:

Janet Hannon, Brenda Haley, Darlene Vaughan, Marsha Novicki

No proxy: Grand Valley, Judith Family

Motion to accept Gavin Ehringer's resignation, Sharoon Soos, 2nd Alex Curnutte Passed.

Motion to accept Cathy Van Berg as Editor and Production for the Centaur. Alex Curnutte, 2nd Heather Petersen. Passed.

Approval of Minutes from last meeting Oct 2008.

Motion to approve Laura Speer, 2nd Debbie Wilke

Treasurers Report:

There was a discrepancy from the October amount for the checking account because we still had outstanding checks. We have no current report for the money market. Interest will be approx. \$1,000.

Motion to take interest earned 2008 to capital campaign. Heather Peterson, 2nd Lori Mitchell. Passed.

Comparing 2007 and 2008 we are a little better off in 2008.

Office Manager Report:

Current membership is 445, 6 are Centaur only.

54 shows are recognized, 13 RMDS only, 41 USEF/USDF

Omnibus is at the printer – new printer, should be faster.

New banner with RMDS logo and name. Nicole Bizzaro will do layout. We should get 2 new ones, size 3' x 8'.

Motion to get 2 banners at a cost or approx \$200 each. Heather Petersen, 2nd Lori Mitchell. Passed.

Remember to use Country Supply and use the password for RMDS to get the kickback.

Committees:

Adult Amateur – Lori Mitchell reporting

Wants to do a clinic for Amateurs that are not showing upper level and make it cost effective thus showing potential members that there is a value in joining RMDS. Clinician will be Leslie O’Neal Olsen – will likely be held at Freedom Farms – facility was donated. Planned dates are may 8-10, 2009. Discussion ensued if we will be able to fill it and how to best market the clinic. One idea is to have the chapter presidents talk it up to their chapters. There is a website with more information on the clinician (www.simlysoutherndressage.com). We also need to ask Grand Valley to make sure that they have no problem with it, since these are the same dates as their show. Generally RMDS tries to not hold two RMDS sanctioned events on the same dates. Since there is quite some distance between the two, it should not be a problem. Laura Speer will contact them. If Grand Valley is fine with it, we will go ahead with the clinic.

Motion to go ahead with clinic. Laura Speer, 2nd Beth Geier. Passed.

Awards presented - Lauren Smith reporting – no written report.

Lauren was hoping to meet wit Barb Goldman tonight, but Barb could not make it. Barb has agreed to help Lauren through the first year. Barb will put notebook together with information and pictures of all awards.

Banquet and BOG – report by Simone Windeler

Potential location Norris Penrose Event Center, but we will look at more locations at the north end of Colorado Springs. Once again some discussion if there should be a central location. Since High Plains is in a more central location, we might start this idea next year when they are in charge of the BOG. Alex Curnutte recommends that we don’t do a live auction fund raising for the BOG, but rather only a silent auction and not push it so hard. This event should primarily be about celebrating achievements rather than a fundraiser.

Communications – report by Susan Rudman

Articles will go to Beth, all ads etc as well. Cathy Van Berg is the new editor and producer. Beverly Swanson will be mentor. Susan will be looking for articles. One might about the fire in Boulder and how the barns evacuated. Susan now is also the Region 5 Jr/YR coordinator.

Website – report by Michael Petersen

RMDS website domain is up for renewal this summer. Michael recommends to just pay for 5 years – we need to make sure that we remember that we have to renew in five years. *Motion to renew the website domain name for \$13.95 per year for a period of 5 years. Alex Curnutte, 2nd Beth Geier. Passed.*

Education – report by Heather Petersen

USDF symposium went very well. There was extremely positive feedback from across the country. Pictures from the symposium will run in the February Centaur.

Judges CE with Janet Foy on Jan 24th – Freedom Farms has donated facility. We should make some money with it, since we have a grant. We will only look at movements this year rather than complete tests. Still looking for riders.

TD/ Show manager education on Feb 7th in Castle Rock. Currently not many people signed up, so will send out an E-mail blast. Lots of rule changes, so attendance highly recommended. We need an attendance of about 8-10 people to break even. Heather will decide by Feb 1st if it is a go or not.

We are looking to have Lendon Gray to come in the fall and have an instructor's CE and possibly combine it with a pony event as well.

L-program testing will be in 2010 – actual shows to hold the testing at to be determined.

Shows – report by Debbie Wilke

Debbie will do a report about championships for the Centaur, statistics and trends for the last 3 years that were RMDS championships only. For 2010 we might have to look at Penrose Event Center if the CO Horse Park is not available.

Recognition of team championships – currently not enough information available on the format to make decision by **Debbie Wilke and Heather Petersen**. Susan Rudman will talk with Julie Barringer-Richers to clarify so the board can decide if recognition makes sense. Proposal is to let the scores from this count towards year-end awards. Challenge is that the show then needs to be run according to USEF rules, which might not be feasible.

Jr/YR – no report by Colleen McFadden.

Nominating Committee – Laura Speer will appoint a chapter president for this.

Scholarship – report by Loni Gaudet

Susan DeSylvia offered a video scrapbook for one of the scholarship recipients.

We are happy to accept that donation. The recipient will be drawn among the four. Alex Curnutte suggests that we have the forms for scholarships available at the barns.

Motion to increase the scholarship to make them \$500 each for 2009 by Heather Petersen. 2nd Loni Gaudet. Passed.

USDF Capital Campaign – report by Heather Petersen

We still need to raise about \$8200 – Heather recommends going for sponsors for Championships and then put profits back towards the capital campaign.

Old Business

Convention - report by Laura Speer

Stephen Hienzsch says this has been the best convention they ever had and might ever have. Hotel venue was great, stock show complex was great, USDF was very impressed. BOG at USDF was mostly about raising membership rates and in the end it was decided not to raise them. They are looking at a loss this year and are trying to get creative to cut the budget. Cuts will happen mostly in the programs.

New Business

Appoint chapter officers for DNO insurance.

Motion to appoint the chapter officers as listed. Lori Gaudet, 2nd Susan Rudman. Passed.

Penrose Chapter – hiatus. Chapter is asking to be inactive for 2009. They cannot do this for 2 years however, so Laura Speer will contact them.

Motion to accept their request for the hiatus, Laura Speer. 2nd Sharon Soos. Passed

Membership idea – by Laura Speer

USDF is offering a membership that is a non-competing membership. We already have a Centaur only member. If we want to change something we need to do it as a standing rule change. Overall we should emphasize educational opportunities more and focus less on competition. Laura Speer will write some articles and get them out into local horse publications. Alex Curnutte stated that there is also some online service for articles and will get more information to Laura.

Sharon Soos has sent in the application for Horse Expo. We will use this as a membership drive. This is a RMDS event and paid for by RMDS. We need to get info from USDF and USEF as well as some little gifts like pens. There also are some bags and T-shirts left that can be given out.

Chapter reports

Boulder Valley – Nicole Donohue

Boulder Valley will hold two shows one spring and one fall, they will try to hold several educational events. They will also hold the USDF Youth and Adult Amateur championships in July.

CSDA – Simone Windeler

CSDA's first big show of the year is the spring show in April. CSDA has partnered with Renee's Friends Fund and is now holding the Dressage for the Cure at the Peak. Sponsors and auction items needed – a sponsorship package was handed out to the board members. The show is now 3 days long, with a special Arabian show on Friday.

Foothills – Lori Mitchell

Grants were given to members to attend USDF Kyra Kyrklund symposium. Several educational events as well as one show are planned for 2009.

High Plains – Alex Curnutte Curnutte (no written report)

High Plains announces its new vice president – Tyteeka Reye. Tyteeka is also involved in a group called Equestrian Theater that will hold a fun event “Horsecapades” on Jan 25. There might be a show this year. Many fun events planned.

NCDA – Laura Speer

NCDA is planning two schooling shows and one recognized show for this year. Lots of educational and fun events will be held throughout the year.

Tri States – written report to Beth

Tri States is challenged by the fact that many members are very far apart. **There will be** one recognized show in WY this year. They are planning several schooling shows and fun educational events throughout the year.

Motion to adjourn Laura Speer, 2nd Susan Rudman – 9:17 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Simone Windeler, RMDS secretary