

## NATRC National BOD Minutes February 16, 2017, Chattanooga, TN

CALL TO ORDER by President Angie Meroshnekoff, 8:09 a.m., February 16, 2017.

ROLL CALL. Angie Meroshnekoff, Shari Parys, Lori Rand, Gayle Muench, John Horne, Kay Gunckel, Alice Perryman, Bill Moore, Mary Hanson, Linda Thomason, Mary Jo Malone, Bob Insko, Kim Cowart (ex-officio). Sarah Rinne, Executive Administrator. Beni DeMattei, R2 Alternate, Patsy Conner, Laurie DiNatale guests. Jamie Dieterich was excused, Alternate Linda Thomason attended.

MINUTES. November 16, 2016. **Parys moved to accept the minutes as recorded, Cowart seconded. Motion approved.**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Meroshnekoff welcomed the new board members, Mary Hanson (R6) and Bill Moore (R5). Thanked Kim Cowart for running the ship the past 4 years. Encouraged everyone to stay positive. We have a great board for our organization. Meroshnekoff directed the board to work to keep only three rule proposals going forward for the sake of time and being less overwhelming. We do not have a current national membership chair, and it was questioned whether one is needed, or if membership efforts remain the responsibility of each region. It is unclear if each region is making efforts in this area. Discussed RMS and the plan to make it more user friendly going forward.

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT. Rinne shared the status of renewals and membership numbers. 371 renewals have been received including family memberships, so the number is much higher than noted. To date, 33 of the 2016 free memberships have renewed with paid memberships for 2017 which is encouraging. There are currently 59 new members who have taken advantage of the 2017 free membership.

National Championship buckles were not completed by 3B Silversmiths in time for national awards presentation. 3B is a small family owned business NATRC has worked with for approximately 30 years, with only one silversmith completing the work. 3B contacted Rinne and Lory Walls informing them due to family circumstances, the buckles would not get completed in time. Rinne discussed the addition of Shari Parys to the Ride Data Management Team and requested approval of the board to add Parys as a formally contracted position. **Horne moved to approve the contract, Rand seconded. Motion carried.**

Due to the Data Management Team paid positions moving to 1099 contracted positions, as opposed to NATRC employees, Rinne requested an increase in the hourly pay from \$11 an hour to \$12 an hour to compensate for the higher tax rate applied to contracted positions in order to maintain an equivalent take home pay. There are two contracted Data Management Team members, Colleen Wills as primary, Parys as back up. **Malone moved to increase pay from \$11 to \$12 per hour, seconded by Horne. Motion carried.**

SECRETARY/TREASURER'S REPORT. See Report.

Laurie Knuutila's contract as *Hoof Print* editor is due for renewal. **Motion to approve continued contract by Cowart, seconded by Malone. Motion carried.**

RULES AND BYLAWS – Parys. See proposed rule changes.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. Dieterich. A new category for breed liaison was created under job descriptions. Action items: should Competitive Pleasure National Championships and Competitive Pleasure High Point Combination awards count towards Horse Hall of Fame criteria? **Gunckel moved, seconded by Rand to leave requirements as is clearly stating Hall of Fame is "Open National Championship" only. Motion carried.**

It was noted that the criteria in the Policy and Procedure regarding Hall of Fame do not match the Hall of Fame application criteria. The application has a much clearer presentation of the criteria. **Gunckel made motion for Policy and Procedures to conform with criteria on the Hall of Fame application, seconded by Moore. All in favor. Motion carried.**

PROTEST. Rand. No protests submitted.

PLANNED AND CHARITABLE GIVING. Cowart/Elaine Swiss. Nothing to report.

RIDE SANCTION. Conner had requests for two sanction revisions. 53 rides sanctioned this year, with 15 rides confirmed, but without sanctions received. Rinne stated there are two sanctions that arrived prior to convention that will be forwarded to Conner increasing number of sanctioned rides. Conner stated changes in sanctioned ride information need to go through the region ride coordinators first, then to Rinne at the national office.

## NATRC National BOD Minutes February 16, 2017, Chattanooga, TN

HISTORIAN. Conner shared the progress with getting historical information from Joan Throgmorton. The board was informed AERC recently acquired Bev Tibbitts' Tevis buckle and will display it. With Bev Tibbitts' importance to NATRC, the goal was to preserve the Tevis buckle so that it wasn't used as a Legacy buckle in the future.

CLINIC SANCTION. Linda Clayton. Report filed. Two clinics were sanctioned in R5, with both R2 and R6 planning clinics for the 2017 season.

MANAGEMENT. Hanson. Newly assigned to role. No report.

RULES INTERPRETER. DeMattei. Three out of five Rules Interpreter reports from completed 2017 rides have been received. There appears to be fewer hold ups on trail and in camp on rides reported so far. A CRI was conducted at one ride.

INSURANCE. Rinne. No changes.

SAFETY. Insko. Only one accident report has been received, from Christmas in the Pines in R5, to date. Insko stated he is willing to continue as safety chair.

E-NEWS. Jean Green. Report filed. E-News contacts have made some nice gains, and there is a good number of subscribers. There are several more E-News subscribers than current members.

MARKETING. Bev Roberts. Report filed.

SOCIAL MEDIA. Jonni Jewell. Report filed. There are currently 2,200 "likes" for the national page and 1,600 on the national group. R4 creates an event for each R4 ride which keeps rides in front of people on Facebook. It is strongly encouraged to have all rides create an event on the national group for visibility and promotion of rides. She reminded us to use "NATRC" instead of the general term, CTR, whenever we can.

NATIONAL AWARDS PRESENTATION. Rand. R5 has all national awards except the National Champion buckles.

BUSINESS MODEL AND MEASUREMENTS. Muench. There are currently 50 rides on the schedule. Region 5 only had 5% non-members competing, which is significantly lower than other regions. What are they doing different? Discussion that ride secretaries taking in memberships at the time of check in has contributed to member numbers in R5.

SPONSORSHIP. Parys. There are new sponsors on board and continuing to work on additional sponsorships. The Riding Warehouse sponsorship raffle of gift cards has been very successful. We need to ensure we sell out of the raffle tickets in order to maximize benefit for NATRC. Parys will approach them again with a sponsorship for 2017.

MEDIA ADVISORY. Dieterich. Report filed. Submission deadline for *Hoof Print* was February 15. Summer *Hoof Print* deadline is May 15. Branding on all forms requiring updates have been done. Laurie Knuutila's *Hoof Print* editor contract has been renewed.

FOUNDATION. Conner tried to contact Wayne Hyatt, however the phone was disconnected. A Foundation meeting needs to be held following the close of the National Board meeting today.

NATIONAL DRUG TESTING. Kim Murphy. Truesdail Labs charges \$65 per test. If a test is positive, a secondary test is run costing an additional \$65. We need to revise collection procedures and improve chain of custody. Kits will be provided by Murphy to ride managers in order to maintain consistent and uniform testing nationwide. Murphy is currently pricing two additional labs and is proposing a budget of \$6,250. We could look to increase to \$6,250 for 2018 preparing ride managers for the changes in drug testing fees in advance. **Motion to keep the budget at \$5,000, reducing number of tested from 10 to 8 for 2017 while evaluating true cost made by Rand, seconded by Gunckel. Motion carried.**

VETERINARY DRUG COMMITTEE. Mike Peralez. One positive test was registered for 2017; however, the level was below the cutoff threshold so no violation of the drug rules occurred. No action taken.

TRAIL ADVOCACY. Hanson. Trail conference attendance will be put off until June of 2018 and would like to send two or three people. Hanson has Leave No Trace cards and posters to hand out to clubs and riding facilities. NATRC does not have a strong presence in Florida. Hanson met with them about incorporating a new trail system that would be available for AERC and NATRC rides. Hanson encouraged participation in local horse fairs and can provide handouts to anyone who needs them.

## NATRC National BOD Minutes February 16, 2017, Chattanooga, TN

EDUCATION. Dieterich. Riders Manual is still a work in progress.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT/MEMBERSHIP RETENTION. Meroshnekoff questioned if we need to have a membership chair. Perryman volunteered to do it but wants to know what it entails. Meroshnekoff read the job description. **Motion by Horne, seconded by Parys to approve Alice Perryman as the new Membership Recruitment Chair. Motion carried.**

JUDGES COMMITTEE. Cowart. Meroshnekoff announced proposed Judges Committee selections. Vet Judge selections: Carol Ormond, DVM, Co-Chair, Greg Fellers, DVM, Donna Johnson, DVM, Mike Bridges, DVM, Pam Hess, DVM. Horsemanship Judge selections: Kim Cowart, CO-Chair, Nancy Kasovich, Lory Walls, Becky Rogers, Priscilla Lindsey. Rider representative selections: Jonni Jewell, Marty Findley, Keri Riddick, DVM, Sharon Roper, Liz Klamm. All approved by the board. Cowart would like to see the Judges Committee selections able to be electronically approved by January 1 for efficiency. Currently there is overlap between old committee and new committee waiting for the board to vote on appointments at the February meeting. We would need to amend our by-laws to reflect the ability to use electronic votes. **Muench made the motion, seconded by Parys to allow electronic approval of the Judges Committee as proposed by the President. Motion carried.**

Darlene Wehr, DVM, was recommended for reinstatement without further requirements by the Judges Committee. **Motion made by Insko, seconded by Meroshnekoff to reinstate Wehr as an active Veterinary Judge. Motion carried.**

Susan Dent, DVM, completed NATRC apprenticeships and is currently an AERC control vet. The Judges Committee has advanced her to provisional status. Ryan Hagan, DVM, a new Veterinary Judge applicant, is currently practicing in R4.

CRI UPDATE. Dieterich. Statistical information was compiled from rides collecting CRI data in 2016. Complete report to follow. Committee is recommending implementation of the median scoring with a base of 12. Judges, ride management and riders must be educated.

HALL OF FAME. Jackie Coleman has been having health issues. Rinne is taking over Hall of Fame at least temporarily.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND LOANS. Horne. One scholarship application was received from Jason Klamm. The Committee is recommending a \$500 scholarship. **Motion to award \$500 to Jason Klamm made by Horne, seconded by Muench. Motion carried.**

AHA. Insko. AHA will grant performance points for participation in Open competition only at this time. Insko requested allowance of CP Type A rides to count towards the points. AHA stated it has to be 25 miles per day, however their rules do not indicate that. Insko requested support of the board to push for this with AHA.

BREED LIASION. Terry Silver. Report filed. Silver struggled to find NATRC members with high point horses that had current memberships with their respective breed organizations which is problematic. She is currently working to get junior riders awarded by breed associations as well.

HONORARY AND APPRECIATION AWARDS. Ruth Mesimer. Report filed. Awards were printed and mailed to Linda Clayton. The deadline for nominations for the 2017 season is October 25. Mesimer recommends getting nominations in early.

ELECTRONIC MEETINGS. Cowart. No updates.

2017 CONVENTION. No update. In progress.

**SHARED BOARD EXPENSE. \$377.15**

OLD BUSINESS

RIDERS MANUAL. The Rider's Manual is currently with Roberts for editing and branding.

STRATEGIC PLANNING. Cowart. Marketing should continue to be an essential focus. Marketing our sport is a broad topic; it can encompass many things. We have not gotten much done in this regard. Marketing drives membership. NATRC brochures need to be handed out at every opportunity. It was suggested to provide some to each region to hand out and put in different locations. Rand stated we need to have a presence, talked about birdhouses with our logo on them, placed at equestrian type facilities. Meroshnekoff pointed out grassroots efforts help.

## NATRC National BOD Minutes February 16, 2017, Chattanooga, TN

RMS. Dieterich. We are at the point of needing to identify the top priorities for RMS enhancements in order to seek bids to get work done reliably and quickly. Donna Stidolph from R1 is assisting with developing the Request for Proposals. Right now developers couldn't give an accurate bid because our specific needs are not outlined.

CHANGING TITLE OF EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. Cowart and Dieterich. Dieterich's main concern is that changes to the by-laws are necessary because EA is listed multiple times throughout the by-laws requiring significant change (26 times). This should call for a revision to the by-laws due to EA's extensive reference. **Muench made a motion that the position of Executive Administrator can use the title Executive Director while the by-laws are officially changed, seconded by Horne. Motion carried.**

Meroshnekoff suggested we go ahead with the by-laws change since we have other changes to make referencing electronic meetings. These changes are needed for consistency within the by-laws.

### NEW BUSINESS

2018 CONVENTION. Insko. The only way to do it would be if it were in conjunction with AERC in Reno. If AERC is in Reno in 2019, R2 would take 2019, and R3 would take 2018. Otherwise R2 would need to host 2018 followed by R3. It was decided R3 would host the 2018 convention.

BUDGET REVISIONS. It was decided to remove Riders Manual budget of \$2,000 as they are not being printed. An addition of a Veterinary Judge Fund of \$175 per region was made. **Motion made by Insko to approve budget changes, seconded by Muench. Motion carried.**

JIM MENEFEE TROPHY. Cowart. The damaged trophy being retired has been replaced and will be presented at awards. It was determined to auction off the retired trophy but proper notification to the membership is essential.

### REGION REPORTS

R1. Meroshnekoff reported there are five rides scheduled for 2017 as well as plans to host a clinic. They have been receiving nothing but rain, record setting, so that could impact whether the spring rides are held. The R1 mini-convention is scheduled for March 4.

R2. Malone reported seven rides on the calendar with one clinic tentatively scheduled. The annual regional awards banquet will be Sunday, February 25.

R3. Horne stated regional convention is March 10-11 in Longmont, CO. There are eight rides scheduled for 2017.

R4. Perryman reported nine rides scheduled for 2017 with regional convention February 25.

R5. Rand talked briefly about convention 2017 in progress. There are 14 rides scheduled for the season. One of two scheduled clinics was held 2 weeks ago and was successful.

R6. Parys reported eight rides on the schedule. Smithville ride is coming back after several years' hiatus. Long standing Kanopolis ride is under new management for 2017, Marilyn Marston and Marla Stucky. Equifest is scheduled for February 24-26 with the regional convention March 4. The Horse Trail Riding Expo is scheduled for March 10-11 in Elkhorn, NE; NECTRA will have a booth there and do a presentation with horses for CTR.

**Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Insko, seconded by Horne. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.**