

AURORA ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

Aurora Arabian December 9th meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. It was held at the Strathcona Community Center.

Present: Karen Caughell, Dana Leadbeater, Lorie Fisher, Kim Kelemen, Diane Dyck, Jill Bromley, Norrie - Shan Fyfe, Brenda Engler, Lorne Robertson (via Skype).

1. Minutes of the November meeting were adopted by Karen Caughell and seconded by Lorie Fisher.
2. Membership Report given by Brenda Engler –The club currently has 149 adults (this number includes 3 youth who will move up to adult status in January 2014) and 38 youth - 2 adults not renewed to date and 17 members are due for renewal at end of December.
3. Youth Committee Report – Norrie - Shan Fyfe stated she had nothing new to report, she and Terri Martin will be meeting after Christmas to discuss youth activities.
4. Treasurer Report was given by Kim Kelemen.
 - a. Lorne Robertson asked how the club was standing financially as compared to last year at this time. Kim stated that the club was in a somewhat better financial position than last year.
 - b. Kim initiated a discussion regarding the amount that the club would reimburse the 3 club delegates for their recent trip to the AHA convention. Brenda Engler moved that the club would reimburse each delegate \$700. Kim Kelemen seconded this motion.
5. Club Promo/Newsletter Report was given by Lorie Fisher –The last newsletter was sent out by email and posted on the web in mid November—the next Newsletter will come out in January 2014.
6. Old Business

2014 Aurora Arabian Summer Horse Show – Scheduled for Friday, May 30 to Sunday, June 1, 2014 at the Ponoka Ag Event Centre in Ponoka, Alberta. Karen Caughell and Diane Dyck have the reworked schedule to include a Region 4/5 qualifier; a full delivery of Region 17 qualifying classes as well as some fun classes. A potluck barn party is planned for the Saturday evening. The possibility of having concurrent judging for Aurora Region 17 portion was discussed. Karen suggested leaving it as is for now until the club could discuss with the membership and trainers as this would result in a need to increase fees to cover the cost of 2 judges. It was suggested that we do might do a survey at the end of the 2014 show or via an email blast. In the new year Dana Leadbeater and Norrie - Shan Fyfe will work together to survey the membership. Lorne Robertson will speak at the potluck at the show about the pros and cons of this type of format at a show.

Dressage Ring and Letters – The club will need these for the show in Ponoka. Diane Dyck will contact the Calgary Club regarding renting their ring for this year's show and will also investigate purchasing them for the future.



Region 3 Qualifier –The club has received several phone call requests as well as a written request to hold a Region 3 qualifier in place of either the 4 or 5 qualifiers at the 2014 show. Karen has polled the Aurora trainers already. After some discussion it was decided that Diane would talk to the Saddlebred Club to see if they are planning on holding a Region 5 qualifier and Karen would investigate the possibility of getting approval for a Region 3 qualifier. The decision was tabled until we could get further information.

Presentation of High Point Awards – After a great deal of discussion regarding pros and cons, it was moved by Dana Leadbeater and seconded by Brenda Engler that the yearly High Point Awards would be presented as follows. The cooler would be presented at the January 2014 Aurora meeting and the trophies at the Saturday evening potluck at the 2014 Aurora Show. The recipients will be allowed to keep their trophies for a year.

7. Announcements/Activities

Proposed Clinic – The club would like to find a multi-disciplined clinician who would attract more people. A number of names were brought forward and after some discussion Liz Bentley was suggested as the best candidate. Diane will contact Liz and Karen will contact facilities. If they are successful, the club will then look at confirming a date in March 2014.

8. Business/Correspondence

Convention Highlights – Lorne Robertson-stated that the theme was all about being inclusive. 2 resolutions that passed demonstrated this. They were:

Resolution 20 - Judging Breeding/In-Hand Classes

http://www.arabianhorses.org/membership/convention/2013/Resolutions/Resolution_20.pdf

Resolution 6 - Leveling the Playing Field (USEF/EC)

http://www.arabianhorses.org/membership/convention/2013/Resolutions/Resolution_06.pdf

Resolution 6 will be available as an option to shows in 2015. It allows for a graduated progression of horse and rider based on achievement award points. It will be modified before it is implemented.

Lorie Fisher – attended as a non-delegate. Her interest was in seeing the Al-Marah Arabian Horse Galleries, networking opportunities and exploring Lexington, Kentucky. She found it interesting that most of the focus of the AHA Convention was on shows and resolutions when only 18% of the AHA membership attended shows. Most of the convention was spent on the discussion of these resolutions, with almost no time focused on education, outreach and the promotion of the Arabian horse.

Karen Caughell – reported that the 2013 AHA Youth of the Year Award results were announced at the convention. This year's winner of a \$1000 scholarship was Katie Johnson from Region 17. She is the very first Canadian to ever win this award.

Region 17 Show – Lorne Robertson reported that there was a press release on Dec 4, 2013 along with media coverage about the new facility in Calgary where the 2014 show



will be held. The group was given a tour of facility and all were impressed with the progress of construction. The pricing structure for this facility is different than facilities used in previous years. The move-in day for the Regional show will be on Sunday even though show starts Tuesday. The arenas will be open Monday. The link for the Calgary Herald press release is:

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/sports/Stampede+Park+host+horse+events/9246360/story.html>

Strathcona Feasibility Study – Karen Caughell discussed the highlights of the last gathering and stated that the group is having another meeting. The study is slated for completion in 2014. <http://www.strathcona.ca/departments/planning-development-services/special-projects-initiatives/multi-purpose-agricultural-facility/>

9. Next Meeting: The location and date for the January 2014 was discussed. It was decided that the January meeting will be held January 20, 2014 at the Nisku Inn restaurant at 7 pm. This meeting will include presentations of High Point Award coolers to the winners. The club will supply appetizers for the occasion.

Kim Kelemen moved and Brenda Engler seconded that the meeting be adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

