

MHHA Annual Board of Directors Meeting  
January 21, 2017  
Cleary University-Livingston  
Howell, MI 48843  
Annual Meeting Minutes

#### Attendance

Present: T. Barrett, G. West, E. Engle, K. Crawford, K. Goodwin, C. Serra, C. Cary-Davidson,

Absent: M. Sweeney, J. Earls, D. Bolenbaugh and D. Hartsook

Note: Because a quorum of directors was not present, only reports and industry information were presented to the membership. No issues requiring a vote were considered.

Associates: V. Vail-Shirey

Members: This is the MHHA's Annual Meeting and many members were present.

#### 1. Call to Order & Moment of Silence

President Barrett called the meeting to order at 5:25 p.m.

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Troy Boring, Kenny Marshall and Frank O'Mara.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Crawford and supported by Serra to approve the Agenda for the January 21, 2017 Annual Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Cary-Davidson and supported by Goodwin to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2016 regular session board meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### 4. President's Report

President Barrett reported on these issues:

##### 1. The 2017 Northville Downs Race Meet:

a. Qualifiers will begin on February 25th.

b. The race meet will consist of fifty-four (54) race days. Ten (10) additional race days have been requested. We are working with the Michigan Gaming Control Board to establish the actual dates of the race meet.

c. One important result of our contract negotiations with Northville Downs is that horsemen will no longer pay starting fees in 2017.

d. A late closer for good purse money is scheduled for Michigan Owned and Bred horses.

2. The Michigan Race Advisory Commission required under the new racing law has been established. The commission includes Tom Barrett (MHHA), Mike Carlo (Northville Downs) and Dr. Frank Nichols (MSU) and others.

3. The MHHA is working with other industry leaders to implement Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) as soon as possible. When implementation is completed, the horsemen's share will positively supplement our purses.

4. Barrett introduced Dr. Douglas Frank who presented information regarding Michigan's transition to the new drug testing limits that are required by the new racing law. These standards will significantly raise the drug testing threshold; and will apply to all races contested at Michigan's pari-mutuel tracks. The testing will be performed by Industrial Lab in Colorado. The transition will create significant savings that will become available to include in purses. Only Delaware and Ohio do NOT use these new testing limits. All other jurisdictions do. A summary of the changes in a document titled Transitioning Michigan To The New Drug Testing Limits was distributed to members. Presentations to Michigan's equine vets will be made in the near future. At the present time, it is not known whether the new testing standards will apply to the fair racing program.

#### 5. Treasurer's Reports

Serra presented a+ positive current cash flow report and the 2016 Compiled Financial Statement. Both documents were distributed, reviewed and discussed with the membership. President Barrett expressed his appreciation for the hard work done to achieve these results by Treasurer Serra and our association management firm, Vail-Julian.

#### 6. Association Management Report

Vail-Shirey reviewed the accomplishments of the past year that supported the programs and goals of the MHHA. They included a successful Michigan Colt Stakes program; a new newsletter (writers and articles are still always welcome!); a re-designed MHHA website; and our Annual Meeting.

The following announcements were made:

1. Membership renewals are now due.

2. Questions about the MHHA's day-to-day management are always welcome and may be answered by calling 517/349-2920.

3. All MHHA members are encouraged to provide their contact information to Julian-Vail — cell phone numbers as well as postal and email addresses — to improve our membership communication process.

#### 7. Northville Downs Update

See President Barrett's report above.

#### 8. Colt Stakes/Sires Stakes Update

Cary-Davidson reported that a stronger Fair and Colt Racing Program has been developed for 2017. Information about the program, including Nomination and Sustaining Payment Forms and the 2017

Michigan Early Closing Colt Stakes conditions were distributed. Full fields are expected. The complete fair racing schedule will be published to all Michigan horsemen as soon after approval is received from the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

#### 9. Legislative Report

Vail-Shirey reported good progress with our lobbying efforts. There are a large number of new legislators and good relations are being developed with all those who will influence MHHA interests in Lansing. Again, please call 517/349-2920 with any questions about our lobbying efforts.

#### 10. Member Vote; Board of Directors and By-Laws

Because the meeting lacked a quorum, the election of the 2017 Board of Directors and the approval of the Revised MHHA By-Laws were tabled until a later time.

#### 11. Board of Director Comments

Special compliments were expressed to all the volunteers who have helped make 2016 a successful year for the MHHA and Michigan horsemen.

#### 12. Next Board Meeting:

The date and place of the next director's meeting will be announced at a later time.

#### 13. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Cary-Davidson and supported by Goodwin. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Ed Engle, Jr., MHHA Secretary