

Michigan Harness Horsemen's Association

May 16, 2018 4 pm - Northville Downs

Meeting Minutes

Absent: Goodwin, Marotta, Sweeney

1. Meeting called to order - President Tom Barrett
 - a. Moment of Silence – Grant Dale
2. Approval of Agenda (Motion Earls, 2nd Embach, Unanimous)
3. Approval of Minutes – April 18, 2017 One change made to correct name (Motion Serra, 2nd West, Unanimous)
4. President's Report – Tom Barrett
President Barrett Gave an update on sports betting based on the Supreme Court's ruling on the issue and potential implications moving forward. He congratulated everyone for helping out on a successful Derby Day. Based on the success of Derby Day the plan is to have live racing for the Belmont and Preakness.
5. Treasurer's Report – Crystal Serra
Treasurer Serra provided an updated on the MHHA finances based on the attachments in the board report.
6. MHHA Member Comments: None.
7. Old Business:
 - a. Farewell to Jackson Update - Claudia Davidson – An updated was provided including the date of entries (June 30th) for the event. The MHHA is also planning on hosting a small group of legislators at the event as well.
 - b. Ag Equine Fund Update – An update was provided by Midwest Strategy Group on the implications from Hazel Park closure on the summer program as well as the potential to update the language form Dept. of Ag to prevent a lapsing of dollars that are currently earmarked for the thoroughbred program.
 - c. Colt Stakes Blankets Update – Discussion was tabled as Board member Marotta could not attend.
8. New Business:
 - a. Summer Program Calendar Changes – The Summer Program Calendar was finalized (Motion Serra, 2nd Crawford, Unanimous)
 - b. Trainer Stable rosters for Northville Downs – Treasurer Serra wants to provide trainer stable rosters to Northville Downs to help with the process of filling the box when it's short as well as potentially improve conditions.
 - c. Jackson farewell sponsorship – The board approved unanimously the spending of \$1000.00 on the Jackson event (500.00 for an Ad, 500 for expenses) (Motion Serra, 2nd Crawford)
 - d. Website redesign update – Treasurer Serra provided an update on the website redesign.
 - e. Jog cart rides during pari-mutuel card - running aces program. Treasurer Serra provided an update on the Jog Cart rides on Derby Day. The board

approved a thank you gift card up to 200.00 for those who volunteered their horses/jog-cart to the event. (Motion Barrett, 2nd Davidson, Unanimous)

- f. Paddock fans and ventilation – There was discussion about ventilation this summer based on the new racing calendar at Northville Downs.
- g. MI Ag Equine Fund Boilerplate Language – The MHHA Board reviewed the draft language from the Dept. of Agriculture allowing for any funds that do not have eligible recipients to be repurposed to other line items with in the Ag Equine Fund.

9. Legislative Policy/Report

Midwest Strategy Group provided a legislative update on the gaming legislation pending before the legislature and the need to continue to work with lawmakers ahead of the lame duck session which will likely see gaming issues ranging from Sports betting, internet gaming, ADW, fantasy sports, and charitable gaming.

10. Board of Director Comments - None

11. Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 20, 2018 – Northville Downs

12. Meeting Adjourned – 6:25pm