

Minutes of
The Board of Directors
August 25th, 2013
Vernon Downs Hotel
Vernon, NY
11:00am

Present: David Hanson, Betty Holt, Noelle Duspiva, David Kane, Ken Jacobs, Jean Brown, Anne Zweig, Dan Henry, Bob Brooks

- 1.) Call to Order- Present David Hanson calls the meeting to order.
- 2.) Approve minutes from last meeting- Ken Jacob makes a motion to approve minutes, Jean Brown seconds. All in favor.
- 3.) Zweig race report- Betty reports we are returning \$12,000 this year as opposed to \$49,000 last year. The future numbers are holding well.
- 4.) Retired/Rescue Horse Funding update- Right now we don't have a clear structure or plan on how the money would be managed. Discussed that maybe we should have a plan ready so that when there is a fund board we have a plan in place to propose to them. We also need to research and see where excess money is going and if we could use some of it for the Retired/Rescue Fund.
- 5.) NYSS condition changes/numbers-(see handout) Dave Kane reports there are a few changes, in the Sire Stakes we need to make sure people understand that they are not getting extra points if there are less than 5 horses that finish. We took out trainer under all owners entries will be split. Under times making all the times consistent. Under cancellation money and points need to be put in there. For county fairs you must have a USTA license for driver/trainer. Also a rain out will count as a start. Clarify in the conditions no time needed. For the Excelsior series there has been suggestions from trainers and owners that there should be two tiers for the Excelsior series. For example Class A for better horses and B for lower class horses. Jean Brown makes a motion put this concept on paper to discuss at the general meeting. Send it to the members before the meeting so if they would like to attend the meeting and discuss the issues they have they can. Ken Jacobs seconds. All in favor.
- 6.) 2014 Scheduling/finances- This year including all the administration money there was about \$18.5 million. \$3 million of that was surplus, there is no more surplus so we are looking at \$15.5 million in 2014. A million for breeder's awards, a million for administration, almost another million for certain races (Zweig Fund, Empire Breeders Classic).

- 7.) Fund Office updates NOC & USTA/NYSS awards- The night of champions is all in order and we are waiting for the sponsorships. The USTA awards dinner is going to be at Tioga on October 27th.
- 8.) New Business/Old business- Jean Brown brought up the topic regarding the letter Tom Grossman wrote regarding paddock passes for people that are not owners/trainers of the horse that is racing. If the tracks could get together to come up with a concept of issuing guest passes for visitors. Possibly similar to what the Thoroughbreds tracks do where the trainer/owner could call a day ahead of time and have the passes waiting at will call or stable gate the day of the race.
- 9.) Next meeting date will be the annual meeting in Morrisville on September 21st, 2013 at 12:30.
- 10.) Adjourn- Dan Henry makes a motion to adjourn, Ken Jacobs seconds, all in favor.