

NFHR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

May 10, 2023

6:00 – 7:30 P.M. MST

Zoom

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: 6:01 p.m. MST

Eric

ROLL CALL: Determination of Quorum: Quorum met

Jo

Eric Watness, Jo Wilgus, Sara Jongsma, Cherrie Nolden, Margaret Bogie, Lisa Otten, Gretchen Payne, Bonnie Morris, Jeanne Poirier (Registrar) Excused: Cady Miller. NFHR members present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: All board members voted with aye, raising their hands

Eric

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRIOR MEETINGS:

MARCH 8, 2023 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES /DISSENT

Ask they be approved. There was a dissent by two board members, Lisa rescinded hers. Margaret still has a dissent, has to be rewritten prior to submission. Votes to approve the main body of minutes: 7 ayes , 1 abstention pending dissent to be submitted in the future.

MARCH 29, 2023 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES, An amendment was reviewed and approved.

Votes to approve these minutes: 7 ayes, 1 abstention

APRIL 12, 2023 BOARD WORKING MEETING MINUTES: The Chair stated that any actions of working board meetings will be reaffirmed in the regular and special board minutes. Bonnie has concerns with the amount of minutes we publish in the Herald due to the cost involved . Eric advised it would take a Bylaw change to remove them from the Herald.

REAFFIRMATION OF MOTIONS APPROVED BY EMAIL and in the BOARD WORKING SESSION:

MOTIONS APPROVED BY EMAIL:

1. **ADOPTION OF THE 2023 ANNUAL BUDGET,** Budget Adoption: Motion to adopt the Budget was made by Margaret and seconded by Lisa. This budget is based on the assumption that the Herald will be transitioned to online only as of the Summer issue 2023 with an option to subscribe to a print version for an additional subscription fee. Motion to transition the Herald to an online-only version was made by Sara; motion was seconded by Lisa. This was approved at the working Board meeting on 4/12/23. Budget attached to this agenda. Motion to ratify budget decided upon on 4/12/23 made by Lisa, Margaret seconded. Eric explained the attached approved budget. Voting approved, unanimous approval.
2. **APPROVAL OF HERALD SUPPORT ADS:** In an effort to help raise funds for the NFHR the Herald Committee proposed bringing back the NFHR support ads that were available for the spring 2020 issue of the Herald. Sara made motion, Jo second via email. Motion to ratify email decision: Lisa, second Sara. Support ads will be available for the Fall Herald, it will include banner ads on NFHR.com website. Voting: approved unanimously.

3. **MOTION TO APPROVE BONFIRE FUNDRAISER PLATFORM:** The motion to engage Bonfire as a fundraising tool, having received a majority of votes, (6 ayes and one nay) is approved. Motion to ratify, Sara, second Bonnie. Eric called for votes, the email votes were 6 aye, 1 nay. Votes for ratification: all approved.

4. **MOTION TO RESCIND OR AMEND DECISION ON EVALUATION FEES:** Motion to Rescind or to Amend Something Previously Considered per Roberts Rule section 35. Sara proposed to decrease the fees for evaluations to be equivalent to the rate of inflation plus a little to continue sustainability for the next few years then revisit and reassess the fees as needed or on an annual basis at the F2F meeting.

The EC supports a CPI approach to update the fees. Based on the U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI website [CPI Inflation Calculator \(bls.gov\)](https://www.bls.gov) the below fees are being recommended.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	4/10 EC Proposal	4/15 CPI estimate*	5/1/23 EC recommendation CPI + \$50 to Advanced
Processing Fee	\$10	No records available	No records available	\$30	\$45	\$50	\$50
Under 3 yrs age C/M	\$45			\$45	\$75	\$80	\$80
Over 3 yrs age C/M	\$60			\$60	\$200	\$105	\$105
Performance	\$55			\$60	\$125	\$100	\$100
Advance	N/A	N/A	N/A	M/A	\$250	\$100	\$150
Family Fjord	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$125	\$100	\$100

The advanced performance test set in 2003 for \$60 is recommended to be updated to \$150. This is a CPI increase plus an additional \$50 since the advance test is two tests and is more complicated to setup. A majority of the Board has approved the evaluation fees recommendation from the Evaluation Committee. Motion was passed by email. 6 ayes, 1 abstention.

Vote to ratify amending evaluation fees motion: 6 ayes. 1 abstention due to a conflict of interest.

5. **MOTION TO IMMEDIATELY TRANSITION HERALD TO ONLINE ONLY SUBMISSION:** The motion was made at the Board Working meeting on April 12, 2023 in relation to the Budget. Motion - The Herald is the official quarterly publication of the NFHR. Starting with the Summer 2023 issue it will be available online only for the balance of 2023 with the option to purchase the remaining 3 issues for \$45

Approval needs to be made for 2024 that the price for a printed subscription will be increased to \$60

Margaret made the motion. Lisa seconded. Board approved unanimously. 4.12.23.
Motion to ratify this motion made in 4/12/23 working meeting. Cherrie moved, Sara second. Voting to ratify: approved unanimously

6. MOTIONS TO SET HERALD HARDCOPY SUBSCRIPTION FEES:

Motion 1 That the BOD to approve the set price of the Herald at \$15 per issue.

Motion 2: That the BOD approve the commitment of the NFHR to purchase the minimum required 50 print copies of the Herald per issue at \$6.75 per book for a total cost of \$337.50 as well as the labels and poly bags required to mail them out. Email votes for both motions : 7 ayes. Vote to ratify: 7, vote ayes, 1 abstention.

MOTION TO RETAIN VERMONT ATTORNEY ALISON BELL.:

An email motion was made by the Executive Committee on April 28, 2023 to retain the service of Allison Bell, a Vermont licensed attorney experienced in non-profit law, to assist the NFHR on legal matters. Her hourly rate is \$250. The motion to contract with Alison Bell, passed with 6 "Aye" votes. Two votes were not made.

Motion to ratify: Sara, Bonnie seconds. Vote to ratify: 5 ayes, 2 abstentions.

7. RENEWAL LETTER APPROVAL: Motion to approve the renewal letter: Approved: 7 ayes. Bonnie, Lisa second. 7 ayes, 1 abstention.

REGISTRAR REPORT:

Jeanne

2023 foals 10 for registration, 8 completed 2 DNA, 2022 118 registered foals. 2023 transfers to date 87, 1 lease. Same time frame last year 90. Membership 2023 11% down, 596 memberships, finished 672 in 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee: budget report

Gretchen/Jeanne

As of 5/8/23: \$9,401.10 checking, \$14,324.96, outstanding bills \$154.75 bookkeeper, VT Lawyer, \$1,000, \$493.00 VGL/DNA. P&L shared with board; Eric displayed during meeting.

Awards Committee:

Cady

Excused. No report.

Membership Committee:

Bonnie

New Facebook group for members only. 10 new renewals as a result. Letter sent out to membership who did not renew, approx. 40 renewals as a result.

Evaluation Committee:

Lisa

Highlights fees, congrats to Margaret for securing \$3,050 marketing grant from VA Horse Industry Board. Plan is to create videos on preparing for evaluation. Curt Pierce and Margaret are currently developing storyboards for this. Entry packet for the evaluation planned Sept 9/10 will be posted soon. Limited to 14 horses at a farm. Limited performance tests are also being offered.

Fundraising Committee

Margaret

Margaret explains NFHR is a 501(c)5, tricky to fundraise because donations are not tax deductible to donors. Fundraising Committee had meeting April 19, 2023 and all Board members attended it. A variety of long term and short-term fundraising ideas from all

board members were considered. Motions have been made for their approval but are still outstanding,

OLD BUSINESS:

Herald financial status	Sara
Covered earlier.	
Committee Mission and Goals	Eric
Hasn't been worked, just yet.	
Bylaw review	Margaret
A plan is waiting for input from the Bylaws Committee.	
Membership Survey	Cherrie/Bonnie/Jo
Cherrie started the survey. Waiting for input from board.	
Face To Face meeting planning	Board
Getting feedback from membership on location. No dates have been decided yet.	

Eric asked board members on how to handle the remaining motions. Margaret asked to table and move to email. Motion to table by Margaret, Lisa seconds. Vote majority agreed.

Sara asked for approval of her motion for Herald Layout, Angela Lease contract, \$900/issue. Sara explains Angela was paid through printer, and with changes to Herald, Angela will now be paid separately from Printer. Motion; Sara, second Bonnie. Voting: ayes unanimously.

Jeanne advised Bonnie Morris was added to NFHR Facebook group as moderator.

Sara commented meeting minutes will be lengthy in Summer issue. She may send a request to the Bylaws Committee with regards to Herald requirements.

Floor opened to members who attended meeting. 2 members spoke: Wendy Luscombe and Denny Cox.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn Lisa, Bonnie second: 7:47pm MST

Respectfully submitted, for NFHR Secretary,

Jeanne Poirier
NFHR Registrar