

Northeast Reining Horse Association, General Membership Meeting
Oneco, CT
Saturday, April 17, 2010

Board Members in Attendance: Dirk Winkelhake, Cathy Nevitt, Sheli Senecal, Michelle Robertson, Geri Wasylak, Candy Conway, Dennis Tito, Jennifer Johnson, Karen Black-Clark

Board Members in Absence: Michele Whitney, Dan Whitney, Kristin McKeon

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by NERHA President, Dirk Winkelhake, at 6:45 pm.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes for the meeting of April 7th were not yet available. To be approved via email.
- III. **Opening Remarks** (Dirk Winkelhake) – Dirk gave an update of the current financial situation of the association. Due to the financial losses incurred in 2009 the NERHA was very short on cash flow for the first show. If entries and stalls continued as they were for the Spring Spin, we would not be having any more shows after the Classic in July as we could not afford the up-front payments to run them. He then asked for a financial report from Candy Conway on the Spring Spin and Michelle Robertson on the state of the Treasury.
- IV. **Financials of the Spring Spin** (Candy Conway) – The NERHA Board of Directors receives and reviews detailed financial reports monthly and at all Board Meetings; this information is considered confidential. If you are a member and would like more information, please contact the NERHA Treasurer.
- V. **Treasury Report** (Michelle Robertson) – The NERHA Board of Directors receives and reviews detailed financial reports monthly and at all Board Meetings; this information is considered confidential. If you are a member and would like more information, please contact the NERHA Treasurer.
- VI. **Open Discussion/Brainstorming with Meeting Attendees** – Those in attendance said they really had no idea how bad the situation was. Even though communications had been put out they were “going in one ear and out the other”. We had several discussions on how to reduce costs but even more on how to make money. Some of the ideas follow:
 - Cancel the October show; it’s too late in the season.
 - Increase the late entry fee.
 - Increase the day fee.
 - Increase the stall fee.
 - Increase the difference between member and non-member prices.
 - Have a 50/50 raffle every day of a show.
 - Add a \$25 sponsor fee.
 - Connect more with trainers and barns to get better communication out about what is happening with the NERHA.

The primary concern is that we continue to put on our shows. To do this we need to raise revenue, sponsorships and cut costs even more. This means we’ll also be looking at our added money for classes and whether we have a derby or futurity class at Northampton.

During the meeting a 50/50 raffle was held. Jennifer Johnson won the raffle and donated the winnings back to the association. This raised \$340; several members also signed up to sponsor Class Divisions.

The Board will take all of the suggestions into account before making any further decisions. We thank all of those that attended the meeting. Your dedicated support is what keeps the NERHA going.

- VII. **Next Meeting Date** – General meeting Summer Prelude show n Topsfield, MA. Date and time TBD.
- VIII. **Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.