

UPQHA Annual Meeting
June 29, 2016
Escanaba, MI

President Kari Harder called the meeting to order at 7:15pm.

The secretary's report was passed out for members to read. Kim Kuehne made a motion to approve the minutes. Second by Larry Lemke.

Treasurer's report was passed out. Gayle Lampinen reported we had a \$5000 profit from our show. Larry Lemke commented that \$5000 is a great profit for a show to have. Gayle said that we don't need to make a profit, we just need to keep what we have in the account. Gayle said that Kari Harder and Zoe Miller made a trip to Escanaba in the spring and got quite a few local donations. Larry Lemke thanked the show committee for all their hard work. Gayle commented that the fairground committee has also been working hard to make improvements to the grounds which allows us to have a higher quality show. She also said that UPQHA had made a donation to the fairgrounds to help fund the new announcers stand which will be completed by our 2017 show. Linda Berg asked that UPQHA send a letter to the fairgrounds commending them on the improvements to the show grounds. Zoe Miller said she will take care of sending a thank you to them. Gayle said that in her opinion we need to fill both the barns in order to have a successful show. Janelle Rymer said that one of the judges suggested we again have a clinic on the off day between the shows. Linda Berg and Jean Brandenburg said they felt trying to offer a clinic with only one day off was too much. Jean Sandmire said she thought distance was a factor in our club member numbers not being very large. Zoe Miller said we have 23 paid members. Paul Brandenburg asked what was the benefit of being a UPQHA member. Gayle commented that it is to have a nice year end award for most people. Paul said that members have to "pay" for that award or work for it. Janelle said that other club are struggling with low memberships also & require members to work or sponsor classes to be eligible for year end awards. Larry Lemke said people don't come for prizes or awards, they come to Escanaba for fun, relaxing time with no stress or no drama. Lisa Prinsen agreed with Larry. Larry Lemke said Summerfest is mostly WI and UP people and that we should try to draw more lower MI people. Paul Brandenburg suggested we lower the cap fees for Amateurs and Youth. Linda Berg commented that our improved footing should draw people to our show. Kari Harder said we could lower our cap fees some if we could get our numbers up a bit. Kim Kuehne said that if the grounds continue to be improved more people will come to our show. Larry said shows need to "sell" their show. He asked if there was a marketing person who could help market our show. Deb DeBlay made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Second by Kim Kuehne.

Old Business:

UPQHA thanks Larry Lemke for doing the morning donut run during the show.

Fund raising committee report: Kim Kuehne said the Brisket Barn is coming to do our exhibitor party. She said there will be a dog race that will be a calcutta to raise money to fund the party. Larry Lemke explained how the dog races would run & that he would be our auctioneer. Janelle suggested a bean bag toss done with apple pickers in the future. Kari Harder said the dog race would be held after dinner on Thur. evening. Kari Harder said that local places donated most of our random prizes and that we also received a \$1000 hotel grant from the Bay de Noc's visitor center to use towards the judge's hotel expenses. Larry suggested another fund raiser idea: Have teams that compete in halter/english/western and team members names are drawn from a jar. Sheri asks if we could hold a grooms showmanship class. Zoe asks if she will run that on Sat. Deb volunteers Gayle to judge it during the lunch break. \$10 entry with 50% payback.

New Business:

Gayle gave an AQHA update. Gayle said magnets can no longer be used to keep arms in during classes. No spray paint is allowed to be used to cover sore spots on horses. No belly band can be used to cover sore spots. Any horse with raw sides will be DQ'd. Sam Burns is the winner of the free stall. For each class sponsor gotten your name goes in for the drawing. Kari addressed the banquet topic; do members want a winter banquet again or to keep doing it during the show. Kim Kuehne said to keep it during the show as it is. 2017 dates will be June 24-July 2.

Election of officers:

Gayle said that we really need some new people. Larry Lemke made a motion to keep the officers the same. Kim Cummings seconded. Gayle said we really need some new people helping in UPQHA. She said a new exhibitor and her daughter came and helped with the trail poles and they were new to AQHA shows and checking it out. Larry said members need to make it a point to introduce themselves to new faces and make them feel welcome. Kim Kuehne asked if we could give something to new people, like maybe a saddle pad? Larry Lemke asked about running an open show on our off day. Jean Sandmire said a mid-week show would be hard for most people to come to, even if local. Josie Miller asked about adding open show classes to our showbill as that may draw people to our show. Have all breed/all age WP, SMS, etc. Kim Kuehne said we could make our shows run faster by exiting pen after showing before results are read & that we should start at 8am. Josie Miller made a motion to adjourn, Kim Kuehe seconded.