**Southwestern Donkey and Mule Society**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**February 9, 2019**

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order 11:23 a.m. at Uncle Dan’s BBQ in Waco, Texas. Attendees were Greg Schlosser, Skip Oertli, Patsy Oertli, Jessica Meuth, Diane Smith, Ray Archer, Julie Archer, Sarah Matz, Vicki Taylor, Lynda Cornell, and Mary Stewart.

**Minutes:**

The December 2018 minutes were approved electronically on January 5, 2019.

**Treasurers Report**

Mary gave a treasurer’s report, the group talked about outstanding invoices from the Belton show last year and drafting the new contracts for this year. Greg is still waiting for a report from the previous treasurer on accounting for 2018 shows as well as the Fort Worth Stock Show (FWSS). Mary will continue auditing books for past shows and balancing our accounts.

**Committee Reports**

**Ft. Worth Stock Show**

Shirley reported to Greg over email that we had 73 total animals at the 2019 FWSS, which was more than previous years. As soon as Shirley gets the final numbers and invoices, she will provide a final report to Greg, which he’ll share with the board.

**Show Committee**

Julie has reserved dates for Classic and Spooktacular and is working on finalizing contracts. We need to nail down final judges that are NMDA approved and classes for each show. Greg has secured 2 judges for the Classic and is continuing outreach for another. Diane suggested reaching out to collegiate judging teams. Once details on judges and classes are worked out, Julie will request an NMDA sanction. There was a discussion about adding details to the show bill regarding registration and measuring all animals, per NMDA rules. Greg will also invite a vendor who repairs blades and clippers. A question came up about meals for the Classic and catering. Belton charges additional fees for outside catering. The group agreed to host another meal. Julie will investigate what we did last year and will find updated pricing, so we know what to charge members.

**New Business**

Skip agreed to build shelving in the obstacle trailer. He asked the group for designs that work well. Mary will update the trailer registration and insurance. Skip and Patsy will investigate premiums on the value of the trailer and its contents and will work with Mary on updating our records.

Diane asked a question regarding high point for big animals for driving and English at the Classic. Diane moved to have individual high-point and reserve for English and driving for big animals at the Classic, that will also then count toward year-end points. Vicki seconded. Approved by voice vote.

Diane will organize another auction as well as a trail practice for the Classic again this year.

Vicki discussed classes for the Classic and making it possible for an exhibitor to show both small and large animals.

Greg asked the group about SDMS branded merchandise and if we would like to have merchandise again. Sarah will investigate options for the board to consider at the next meeting.

Mary is working on the club taxes and will file by the deadline. She will also look into insurance for shows.

Greg discussed a handful of letters the board received regarding unsportsmanlike conduct at the FWSS. Vicki moved for an official SDMS letter to the members identified, which states the issues, reminds them of SDMS rules, and that any further infractions will result in further action. Ray seconded. Approved by voice vote. Sarah will draft a letter for the board to review.

Vicki discussed an idea to encourage club participation without having to show an animal. Everyone discussed different ideas they’ve seen in other clubs, such as sponsored rides, trail hours ridden program, awards and certificates. Sarah suggested a formal marketing plan to launch the program. Vicki will come up with a more formal proposal for the club to vote on.

Greg talked about the Longears Festival and dates that are available at Rusty’s. There was a discussion about where to do it and possibility looking at other dates in the year. Sarah moved to book April 27th for the Longears Festival, which is open at Rusty’s. Diane seconded, and the motion passed.

We have 2 buckles left over from the FWSS. Sarah will find out the costs for re-lettering, otherwise, we will auction off.

Vicki asked a question regarding budgets for awards. She suggested for the Classic $50 for high point, $30 for reserve, $30 for specialty high-point, and $20 for reserve specialty high-point. For year-end awards Vicki suggested $100 for high-point, $60 for reserve, $60 specialty high-point, and $45 for specialty reserve. Skip made a motion to accept Vicki’s recommendation, Diane seconded, the motion was approved by voice vote.

Diane brought up the SDMS logo and mentioned that the club has not been consistent in its usage of its two logos. Diane suggested asking members if they have a preference for either or the use of both. Sarah agreed to create a poll that can be included in the newsletter and on the club’s Facebook page.

Greg addressed a concern a member brought up about another member inadvertently entering the incorrect division during the FWSS. The exhibitor was notified of the infraction and updated points will be posted on the website.

The group decided the next meeting will be April 26th or 27th at Rusty’s during the Longears Festival.

Ray moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:09, Sarah second. The meeting adjourned at 2:10.