

## **Minutes for the January 8 2023, USMMA Board of Directors Meeting**

**Call to Order:** 7:00PM MST

**Attendance:** Present: Tia Nelson, Lynn Kelley, Cathy Pierce, Dana Johnsen, Carolina Peterson, Alessandra Deerinck, Randy Conilogue, Aline Greene, and Irene Howcroft

There is a quorum.

**Minutes Approval:** Minutes from the November 13, 2022 meeting were approved. Motion to approve: Irene Howcroft, seconded: Cathy Pierce.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **1) ABCCMM Registration**

Dr. George Vilar, ABCCMM inspector, will be inspecting both Provisional and Definitive Inspections for ABCCMM registration:

- Arizona May 19-21 2023
- Montana at Vista da Serra August 9-14, 2023
- South Carolina and Canada dates are to be determined

The translated ABCCMM registration requirements will be published on the USMMA website help avoid future confusion. Adding these translations to the USMMA rules and requiring them to be organized and sanctioned within the USMMA rules was discussed.

#### **2) Appreciation for Jeff Bosley**

On Saturday December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022, a gathering was held at the Marriott hotel in Scottsdale with many USMMA members present including the USMMA President and three Past Presidents to honor Jeff Bosley for his seven years of service as president of USMMA. The impressive growth of the USMMA under his leadership

was re-capped by Cathy Pierce, interim acting President when she presented him with a custom made buckle, a gift of recognition and thanks from USMMA.

## **ON-GOING BUSINESS:**

### **1) Virtual Competitions for members**

**Dana Johnson** volunteered to formulate and manage virtual competitions that would start in March. The function of these competitions are to be interesting; facilitate the knowledge base of riders, breeders, and owners; to be challenging; and most importantly to engage the Marchador community.

### **2) Registrar's Report**

**Randy Conilogue** led the discussion covering the following topics.

- Updating database for births, registrations, and deceased horses
- 86 transfer corrections had been done.
- DNA tests from Texas A&M University, and UCDavis are entered into database as it becomes available.
- Discussion regarding the inaccuracies from Texas A&M database not being 100% accurate.
- Discussion regarding the revision of transfer forms for registration.
- These data are stored in Dropbox. Randy Conilogue requested that we purchase more storage under a business account, either Drobox or Google; Lynn Kelly, and Dana Johnson will explore options.

### **3) Regional Directors**

Discussion regarding establishing Regional Directors for each region with an election. The intention is to have at least two applicants per region. There is hope that members will be motivated to run for this election as Regional Directors stimulate activities and community within their region. Directors assist the USMMA corporate level in gathering information regarding the number of horses and members that are in their region. These data are significant as USMMA moves forward to promote the breed.

- Discussed researching new election software.

The regions are:

**Canada: Director: Dana Johnsen**

**Pacific Region: Alessandra Derrinck**

**Midwest Region: Director, Open**

**Mountain/Northwest Region: Director, Open**

**Northeast Region: Director, Open**

**Southeast Region Director: Aline Oliveira Greene,**

**Southwest Region Director: Carolina Peterson,**

Tia Nelson, President, called for an elections committee. Cathy Pierce, Vice President, leads that committee; Carolina Peterson volunteered to be a committee member. It was established that a past president needs to be on the elections committee and the Regional Directors have a term of two years.

#### **4) USMMA Website and Marketing**

Discussed updating the USMMA website including changing the membership forms.

- Dana Johnson resigned from her management position of the website citing the difficulties of managing the website from Canada. Thank you, Dana, for your very time-consuming hard work over the years.

- Discussed hiring a dedicated website developer. This is being explored. Funds from USMMA would be applied for this cost. Irene and Tia will report on options, including costs, at next meeting.
- Consideration for establishing a Board Member Committee to oversee the website was discussed.
- Discussion of USMMA presence on different Social Media platforms to develop awareness of the breed to engage and expose the larger equine youth community. This is essential for the growth of the breed in the United States.

## **5) Membership Survey**

Membership survey will be sent out to members to ascertain how they would like the USMMA funds be allocated.

- Lunn Kelley will organize the results so that the BoD can focus on membership requests moving forward.

## **6) USMMA Bylaws**

The USMMA Bylaws will be expanded and finessed. This is a work in progress.

- Tresa Smith (past President) said she will head a committee comprised of USMMA members. Members will be asked to join this committee.

## **7) Up Coming Events**

- ABCCMM Inspections in May and August 2023
- Cavalgada Ride at Vista da Serra, Montana, August 2023
- Booth at Jacksonville AERC Convention February 24-25, 2023

**ADJOURN** Irene Howcroft moved to adjourn and seconded Randy Conilogue.  
Unanimously passed, Meeting adjourned at 9.16pm MST.