

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2020 – 1:00PM
CONFERENCE CALL – DUE TO CORONAVIRUS PROTOCOL.**

Directors Present: Searle, Chupp, Franco, Hansen, H. Williams, Beals, Engel, Leonard, Grummel, Coleman, Fairley, Rath, Zawistowski, Paul, Teefy

Directors Absent:

Others: Somone, Brubaker, Watson, Hoffmann, Gary Mack, Andrew Mack

Approval of May, 2020 Agenda: Motion by Director Rath, Seconded by Director H. Williams, All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval of the April 2020 BOD Minutes: Motion by Director H. Williams, Seconded by Director Paul. All in favor. Motion passed.

Executive Directors Report: Non-profit, tax exempt status decision is expected by the weeks end. IRB working group has been organized to discuss the Covid-19 situation and will meet by phone tomorrow, May 19. The election for IHHA directors will begin its process in middle of June. Through Mack Communications we were able to line up a question with Gov. Pritzker and a story with Hannah Meisel in regards to our quest to return to work. The Sun-Times wrote a follow up story and another was done earlier today with Fox News Chicago. Conducting qualifiers was suggested by Hawthorne for this Wednesday. They agreed that they wouldn't make it official until after this board had a chance to discuss it. A lengthy discussion ensued. Jim Miller from Hawthorne was asked to call in and participate at this point in time. Jim answered the board's questions for about 30 minutes and then left the call. After more discussion the board unanimously agreed that having qualifiers at this point in time would not be prudent.

ACTION ITEMS:

Legislative – The G.A. will reconvene this week. We anticipate a budget will pass and we will work to try and get our traditional money through the Dept. Of Ag. We will continue to pursue the passage of a previously agreed upon bill that would allow Illinois Standardbred stallions to not need to be 100% owned by Illinois residents. A city of Chicago fix for their casino will be a hot topic of discussion.

Grassroots and Membership – memberships is currently at 353

County Fairs – several fairs have already been cancelled and we anticipate more announcements soon. If these fairs cancel the opportunity may still be possible to race them at the Springfield State Fairgrounds at some point in the future.

Race Track Condition and Backstretch – racetrack condition is fine. A backstretch picnic for Mother’s Day, where social distancing was enforced and masks were worn, was sponsored by the IHHA and was appreciated. About 30-35 people enjoyed themselves.

Legal – Nothing to report.

Purse Account – it has done a little better than anticipated because of the ADW money. Currently sits around \$300k in the hole.

Payment of Bills – Al motioned that pending his review of the bills at the office tomorrow (Tuesday) all of the bills be paid. Seconded by Paul, motion passes.

Finance – Nothing to report.

Public Relations/Social Media – Sharing on Facebook and Twitter as much as possible right now. Getting a lot of shares and followers continue to increase.

Breeders – a discussion regarding foal inspection during the Covid-19 crisis took place.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Director Paul, seconded by Director Rath. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:50PM.