

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2022 – 1:00 PM
AT THE IHHA OFFICE DOWNSTAIRS MEETING ROOM**

Directors Present: Engel, Beals, Hansen, Brink, Husted, Searle, Williams, Leonard, Teefey, Chupp, Fairley, Franco, Grummel.

Directors Absent: Rath, Davis.

Others: Somone, Watson, Brubaker, G. Mack, A. Mack, M. Paradise.

Approval of September 2022 Agenda: Williams motioned, Fairley second. Motion approved.

Approval of August BOD Minutes: Williams motioned, Fairley second. Motion approved.

Election of Officers: Fairley nominated Engel for President. With no further nominations Engel wins through acclimation. Fairley nominated Leonard for Vice-President. With no further nominations Leonard wins through acclimation. Teefey motions to keep the rest of the slate the same as this year. Husted seconds. Motion passes unanimously. The rest of the officers are retained through acclimation.

Hawthorne Update: No gaming board meeting for September but Tim Carey continues to tell us that construction will begin this year. Ed Teefey also had a conversation with Tim Carey at NOC, reiterating similar.

Executive Directors Report: Recently David Brink suggested we send our Mike Paradise stories to the USTA and that has worked out well. Race dates for 2023 has been difficult and contentious but we are nearing a workable agreement. Certainly not perfect, but keeps us going another year. Trying to secure the purses at this year's level for all of next year. Have been attending fundraisers and meetings and have had fruitful conversations with legislators. An effort has been made to expedite the purses from the NOC races as soon as possible.

ACTION ITEMS:

Legislative – Brubaker has contacted other potential 2nd racino partners and the feedback is lukewarm at best. Churchill Downs rumors still exist but nothing substantial has appeared. We have reached out to them to let them know we are willing to talk. Teefey is confident that the 35-mile rule that currently exists for the second racino will be eliminated this Fall, Somone is not as confident.. Problems between State and local leaders of Tinley Park continue to be a serious concern. We are hearing that the Fall veto session may be lessened and gaming issues get kicked to January but anything is possible. A legislative reception for the Spring should be considered since Covid has seemingly slowed and there are so many new legislators.

Grassroots and Membership – Current membership stands at 386.

County Fairs – Standardbred Advisory Board will meet and try to set up a schedule so County Fairs don't race on top of each other next year. There is seemingly an interest in a year-end awards type of banquet. We will participate and support wherever we need to.

Race Track Condition and Backstretch – Ana, who drives the golf cart for us during the meet was very helpful one night when Hawthorne's golf cart broke down. It was agreed we would send her extra nights pay.

Legal – A lengthy discussion about changing our by-laws to allow directors to participate by phone, while not being considered absent and to be allowed to vote was discussed. Grummel motioned to allow a director to be able to appear four times a year electronically with full voting rights with the exception of the "election of officers" meeting. Teefey seconded the motion. Ten votes are needed to change a by-law. There were eight voting yes, so the motion failed. Teefey then went on to explain that one of the ramifications of the failure to pass this by-law change might be the forming of a new group.

Purse Account – Currently we are \$2.5 million in the hole. We anticipate year end will be \$2.7-\$3m. NOC money has yet to be paid and through our contract with Hawthorne all but the Dept. of Ag. portion should have been. Will follow up on this oversight.

Payment of Bills – Beals motioned to pay bills, Husted second, motion passes. Teefey asked who looks at the bills. Engel responded Tony and Al. Two signatures are needed on every check. Tony does not sign his own expense check.

Finance – nothing to report.

Public relations/social media – Mike Paradise stories have been well-received. More press releases in local newspapers could be helpful.

Breeders – Sales numbers were down a little bit.

Motion to adjourn by Beals, second by Williams, meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.