

July 13, 2020 AERC Board meeting minutes

Acting President Nick Kohut DVM called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm.

Board members present were Olin Balch DVM, Michael Campbell, Connie Caudill, Monica Chapman, Jessica Cobbley, Chalice Coward, Gordie Cowan, Dawn Hilliard, Susan Garlinghouse DVM, Andrew Gerhard, Susan Kasemeyer, Nick Kohut DVM, Bob Marshall DVM, Mike Maul, Angie Mikkelson, Stephanie Palmer-DuRoss, John Parke, Maribel Paulson, Naomi Preston, Lisa Schneider, Christoph Schork, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Jan Stevens, Vance Stine, and Tim Worden. Also present were Executive Director Kathleen Henkel and Troy Smith.

Absent- Heather Reynolds

Susan Kasemeyer made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Lisa Schneider. Motion passed

Motion to excuse Stephanie Palmer-DuRoss due to possible work conflict was made by Connie Caudill and seconded by Gordie Cowan. Motion passed. (Stephanie Palmer-DuRoss was able to join the meeting a few minutes later)

Due to Monica Chapman's resignation, Nick Kohut DVM is the acting AERC President, which left the Vice President's position open. Connie Caudill nominated Michael Campbell; Lisa Schneider seconded. Gordie Cowan nominated Chalice Coward which was seconded by Naomi Preston. Connie Caudill made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Lisa Schneider.

Vote was taken- Michael Campbell was voted in as the Vice President.

Motion for the approval of the 6/8/20 Board meeting minutes was made by Susan Garlinghouse DVM, seconded by Monica Chapman Motion passed

Nick Kohut DVM appointed to the Welfare Committee -Co-Chairs Duane Barnett DVM and Laurie Underwood. Approval by the Board passed unanimously. Nick Kohut DVM appointed Jan Stevens as the non-vet member liaison to the Vet Committee representing the board. Approval passed with one abstention. Nick Kohut DVM requested approval of Lynn Kennelly as the AERC-I Committee chair. Approval passed with five abstentions.

Kathleen Henkel updated the Board on membership. Currently we are 500 down from last year. The goal the office has set is to reach 4000 members. 70 members are needed in order to obtain that goal.

Connie Caudill reported from the Sanctioning Committee the number of canceled and approved rides. The committee will continue with the program to help ride managers and assure that they are following state and county mandates before approval of ride sanctioning in order to be in alignment with the insurance.

Mike Maul gave an update of the Ad Hoc exploratory committee which was appointed to look in to the establishment of a working relationship and cooperative agreement with The Ride and Tie Association. Mike Maul felt they had made progress on the agreement but felt there may be one sticking point with insurance on unsanctioned events. Kathleen Henkel will check with their insurance company to see if arrangements can be made for the unsanctioned events that have maybe one or two teams. Mike Maul indicated that he would send the working agreement to the Board. Nick Kohut DVM and the Board thanked Mike Maul and the committee on their work.

Mike Campbell presented for discussion from the Rules Committee: Addition to Rule 16 as 16.2.2 – Wording: 16.2.2 A special ride event may be restricted to a limited number of entries. Application for sanctioning of a limited entry ride must include the number of entries allowed which number must be posted on the ride calendar. Entries are on a first come first served basis and a list of accepted entries and wait listed entries must be posted online no later than one week before the scheduled ride date.

Jan Stevens expressed some concerns from the Ride Managers Committee.

Michael Campbell understood the concerns and will discuss the issue further with the Rules Committee and the Office.

Discussion- Formation of the Inclusive subcommittee of the Membership Committee.

Nick Kohut DVM requested input from the Board members- Should AERC form this subcommittee?

He stated that if this committee were to be approved, he would put a member of the Legal Committee on it. This person would be familiar with how SafeSport laws work. A thorough discussion was held, each Board member was given time to express their thoughts and ideas.

The formation of the subcommittee was passed by a vote of the Board with one no vote.

Nick Kohut DVM requested approval of co-chairs, Jessica Cobbley and Susan Garlinghouse DVM. The vote passed with one no vote and two abstentions.

The Board continued with discussion on the scope, direction and the goals of the subcommittee.

1. What happened in the past?
2. Correct those
3. Looking forward to a better outreach

Some comments from the Board members- want people to feel safe at a ride; want to quantify where we are and where we want to go; stand hand in hand with SafeSport; Research Committee could help gather information; better reporting; work closely with Rules and Ride Manager Committees; need to protect people who feel uncomfortable or in danger; define extent of the issues; gather information on what other organizations are doing; education; encourage all members to take safe sport training.

Due to the time of the night, Gordie Cowan made a motion, to table the discussion on the publishing of the meeting agenda until the August Board meeting. Passed unanimously.

Monica Chapman made a motion to adjourn at 10:20 pm, seconded by Connie Caudill. Motion passed

Respectfully submitted by Connie Caudill