Midwest Fjord Horse Club-Membership Meeting

Minutes 2/24/2018, 7 pm

Call-in: 1-510-338-9438 USA Toll, Access code: 625 047 423

Attendance: Andrew Hinricks, Jessica Reuterskiold, Cherrie Nolden, Heike Schimmelpfennig, Patrick Neill, Mary Haasch.

Horse Expos with Fjords attending:

Heike suggested having presence at the Equitana event in KY. Jessica had spoken with Curtis Pierce about funding options from our club. Heike will be there to help out.

Equine Affair breed pavilion isn’t too expensive. Icelandic group will pay for half of the booth. Total cost was $900 so the MWFHC will cover $450. Gathering and staffing of the booth planning is in progress as they are working on who is attending at this time. 6-7 people want to bring Fjords. Horses are rotated out every 2.5 hours. For the breed demos, the Icelandics will be in the stalls when the Fjords are doing their demos and vice versa. Breed demos are in 2 locations. 15-20 minute breed spotlight includes just holding the horse and displaying a 5 minute video (March 1st deadline and Mp3 format, insurance policy addition can be made). Patrick will get more information. Perhaps the NFHR has video material for display. Heike suggested the 25th Anniversary production; evening of dancing Fjords, produced by Kathy or Randy Johnson. Andrew will talk to Jeanne about footage. Robin Holland had a series of still shots on video and that might work. Andrew will talk to Robin also. Heike suggested making them available for other events also. Patrick planned to plug a laptop into a TV for display near the stalls. Date is April 2-5, 2020. Breed Demos are Johnathan Millar and Sunday.

Heike is managing MN Horse Expo. Carriage driving derby at 10 am, breed demos at 12:25 and 4:25, battle of the breeds at 6-7 pm (beginner and advanced level). Jessica and Heike are participating with the driving portion, along with Phil Odden. European style breakfast (rolls, meats, coffee) planned and have a meeting prior to driving competition on Friday and Saturday, but not Sunday. There are 9 Fjord horses confirmed in the breed aisle along with 5 tack stalls. There are around 30 people interested on the Facebook Event for this. Phil wants a gathering on Thursday and walk-through for the driving course.

Kecia Morris is going to the Illinois Horse Fair, and there’s a $200 reimbursement available.

Nebraska International of Omaha event had brochures sent to her by Jessica. Jessica can provide these brochures to any event.

Cherrie Nolden was invited to give hour-long talks on Fjord pasture management at the Iowa Horse Fair in Des Moines, IA, on April 3rd and 4th, 2020. She can take MWFHC brochures and membership forms.

Cherrie will also be hosting a pasture walk on her farm in June, focused on pasture management for easy-keeper equines.

Andrew will talk to Pat Holland to find the photo banner for the MWFHC.

Evaluation application was submitted for Iowa. We can provide financial support, even if we can’t provide people to help. Jessica will reach out to Jeanne Porier for a date for that event. Later summer or fall would be ideal so a preparation clinic would possibly be able to be done ahead of time. Patrick is on the committee. Having a young horse evaluation would be liked. 40m x 80m is the size requirement for the full evaluation. Smaller facilities can host the family Fjord test and evaluation. Driving can take place outside.

Mock evaluations or clinics; Sue Plein had suggested that at her place. Andrew will talk to Sue.

Patti Jo Walter’s videos will be tabled to the next meeting.

Membership renewals. Ramona (Monie) Redfield is the membership chair. Andrew will talk with her. There was a reminder sent out at the beginning of the year. Heike asked how to get people to pay membership; what is the club offering for them. It’s easier to keep current members than to recruit new members. The value of the meal at any one event is covered by the membership fee, so it’s worth it. Rejoin invites from membership lists from 5 years ago was suggested by Patrick. Perhaps have leadership go through the list to identify those who have passed away and not send them invites. We can use the Pedigree Search by state for the regional breeders and owners to ask them to become members. There should be benefits for members at these events.

We should have sign-up sheets for the MWFHC at the various horse Expos. Forms and collect fees. They could also sign up online, paying by PayPal. Monie may have the most recent membership form. Jessica and Andrew will look for this.

If Patrick could report back on how his event went, informally, we can use that for the other events.

We will meet again in the middle of April again to discuss these topics further. Date to be determined later.

Adjourn at 8:35 pm

Minutes by Cherrie Nolden