

## MINUTES – Midwest Fjord Horse Club

Spring Meeting – April 19, 2013

President Chuck Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:55 pm. Board members Anne Weyker, Kristin Lee and Patti Jo Walter were present. Vice President Heike Lewandowski was not present.

The minutes from the July 27, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved unanimously. The treasurer's report was also approved.

### **Old Business**

**Membership** – President Kelly encouraged everyone to make sure his or her memberships were current. Therine Gudnecht and Susie Sadlon stated that annual membership runs from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>. Dues are considered delinquent September 1st. Many members renew when they turn in their show packets. Chairperson, Tish Pasqual, has sent out reminders. Another reminder should be sent out before the upcoming ballots are mailed on May 15th. Non-current members will not receive a ballot.

**Website** – Posting of the financial reports and meeting minutes to the website are delinquent and need to be brought up to date. DeeAnna Weed will look in to the possibility of starting a Facebook page for the club.

### **New Business**

**NFHR** – Bob Long joined the NFHR Board. He is currently the only member from the Midwest. Bob reported that the Board is “super” right now and it is a great experience for him. He commended Howard and Sophie Fiedler for all their years of service to the NFHR.

The Board has updated the By-laws. An Education and Promotion Committee has been formed and they are exploring ways to add a youth program. The NFHR is looking to add a Family Fjord Test and is working with the ADS to offer Webinars (Short for ***Web-based seminar***, a presentation, lecture, workshop or seminar that is transmitted over the Web).

Bob commented that we have many regional fjord club members but they are not NFHR members. He encouraged everyone to join the NFHR. Registration of horses is down.

Bob has agreed to chair the Evaluation Committee. The NFHR is in need of more evaluators. There are currently 6 evaluators. They would like to see evaluations

run in conjunction with the regional horse shows. This year there will be evaluations in Virginia and Montana. The NFHR is hoping for an evaluation in the Midwest in 2014. Bob encourages participation in the upcoming evaluations and says that they offer education for all.

Howard Fiedler (NFHR Board member for 6 years) encouraged members to get involved in the NFHR. He would like to see a Club Page in the Herald.

**Weekend Overview** – Patti Jo Walter reported on the weekend activities. The fjords horses will be involved in two demonstrations in the Coliseum and the Parade of Breeds. The demonstration is called Horse and Heroes and will honor the military. There will be a Wall of Honor at the booth. Patti Jo thanked Bob Long for organizing the spring meeting.

**Upcoming Elections** – The club has elections coming up. All interested members must send a short bio to Kristin Lee April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**2014 Spring Meeting** – The 2014 Spring Meeting will be held next April in St. Paul, MN in conjunction with the Minnesota Horse Expo. Tish Pasqual has agreed to book hotel rooms and a meeting room.

**Location for 2014 Show** – President Kelly began by stating that there have been some “bad feelings” about the show location and encouraged everyone to “start fresh.” He invited members to research other locations and present their findings to the Board. The geographical center for our membership is Westby, WI. Currently, the Cedar Rapids location is the least expensive choice for what it has to offer. The Club does not have to pay for the use of the facility if we guarantee rental of 70 stalls.

**Brochures** – New brochures need to be ordered. The club previously ordered 5000 copies. Therine Gudnecht, Amy Hartwig, Sophie Fiedler and Kristin Lee have volunteered to work on a new brochure.

**2013 Show Committee Update** – Co-chairperson Monie Redfield reported that co-chair Kathy Blaszczyk had stepped down and thanked her for her time and hard work. Sarah Weyker and Julie Cramer have now joined Monie as co-chairs. A tentative showbill was passed out. A new class called “Norwegian Heritage” has been added. Drivers and riders are eligible for the class and costumes and decorations are encouraged. A team jumping class was also added which has synchronized jumping. The show packet will be available soon to download off the website. Monie thanked everyone for all the help at last year’s show.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.