

Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association
Board of Directors Meeting
April 8 2008
Steamboat Restaurant
Washington, La.
6:00 P.M.

Directors Present:

Jay Adcock
Charlotte Clavier
Christine Early
Dexter Gary
Warren Harang III
Neal McFadden
Val Murrell
Allen Peltier
Jeffery Picard
Lora Pitre
Corky Pleasant
Patrick Richmond
Firal Ryder

Directors Absent:

Michele Rodriguez

Others Present:

Sean Alfortish
Theresa Arroyo
Paul Bonin
Bret Brinkman
Allen Chiasson
Thomas B. Early
Becky Harang
Roger Heitzmann
Mary McFadden
Michelle Murrell
Donna Peck
Gerald J. Romero
Loretta Romero
Mona Romero
William Trotter
Marcy Reeves

Warren Harang III called the meeting to order and asked Loretta Romero to call the roll.

Christine Early led us in prayer and asked for a special prayer in memory of Allen Peltier's father, Roger Heitzmann's sister-in-law, and Mr. David Yount.

After a brief discussion of the minutes from the February 2, 2008 meeting, Tom Early was instructed to make some minor corrections and have a corrected copy of the minutes at the next Board of Directors meeting. Christine Early made a motion to accept the minutes with the necessary changes. Jay Adcock seconded this motion, all were in favor.

Dexter Gary presented the financial report. After a lengthy discussion a motion was made by Christine Early to accept the finance report as presented, Firal Ryder seconded the motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Dexter Gary presented the budget for 2008 and a motion was made by Jeffery Picard to accept the budget as presented. Patrick Richmond seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dexter Gary presented the Louisiana Horse Magazine budget for 2008. A motion was made by Charlotte Clavier to accept the budget as presented; this motion was seconded by Lora Pitre and passed unanimously.

Warren Harang III invited Sean Alfortish, president of the Louisiana H.B.P.A. to address our Board of Directors. Mr. Alfortish discussed the issues facing racing in our state.

Warren Harang III invited William Trotter to address the Board of Directors. Mr. Trotter presented a report about the new racetrack he is proposing to build called St. Gabriel Downs. The location will be in Iberville Parish.

Loretta Romero reported Mr. Brooks Robinson from Harrah's Louisiana Downs would like to host our Annual Awards Banquet at Louisiana Downs. He proposed a champagne brunch in the Sky Room moving to the suites for the races. Charlotte Clavier made a motion to have the annual awards on June 7, 2008 at Louisiana Downs and have the board meeting the night before. Lora Pitre seconded this motion which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Horse of the Year: After a brief discussion Jay Adcock made a motion to name Costa Rising the Horse of the Year for 2007. This motion was seconded by Corky Pleasant, voted on and passed unanimously.

Board of Directors Elections:

Allen Peltier reported that the Nominating Committee would be accepting nominations for the Board of Directors election until April 14, 2008. Mr. Early said a letter would be mailed on April 21, 2008 to the membership for their nominations. The ballots would be mailed on June 2, 2008 with a deadline for voting on June 23, 2008. The ballots will be counted on June 27, 2008.

TOBA Candidates:

Tom Early explained the nominations for the candidates and Warren Harang III called for a vote by private ballot. Therese Arroyo tabulated the votes with Brittlyn Stables (Maurice & Evelyn Benoit) being the winner with 10 votes out of 13.

Breeders Sale Company: Val Murrell – Chairman.

Val Murrell reported the advertising for the sale was on schedule. Val discussed the need to hire an individual to promote the sale and contact consignors and buyers. After a lengthy discussion Charlotte Clavier made a motion to hire a person with a \$750 a week salary plus expenses from now until the sale with a possible bonus. This motion was seconded by Allen Peltier. Dexter Gary amended to the motion to set a budget of \$25,000 and appoint Mr. Early to hire someone for this position. This motion was seconded by Jeffery Picard, voted on and passed unanimously.

Christine Early made a motion to accept the Breeders Sales Company of Louisiana financial report, this motion was seconded by Firal Ryder voted on and passed unanimously.

Salary and Benefits: Firal Ryder – Chairman.
Nothing to report at this meeting.

Nominating: Allen Peltier – Chairman.
Report given earlier in meeting.

Finance Committee: Dexter Gary – Chairman.
Report given earlier in meeting.

Events: Charlotte Clavier – Chairperson

Charlotte Clavier reported the dates for the upcoming events:

Annual Meeting - June 7, 2008 at Louisiana Downs
Louisiana Legends Night - July 4, 2008 at Evangeline Downs
Louisiana Downs Champions Day - August 2, 2008 at Louisiana Downs
Louisiana Champions Day - December 6, 2008 at Fair Grounds
Workshop – No date scheduled at this meeting.

Charlotte Clavier made a motion to award 4 scholarships at the annual meeting on June 7, 2008 with a random drawing to select the winners. Lora Pitre seconded this motion, which was voted on and passed unanimously.

Louisiana Horse: Christine Early – Chairperson.
Christine Early reported the magazine would be mailed out this week. The magazine will have 126 pages with 40% in advertising.

Membership: Allen Peltier – Chairman.
Nothing to report at this meeting.

Marketing and Development: Patrick Richmond – Chairman.
Tom Early stated the usage statistics summary for our web-site which showed October having the most activity due to the horse sale.

Inspection: Lora Pitre – Chairperson.
Roger Heitzmann stated he had received the reports from the three inspectors and they were still investigating some cases. After a lengthy discussion no motions were made.

LTBA/HBPA: Dexter Gary – Chairman.
Dexter Gary reported that Gerald J. Romero was appointed by the HBPA to be our liaison person on the committee.

By-Law: Jeffery Picard – Chairman.

Nothing to report at this meeting.

Louisiana Stallions: Val Murrell – Chairman.

Tom Early asked for approval of a stallion for the stallion stakes due to his arrival in Louisiana after the deadline. A motion was made by Patrick Richmond to allow the stallion Brahms standing at Elite Thoroughbreds to be approved. Christine Early seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Tom Early stated the stallion Lion Tamer's stud fee was originally advertised as \$5,000 and was reduced to \$3,500. They paid \$2,500 in fees for the Stallion Stakes for half of the originally advertised stud fee and wanted to know if they could get a credit toward next years payment. Jeffery Picard made a motion to allow the credit for next year. Christine Early seconded this motion which passed unanimously.

Grievance: Patrick Richmond – Chairman.

A letter from Sandra Yandell was discussed concerning the accreditation of her 2007 foal. A motion was made by Charlotte Clavier to accept what the Grievance Committee recommended in the past and deny accreditation to this foal. Lora Pitre seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dexter Gary reported that he omitted mentioning the mileage guidelines the association uses for inspectors and employees. It was previously agreed that these should be the same as the Internal Revenue Service guidelines.

Advertising Oversight: Tom Early – Chairman.

A letter from Bill Lambert was discussed at length with no motions made. Julie Calzone reported on the meetings in Baton Rouge with legislators and the Department of Economic Development.

Legislative: Jeffery Picard – Chairman.

Jeffery Picard reported that he, along with Tom Early and Julie Calzone had met with several senators and representatives and the Commissioner of Agriculture Dr. Mike Strain D.V.M. concerning promoting the horse industry in Louisiana.

New Business:

Theresa Arroyo reported the organization is now registered with the Voters Voice and will be linked on our web-site.

Tom Early pointed out to the board that he had prepared a written response to Lora Pitre's questions from the last meeting and it was included in each member's folder.

The process and procedures for the inspectors was discussed and the board decided to send it to the Finance Committee to check on how many mares need to be checked and how much money it would cost.

Christine Early ask the board to consider naming the Louisiana Stallion Stakes after people instrumental in our business. Warren Harang suggested a list be prepared with names on it and a vote be taken on it. The first race of the Louisiana Stallion Stakes will be held on October 18, 2008 at Louisiana Downs.

The board asked Tom Early to check into the possibility of having a section of the Fair Grounds Hall Of Fame dedicated to the Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

Date, Time and Place of Next Board of Directors Meeting:

June 6, 2008 in Shreveport at 6:00 P.M. Place is pending.

Christine Early made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Neal McFadden seconded this motion, all were in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Thomas B Early
Secretary-Treasurer