

**AREA VII MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 7,2019**

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. at HomeTown Buffet in Fairfield California on December 7th, 2019 the minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Members Present:

Melissa Berschens
Jacob Elliott
Richard Erickson
Gail Byrnes
Robert Blackwell
Susan Browning-Wroe
Pat Anastasio
Linda Anastasio
Jim Curry
Shelia Bryant
John Gracey
Michele Nelson

Treasurer's Report

Michele Nelson gave a treasurer's report to bring us up-to-date on the club current assets there are \$10,628.98 in checking and \$159.03 in petty cash we currently have \$10,700 in current assets the California classic 2019 show in April made \$14,259 the show cost us over \$15K and there was a loss of the show roughly \$1,300. If we do another show will need at least 15,000 to put it on and with over \$10,000 in the bank we are in good shape to do that.

Non-Profit Status

Michele Nelson reported that the Area VII Club is now been established as a 501c7 domestic nonprofit organization we are not a 501c3 organization so we are not considered a charity whereby money donations can be written off taxes, but we do qualify for in-kind donations like product donation. Sponsorships can be given to our club in a product donation most companies require a non-profit number for product donations so this is a good opportunity for the club to contact vendors to find out if they would provide product donations for our club.

Jacob Elliot mentioned that his bank Wells Fargo wanted to do a vendor booth and wanted to be involved with the show and give the show some money. He will be talking more with them about that and find out the vendor fee for the booth at the shows.

Membership Dues are Due

It's time for membership renewal Gail Byrnes suggested that the fees would go up and that the membership fees would go up for 2020 she made a motion that the fee should go up and Richard Erickson second the motion the group discussed the motion for increase for 2020.

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Gail suggested the membership price to go up to \$35 for single and \$50 for a family membership there was a discussion about the price hike might be too much and there was another suggestion for \$25 for single membership and \$30 for a family membership.

Michele Nelson suggested \$20 for single and 25 for a family membership. Pat Anastasio suggested keeping the price low so people will put extra in for sponsorship if the membership fees were too high then it's likely people won't donate money for sponsorships the because of the type of nonprofit organization we are set as we can't have people write off their membership dues but they can write off sponsorships as advertising costs.

The club brought the motion to vote and motion did not carry.

National Director Report by Jim Curry

Jim Curry, recently elected to the post of Area VII National Director, Shetland Seat, gave us a report from the ASPC National Convention. He reported on the numbers at the two big shows; there were 1600 horses at Nationals and 500 horses at Congress Jim reported that the ASPC office is going to manage the Congress show next year there is a new laser measuring device and Rob Crater, Chair of the Stewards Committee, has bought this device and will be running some tests measuring what using it and they're also testing the last hair on the main versus the measurement on the withers to try and determine which is more accurate they will be continuing to collect this data in the years coming to try and make a decision because there were 17 measuring protests at Nationals and much discussion about the subject at nationals.

Video Conferencing for Special meetings for Area VII Meetings

Jacob Elliott talked about the video conference with NorCal and they used a video conference call to do the meeting. Michele Nelson talked about the video conferencing software that we can use for our own club meeting is called Whereby it would provide a link and share a meeting remotely so that we can have a board meeting or show planning meeting using Whereby.com and have everybody call into the meeting through the video conferencing system so we can all see and hear each other through the computer phone iPhone or tablet.

Michele suggested that we get this service for the area club meetings that cost \$99 a year. Michele asked if there were any questions about the technology and people asked if the annual meeting would still be in person at a physical location. It was decided that this would only be used for board meetings and show committee meetings and that the annual meeting will still be a physical meeting. Melissa Berschens made a motion to pay for Whereby conference system at \$99 per year and Susan Browning-Wroe second in the motion. This was voted on and approved by all members. Melissa suggested we try this for a year and see how it goes and if something needs to be adjusted for next year we can make that decision then.

Show Photographer

Jacob Elliot was recently at the Clay Station HDT show and he saw a photographer there named Bridgett Locken and he asked about her services because she had beautiful work. Her

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photos are roughly \$10 each and Jacob will follow up and talk with her more about this to see if she'll be available to come to our Area VII National show.

Area VII National Show

Jacob Elliot talked about the fact that we are now approved to host the Area VII National show and we will be holding this show at Rancho Murieta instead of the California Classic this year and the show dates will be April 17-19, 2020. The club will still host the California Classic in the off years opposite the area National show.

Jacob Elliot reminded us that we already have a show staff set up and we just only need to hire one judge per National rules we have a show management team and an ASPC Steward. Doing the area National show in this area will be great for us to manage and be a great thing for our club providing a local national show in Northern California.

We expect at least the same number of entries as the California classic show we had last year we will be having a show committee soon if you're interested please contact us for more details on that meeting.

Jacob Elliot also reported that he met with AMHA NorCal club will be hosting a AMHR show the first weekend in June it will be at Rancho Murieta. This will take place instead of our Summer Classic. It is just for mini horses and he's not sure yet if it will be Saturday or Sunday but it will be either one. Area VII club won't have anything to do with running it and won't be making any money out of it but, it is an opportunity for our members to have a second show in our area Northern California to qualify for National so he thought it was a win-win to allow them to host the show.

Susan Browning-Wroe asked if we needed any help with obstacles for the show this will be discussed at the next show committee meeting.

Officer Nominations

Michele Nelson reported that all the positions on the board will be open for nominations for 2020 except for John Gracey's term which still has one more year.

Nominations were brought forward for the following officers:

Jacob Elliott was nominated for president by Jim Curry and seconded by Michele Nelson.

Susan Browning-Wroe was nominated for vice president and by Michele Nelson and seconded by Robert Blackwell.

Melissa Berschens was nominated for Secretary by Michele Nelson and seconded by Richard Erickson.

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Jim Curry was nominated for treasurer by Gail Byrnes and seconded by Linda Anastasio.

Robert Blackwell was nominated for area director by Susan Browning-Wroe and seconded by Richard Erickson.

Gayle Byrnes was nominated for director by Jacob Elliot and seconded by Richard Erickson.

Linda Anastasio was nominated for director by Jacob Elliot and seconded by Robert Blackwell.

Officer Elections & Voting

Ballots will be sent out in December to the club membership to vote by mail. Please be sure to get your ballots in by January 20th, 2020. Melissa Berschens, current club secretary will be mailing out the ballots.

We tabled a new business for the next show committee meeting.

Next Meeting

We will have in the next meeting on January 25th, 2020 at Murieta Equestrian Center at noon so we can count the ballots and install new officers we must have a physical meeting in order to accomplish this. The actual location of where within Rancho Marietta will be sent out soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m. We decided to put camping on the show committee meeting agenda as there was an issue of cramped camp spots that was brought up about last year's camping reservations at Rancho Murrieta.

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