

USDF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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Teleconference
September 19, 2011

Attending: George Williams, President Steven Schubert, Treasurer
 Janine Malone, Secretary Terry Wilson, Region 7 Director
 Lisa Schmidt, Region 1 Director Fern Feldman, Region 8 Director
 Ken Levy, Region 2 Director Bess Reineman, Region 9 Director
 Kimberly Taylor, Region 3 Director Stephen Hienzsch, Executive Director
 Lloyd Landkamer, Region 4 Director Cindy Vimont, Staff
 Heather Petersen, Region 5 Director Kim Sodt, Staff
 Donna Longacre, Region 6 Director

Absent: Beth Jenkins, Vice-President

Call to Order and Agenda Review (Additions/Corrections) - George Williams

George called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm. **Terry MOVED and Bess SECONDED a motion to approve the agenda. MOTION CARRIED.**

HOF Nomination – Kim Sodt

Kim said that Lendon Gray has been nominated for the Hall of Fame. **Janine MOVED and Lisa SECONDED a motion to induct Lendon Gray into the USDF Hall of Fame in 2011. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

2013 and 2014 Convention Site Selection Report – Cindy Vimont

Cindy asked that everyone review the list of hotels that have declined to submit a convention proposal. Questions were asked about the reasons listed by each hotel for declining. Twenty-one hotels responded with some kind of interest but seventeen hotels did not respond to the USDF inquiry. The reasons were discussed. “Too space intensive” means that the hotel is too limited for USDF needs. “Room to space ratio” means that we need a lot of meeting rooms for the number of sleeping rooms needed. Cindy said the EB agreed on Lexington for 2013 and the Northeast for 2014, but she looked at both areas for both years. The Hyatt Regency in Lexington is the best choice for 2013 as this hotel is willing to offset the cost of the convention center meeting and banquet room rental costs by giving us a sleeping room rebate. Possibly 80% of the cost of the convention would be covered with this arrangement. Terry asked about going to Cincinnati or Louisville instead of Lexington since Lexington is hard to get to from the west coast and because the National Championships will possibly be held there just three weeks earlier. About 800 room nights were used in the last couple of years when the convention was held with a symposium. It was explained that only Lexington (but not Louisville or Cincinnati) would provide the same level of savings on staff expenses.

Cindy explained that hotels are often booked 3-4 years in advance and it would be a good idea to decide soon on the convention site and book hotels further in advance after 2014. It was agreed that Lexington is the best choice for 2013. **Bess MOVED and Steve SECONDED a motion to approve the Hyatt Regency in Lexington, KY as the host hotel for the 2013 USDF convention.** Terry felt that people from CA will attend either the National Championships or the convention in 2013, but not both, since they are only three weeks apart. Terry feels that many of the people who attend convention will attend the championships the first year to see how it goes. The EB discussed how education could be incorporated into the convention. Janine suggested using resources in the Lexington equestrian community including veterinary clinics, USEF staff, etc. Several on the EB felt these possibilities should be investigated. **MOTION CARRIED. Terry ABSTAINED.** It was suggested that a small group on the EB work with staff to develop ideas for consideration of the EB in a future conference call. Janine, Terry and Bess will work with staff on educational ideas for the 2013 Lexington convention.

Regarding 2014, Cindy was asked to clarify the options available in Region 8. Cindy doesn't think many additional options will open up in after 2014 in the northeast. She reviewed the options for 2014 listed in the proposal to the EB. The Boston Park Plaza has a great rate and is available on the USDF convention dates. Janine and Lisa recommended the Boston Park Plaza proposal. Boston is a great destination city. **Bess MOVED and Fern SECONDED a motion to select the Boston Park Plaza for the 2014 USDF convention.** In response to a question as to the feasibility of holding a symposium with a Boston convention, Fern explained that it probably isn't feasible due to the distance and time to get to a riding facility from the downtown hotel location. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.** It was again noted that the EB needs to soon consider 2015 host sites. San Francisco, Phoenix, Seattle and Salt Lake City were mentioned along with other west and west central locations.

ALD Term Bylaws Proposal and EB Immediate Past President Bylaw Proposal

Kimmie MOVED and Janine SECONDED a motion to support the amendment to Bylaw VII Section 1, as written, regarding the proposed change to the advisory term of the past president. MOTION CARRIED.

Stephan explained the proposal to change a section of the Bylaws in Article X relating to the term of ALDs. The proposal would change the length of ALD term from two years to three years. This proposal is supported by both the Nominating Committee and Bylaws Committee. The rationale for this proposal is so that changes to the membership of the EB would be staggered and there would be less rotation in any one year. **Lisa MOVED and Donna SECONDED a motion to support this bylaw change proposal. MOTION CARRIED.**

USEF Pegasus Awards—possible nomination ideas. Nominations due November 4-14

Terry MOVED and Lloyd SECONDED a motion that DG Bar Ranch be nominated for the USEF Breeder of the Year Award. MOTION CARRIED unanimously. Janine MOVED and Kimmie SECONDED a motion to nominate Steffen Peters for the Steinkraus Trophy. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.** Fern MOVED and Janine SECONDED a motion to nominate Isabel Leibler for Junior Equestrian of the Year. **MOTION CARRIED unanimously.** George noted that all nominations need to include detailed and well-written nominations, outlining all the qualifications of the respective nominees.

New Business

Ken asked about the cancellation of the Midwest USDFBC Finals. Janine explained the provisions in the USDFBC rules for horses to compete in other finals when a series final is canceled.

LAA Nomination – Kim (MINUTES IN THIS SECTION WERE TAKEN BY CINDY VIMONT)

Janine left the call prior to discussion of the LAA nomination, but before leaving, she stated that she feels very strongly that any standing member of the Executive Board should not be considered for the Hall of Fame or Lifetime Achievement Awards.

The board agreed that members of the EB should not be nominated. **Kimmy MOVED and Lisa SECONDED a motion that the EB supports Janine's concern that it would not be appropriate for a sitting member of the EB to be considered for the Hall of Fame or Lifetime Achievement Awards, and therefore, rejects the nomination. MOTION CARRIED unanimously.**

The board recommends that the Historical Recognition Committee amend the criteria to exclude current members of the Executive Board from consideration for the Hall of Fame or Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Cindy also stated that the USDF Volunteer of the Year Award does not have any nominations at this time. She asked board members to consider possible nominees in their region. It was stated that it would not be necessary to have an award recipient if no one is put forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Janine W. Malone
USDF Secretary