

Minutes of the LAHBPA Board of Directors Meeting

Date of Meeting	January 22, 2021
Meeting called to Order by	Benard Chatters
Type of Meeting	Board of Directors
Place	LAHBPA Main Office
Meeting Secretary	Vickie Lory
Roll called by Larry and Quorum Declared	Benard Chatters Bobby Dupre Keith Hernandez Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Christine D. Early Bret Calhoun Ron Faucheux Don Stemmans Edward Johnston Kenneth L. Roberts
Board Members Not Present	Any Leggio, Jr.
Others in Attendance	Ed Fenasci, Larry Hamburger, Mike Fenasci, John Duvieilh, Vickie Lory
<i>The President called the meeting to order</i>	<i>Time: 10:38 am</i>
Prayer Lead by	Christine Early
Motion	Motion made to adopt the October 13, 2020 Minutes. Motion by: Christine Early Second by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Motion Unanimously Passed
Discussion Re 2021 FG QH Meet	Ed stated at a previous meeting we discussed moving the QH meet to DED. Members of the LQHBA feel it is imperative that the lights be restored this year so their meet can be run at night in 2022. They urge our support for their plan to run at EVD instead. They want to start on October 6 and run a combined meet and balance the purse money across the entire time period. John will speak to the provision in the law to balance the purse money with a transfer in addition to this. The combined meet would begin on October 6, running through the end of December with all futurities, etc. Benard has had discussions with Boyd regarding this. Benard stated Boyd will work with them on this, allowing the QHs to stay on the grounds between the DED meet and the FG/EVD meets. They will be able to stay and use the walkers, but not the track because they will be fixing the lights for two months.

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	<p>Kenny received some feedback that not being able to train their horses would affect a lot of trainers. Ed asked if the lights were a priority. Kenny stated that they want to run under lights, as it is too hot during the day. Ron asked when we would know about Jazz Fest. Ed stated he believes they will announce their intent to have it in October, but we may not know for some months if they will be able to do Jazz Fest and French Quarter Fest. Ron stated they (TBs) would have nowhere to go at the end of September. Benard replied that many trainers have pulled out and it may be easier to get in DED next year than you would think. Ron asked if he meant that the trainers at FG can go to DED first then... may be a possibility. Benard added this has been a tough year... you have to get the lights up. Many members want the lights to be up for next year, so they have to shut down the track to repair the lighting. Ed stated that there will be about 300 TB horses at the end of September with nowhere to go because Jazz Fest will be at FG. Kenny asked they would still be at EVD, right? ED stated they would have to move out of EVD for the QH meet. Benard stated he was sure they would work it out as best they can and asked for a motion.</p>
<p>Motion</p>	<p>Motion made to support the plan for the QH meets (<i>FG/EVD</i>) to be run at EVD.</p> <p>Motion by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Second by: Kenneth L. Roberts Motion Passed 7 to 2 <i>(opposed by Brett Calhoun and Ron Faucheux)</i></p>
<p>Discussion continued...</p>	<p>Ed will send a letter to the LSRC lending our support of this plan. The motion was opposed by Bret Calhoun and Ron Faucheux because there was no planned location for TB horses leaving EVD. Benard stated the TB meet goes to September 18, and then they get 2 weeks after that. So, under the current structure, they are covered at EVD until October 1. Benard stated they would come up with places and work it out. Charlotte said LAD was amenable to rent stalls last year. Don added they had to have the QH meet at the time. Ron said he understood the difficulty to plan now, but he did not want to wait until they have to leave EVD with nowhere to go.</p> <p>Ed said they would start working on other stabling and training options right away. Christine stated that Equine Sales was a place to go to. Benard stated if it is still there, we can go there. Adding they would explore all available options. The motion passed 7 to 2. Ed will send a letter to the LSRC in support of the plan that the QH breeders have put forth.</p>

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<p>Motion Into Executive Sessions</p>	<p>Motion made to go into Executive Session.</p> <p>Motion by: Christine Early Second by: Keith Hernandez Motion Unanimously Passed (<i>Andy Leggio absent</i>)</p>
<p>Motion Our of Executive Sessions</p>	<p>Motion made to come out of Executive Session.</p> <p>Motion by: Christine Early Second by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Motion Unanimously Passed (<i>Andy Leggio absent</i>)</p>
<p>Discussion Re Federal HISA Constitutional Challenge</p>	<p>Ed asked John how to word the motion for the Constitutional Challenge to HISA? John stated, The Board hereby approves the participation of the LHBPA in connection with that potential action.</p>
<p>Motion</p>	<p>Motion made that the Board hereby approves the participation of the LHBPA in connection with that potential action (<i>Constitutional Challenge to HISA</i>).</p> <p>Motion by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Second by: Keith Hernandez Motion Unanimously Passed (<i>Andy Leggio absent</i>)</p>
<p>Discussion Re Challenge by Morrell re Sean Alfortish</p>	<p>Ed asked if the Board wanted to make a motion to ask the following people in this order to participate in the Hearing Committee in the challenge of Mr. Morrell to the candidacy of Sean Alfortish:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bruce Salard 2. Danny Guidry 3. Dale Ladner 4. Jake Delhomme 5. Brett Brinkman 6. Kenneth Weaver 7. Harold Foreman 8. Dale White 9. Shane Wilson 10. Warren Harang <p>They will be contacted in order, and the highest ordered person will be the chairman of the Hearing Committee. Ed asked, if someone wanted to make that motion?</p>

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<p>Motion Re Morrell's challenge to Sean Alfortish candidacy</p>	<p>Motion made to ask the individuals listed above to participate in the Hearing Committee (<i>re Arthur Morrell's challenge to candidacy of Sean Alfortish</i>).</p> <p>Motion by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Second by: Keith Hernandez Motion Unanimously Passed (<i>Andy Leggio absent</i>)</p>
<p>Discussion Election – Candidate Eligibility Challenged</p>	<p>John said to let the minutes reflect that the Board acted upon the challenge of Arthur Morrell's objection letter regarding Sean Alfortish, and that the Hearing Committee is being formed to deal with that objection, pursuant to the Bylaws of the LHBPA.</p>
<p>Track Report DED</p>	<p>Benard stated the meet is going well, and they have about 17½% increase in handle. The large number of cheap races is the biggest member complaint. It was brought to management. He is pleased with the work being done to the facility. Ed reported that purses are generally on schedule with what is supposed to be paid out, and there may be a slight increase before the end of the meet. Benard stated the increase would be in the 4th book. Bret asked if they were getting complaints on the track surface, because he spoke with trainers who said they track was too dry, deep, and loose. Benard did not, and this is the first he heard this but will follow up with trainers in the morning regarding their concerns. They have had some issues with the walkers, and they hired someone for that.</p>
<p>Track Report EVD</p>	<p>Ed stated they received requests for Saturday training days. The cost is \$1500. Benard stated they had requests to do it every other weekend. It is important because there is nowhere in the area to work horses. Members pay the fee, but we stand behind any shortfall of the \$1500. Ed said last year the cost was \$3K, and they collected only a few hundred less than that.</p>
<p>Motion</p>	<p>Motion made to do the Saturday training at EVD again this year.</p> <p>Motion by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Second by: Ron Faucheux Motion Unanimously Passed (<i>Andy Leggio absent</i>)</p>
<p>Track Report FG</p>	<p>Ed spoke with the FG earlier in the week and they should have another purse increase later during the meet. They are being cautious because they want to see how the opening of Oaklawn Park affects their handle, but if it continues to run 30-40% up from last year's range, there should be one more large purse increase before the end of the year.</p>

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	<p>Charlotte asked if it was possible to request that the FG add the 4 days to the end of the meet as opposed to adding money to the purse. Ed stated they will ask what the Board tells him to do. Charlotte felt it was an unwanted precedent. John said by law they run 80 days. After the motion was made, Benard stated a letter would be sent requesting the additional 4 days.</p>
Motion	<p>Motion made that the Board request that the FG add 4 days to the race meet.</p> <p>Motion by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Second by: Christine Early Motion Unanimously Passed (<i>Andy Leggio absent</i>)</p>
Track Report LAD	<p>Kenny said they start moving in at LAD tomorrow. Kenny stated the backside was "ok", but training was canceled this morning because the gate did not work. Ed will call David. Ed told them the HBPA would like conversations with the new ownership ASAP. Ed will report back to the Board. They are supposed to transfer the racetrack by the end of March.</p>
Pension Report	<p>They are reaching out to get more Pension recipients to choose direct deposit.</p>
Medical Report	<p>Christine reported they reduced dental by \$500 starting February 1. Benard and Christine thanked everyone and the Committee for the tremendous work done, and Benard stated we need to continue to build reserves for future storms.</p>
HWCIT Report	<p>Mike reported that WC is below average on claims, with 12 claims less than this time last year; last year was a better-than-average year. Ed added that WC is in the middle of its 5-year 2019 audit that was delayed due to Covid. We are providing the information to the Department of Insurance, and the audit is being conducted. We do not anticipate problems, but they typically identify improvements that can be made to the Program. Benard thanked the Board for the wonderful work they do, adding that it is a wonderful organization he is proud to be associated with.</p>
New Business	<p>John stated that we need a motion to apply for the PPP loan.</p>
Motion to Adjourn	<p>Motion made that Ed apply for the second PPP loan.</p>

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	Motion by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Second by: Keith Hernandez Motion Unanimously Passed
Motion to Adjourn	Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 11:43am. Motion by: Christine Early Second by: Charlotte Stemmans Clavier Motion Unanimously Passed
Ratification	<i>Minutes adopted on:</i> <u>03/09/</u> , 2021. <hr/> <i>Vickie Lory, Meeting Secretary</i>