



**FMC Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2022
Zoom Meeting**

In Attendance:

Sharon Bechler - Central California Friesian Horse Club
Carrie Blair – Ohio Valley Friesian Horse Association
Marvel Jeffcoat – South Central Friesian Horse Association
Klazien Sietsma - Alberta Friesian Horse Association
Scott Kelnhofer – Great Lakes Friesian Horse Association
Beth Sharpe – Lone Star Friesian Horse Club
Nina Miller – West Coast Friesian Horse Club
Beatrice Whiteley – Friesian Horse Club of Southern California
Joe Michelle – Cascadia Friesian Horse Club
Anna Osinga – Atlantic Canada Friesian Horse Association
Jack Vanderkooy – Ontario Friesian Horse Association
Janice VerMerris – Michigan Friesian Horse Club
Will Bron – Northwest Friesian Horse Club
Allison Sable – Mountain Time Friesian Chapter
Dan Dali Haber – New England Friesian Horse Club (Replacing Danielle Piascik)
Lori Brock – North Michigan Friesian Club
Ruth Page – Sierra Nevada Friesian Horse Club
Lisa Baker - FHAME Representative

Erin Miley – FHANA Board
Jo Ann Clough– Administrator
Kelly Twambly – Administrator

Guests

Angie DePuydt - Administrator Candidate
Caro Osborn – Administrator Candidate
Marq Laude – Chair Candidate

Members Not Present:

Kay Veinotte – Pacific Friesian Horse Club
Danielle Barrasso - Friesian Horse Association of New England

1. **Call to Order-** The Wednesday February 16, 2022, meeting was called to order by Ms. Bechler at 8:00 EDT.
2. **Approval of the January 16, 2021, Minutes** – Ms. Bechler asked if there were any edits or changes needed for the minutes, none were suggested. Mr. Kelnhofer motioned to approve, and Mr. Vanderkooy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **FHANA Board Updates** - Ms. Miley reported:

- a. The winter/spring Inspections went very well, turn-out was very good.
- b. There are three new BOD members, Danielle Piascik (3 year term), Mathew Jenkins (1 year term), and Jo Clough (three year term).
- c. Voting for the KFPS MC will run March 15 – March 30, 2022. Ms. Miley encouraged all to read the bios of the candidates and be sure to vote. There are 7 candidates.
- d. Chapter renewals are due March 31, 2022.
- e. FHANA is seeking additional mentors. Please consider joining this important initiative.
- f. PayPal has been set up for FHANA donations for the research grant initiative. These funds will be used to research conditions such as colic, aortic rupture, and CPL.
- g. The last day to sign up for the AGM is February 16, 2022.

Mr. Kelnhofer commented that when the new BOD makes their 2022 assignments that Ms. Miley remain on the FMC as liaison, that she has done a tremendous job for our council. She expressed her interest in remaining in this role.

Mr. Vanderkooy asked that all members be reminded that if they brought their horse to the spring Inspections they are still eligible to go in the fall. This messaging should go out early so members can make plans. Mr. Vanderkooy asked about the awards such as Vanderploegs. He inquired if will they be issued for the spring Inspections. Ms. Miley indicated they reached out to the award sponsors, and they all agreed to offer their awards for the spring Inspections as well as for fall.

4. **Proposed Bylaw Change** – Mr. Kelnhofer continued the discussion from the prior meeting on proposed Bylaw changes. Last meeting the FMC approved the Democratic Rules of Order (DRO). He is now recommending that we add a Vice Chair to the FMC to cover for any absence of the Chair rather than using the Administrators to cover this role. Also, that the Chair and Vice Chair declare when they are elected if they will vote for all motions or only as a tie breaker. He reminded all that if the individual selects to vote for all motions, in the event of a tie the motion will fail. Mr. Kelnhofer made a motion that the FMC add a Vice Chair and that the Chair and Vice Chairs declare their voting preference. Ms. Sharpe seconded this motion. Mr. Vanderkooy commented that he agreed with the Vice Chair position but that we should hold off on the voting motion until the next meeting and at that time have a discussion on term limits. He stated that he does not want to hurry this, that he wants to ensure stability. **Mr. Vanderkooy offered an amendment, that the Council move forward with the Vice Chair position and discuss Chair and Vice Chair voting and term limits at the March 2022 meeting. Mr. Bron seconded the motion.** Ms. Jeffcoat agreed with Mr. Kelnhofer and Mr. Kelnhofer stated he supported separating his initial motion. **A vote was taken, and it passed unanimously to add the Vice Chair and hold further discussions at the next meeting.**

Mr. Bron inquired if he could ask Ms. Miley a few questions.

- a. Why was Mr. Jenkins able to run for the BOD when he had been previously removed? He commented that FHANA members do not know what occurred and asked how this could happen.
- b. With respect to the KFPS MC, how could Ms. Palermo, President, remove the three representatives, have her decision over-turned by the BOD and these three reinstated, and now she is running for the KFPS MC? He asked what happened.

Ms. Miley responded that these were difficult decisions and that there were lessons learned on how this could have been done better. She commented that FHANA does need more transparency. She indicated they are moving to more transparency as evidenced by the availability of the BOD recordings. She indicated that the BOD had to follow their existing Bylaws. Ms. Osinga asked what it takes to lose your good standing with FHANA, and Mr. Vanderkooy commented that his understanding of what constitutes a member in good standing is only related to timely payment of dues and fees to FHANA. Mr. Kelnhofer expressed his concern that there have been many closed session meetings with the BOD and that does not help transparency. He agreed with Mr. Bron and commented that this has been very discouraging for members who pay their dues. He hopes that the new BOD get this right. Ms. Jeffcoat commented that these events were disturbing, and that the membership did not know what occurred. She was concerned that Mr. Jenkins separation was done secretly. She found what the minutes stated and what was on social media differed. Ms. Twambly commented that Mr. Jenkins membership standing with FHANA was verified by Mr. Tice, that he could run for other positions.

5. **Election Results** – Mr. Kelnhofer inquired why the BOD voting numbers were not posted. He indicated that had been in the past but recently they have not. It is very unusual for any voting results not to be published. He understands that FHANA may not want to hurt feelings for those not selected but it is important we understand how many members voted. He expressed concern that only a quarter of the total membership votes. **Mr. Kelnhofer made a motion to ask FHANA to post the recent past election results and election results moving forward. His motion was seconded by Ms. Sharpe.** Mr. Vanderkooy expressed concern that if a candidate had low votes it might discourage them from running in the future. Ms. Osinga stated she is in favor of FHANA publishing the votes, that this was a good thing and helps with transparency. Ms. Baker indicated that the most important number was understanding how many members voted. She stated we hear some folks have issues but yet do not volunteer or vote. It is too easy to complain than get actively involved. It was asked if you contact the office and ask for the numbers if they would give them to the caller, it was thought they would not provide this information. **A vote was taken on Mr. Kelnhofer’s motion to publish voting results and it passed.**
6. **CCFHC Stallion Discussion Points** – Ms. Bechler. Members agreed to table this agenda item until the March meeting due to time constraints this evening.
7. **Approval of Nominated Administrators, Ms. Osborn and Ms. DePuydt** – Ms. Bechler invited Ms. Osborn and Ms. DePuydt to make a few comments to the members about their backgrounds. Both provided a brief review of their involvement with the FHANA organization and the Friesian horse. They also submitted bios for all to review prior to the meeting. After their presentations, the two candidates were excused and **a vote was taken**

on the approval of their nominations, and it passed unanimously. Members were very pleased with the quality of these Admin candidates and were excited to have them join the FMC. Ms. Clough and Ms. Twambly indicated that they were pleased to have supported the FMC and were excited to have Ms. DePuydt and Ms. Osborn as the new administrators, the council would be in great hands!

8. **FMC Chair Election** - Ms. Bechler commented that we were so lucky to have two qualified and experienced Chair candidates. She asked Mr. Laude and Mr. Vanderkooy to provide a brief overview of themselves as candidates for Chair. Both gave a brief overview of their past FHANA experiences and positions held. The candidates were asked if they would consider a Vice Chair position if they did not win. Both candidates said they would. Ms. Jeffcoat asked for clarification on Mr. Laude's chapter affiliation. He will be an officer for Mountain Time once his BOD role ends next week. Mr. Vanderkooy was asked about his ability to attend meetings. He indicated this would not be a problem. After that, both were excused, and a **roll call vote was taken. Mr. Laude received 11 votes and Mr. Vanderkooy received 6 votes. Mr. Laude was elected as the new Chair (page 5).** Ms. Bechler indicated she would contact them both after the meeting to give them the results.
9. **Roundtable** – The stallion discussion will occur early in the next meeting agenda as well as the discussion on term limits and voting for the Chair and Vice Chair. All thanked Ms. Bechler for her service to the FMC.
10. **Next Meeting Date** – At the February 2022 AGM and on March 23, 2022
11. **Motion to Adjourn** – Mr. Kelnhofer motioned to adjourn, and Ms. Sharpe seconded the motion.

Recorder – Jo Clough