

FHANA Member Council Minutes: 27 April 2022

Present:

Marq Laude – Mountain Time Friesian Chapter (Chairperson)
Lisa Baker – Friesian Horse Association of the Mid-East
Sharon Bechler - Central California Friesian Horse Club
Carrie Blair – Ohio Valley Friesian Horse Association
Lori Brock – North Michigan Friesian Club
Marvel Jeffcoat – South Central Friesian Horse Association
Scott Kelnhofer – Great Lakes Friesian Horse Association
Joe Michielle – Cascadia Friesian Horse Club
Anna Osinga – Atlantic Canada Friesian Horse Association
Beth Sharp – Lone Star Friesian Horse Club
Jack Vanderkooy – Ontario Friesian Horse Association
Kay Veinotte – Pacific Friesian Horse Club
Janice VerMerris – Michigan Friesian Horse Club
Erin Miley – FHANA Board Liaison
Angie DePuydt - Administrator
Caron Osborn – Administrator

Absent:

Dan Dali Haber – New England Friesian Horse Club
Klazien Sietsma - Alberta Friesian Horse Association
Beatrice Whiteley – Friesian Horse Club of Southern California

- 1. Opening Remarks, Approval of Agenda & Guests.** Mr. Laude called the meeting to order at 8:02pm EDT.
- 2. Approval of March 2022 Meeting Minutes.** Mr. Kelnhofer made a motion to accept the minutes. Ms. Bechler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3. FHANA Board Updates.** Ms. Miley noted that membership is up 2%. Ms. Miley also updated the FMC that the Friesian Talent Cup is going to go international. Information for qualified 2018 Friesians to be considered is on the FHANA website along with information on how to register. The FHANA Health Committee launched the FHANA Research Grant Program and the FHANA Board of Directors is pleased to announce the award of the 2022 FHANA Research Grant to the University of Pennsylvania's New Bolton Center for their research into the microbiota's role in complications after colic surgery and in recurrent colic.

Ms. Miley informed the group that the votes have been tabulated and Ms. Miley and Mr. Jack Vanderkooy were elected to the KFPS Member Council. There will be a meeting between the KFPS, FHANA and the FHANA membership on May 14, 2022 at 10:00am EDT. Meeting information and registration details are on the FHANA website.

Ms. Miley noted that the FHANA Volunteer Duties Agreement was taken back to the Board with the suggested changes from the FMC. The Board agreed with the FMC recommendations and the document will be added to the Rules and Regulations omitting the last 3 paragraphs and no signature will be required.

Ms. Miley did inquire about the opt out option for emails with regard to emails being shared. The Board is working on how to logistically accomplish this and what the respective costs will be from the website developer. Dependent on the costs, the necessary changes will not be made until the 3rd or 4th quarter of 2022.

- 4. CCFHC Stallion Discussion Points. “How do we increase the opportunities to approve new stallions in North America?”** Ms. Bechler began the discussion by stating that the CCFHC would like input from the FMC regarding ways to make the prospect of approved stallions more efficient and cost effective and perhaps even adjust the timing in North America. Ms. Bechler shared that in her conversations with stallion owners they are reluctant to bring their stallions to the inspections on the basis that they could not afford to cost associated with process to get a stallion through the approval. She stated that cost should not be the factor from holding back stallion owners presenting their stallions for inspection. Ms. Bechler brought up the idea of consolidating costs somehow to make it more appealing for the stallion owners to present their stallions in hopes of making it to the stallion testing. She asked the FMC for suggestions as to how best to present this to the Stallion Committee or other committees better suited to take on this challenge.

Mr. Vanderkooy asked whether we are concerned that we are missing young stallions that might be eligible for approval at the inspections or are we asking as breeders to work harder on trying to breed stallions that are eligible? Ms. Bechler replied that what she is being told is that the process is expensive and takes a long time. Ms. Bechler suggested that we put some guidelines in place to assure that the stallion owner is not put in a bad place financially and that we have some constraints on what the timeline will be as well as what the costs will be for the process. She suggested the possibility of combing with the education days or the inspections (although the judges may not be the same).

Mr. Vanderkooy noted that it is at the time a young stallion is awarded 1st premium and subsequently invited to attend the stallion testing that the costs can become an issue. If the stallion owner is not prepared to shoulder these costs, then they might consider taking on an investor to share the costs or sell the horse to someone who is willing to take on those costs. Ms. VerMerris agreed with Mr. Vanderkooy and noted that we need to be upfront about the process and make sure that people realize the costs involved not only for the approval process but afterwards as well.

Mr. Laude inquired whether information and estimated relative costs on the process has been published on the FHANA website or an article addressing the topic? Ms. Bechler was not aware of such information/article but agreed that it would be beneficial to provide one.

Mr. Kelnhofer pointed out that it is always advantageous when there are multiple stallions going through the process so that costs can be shared.

Ms. Baker also pointed out the value of taking the young stallions to inspections and asking the judges after the inspections for advice on whether to continue to raise as a stallion and bring to inspection as a 3-year-old stallion. Judges will be able to give pros and cons of continuing down that course.

Ms. Bechler will write an article on the subject and asked for anyone that would be willing to be named in the article as someone interested owners can contact for further questions and/or discussion. Ms.

Miley will also reach out to Mr. Smith (board liaison) with the Stallion Committee to see how they can assist.

5. **Task Update: FMC Description Document.** Mr. Kelnhofer reminded the FMC that the reference document is going to go on the website. The subcommittee of Ms. DePuydt, Mr. Kelnhofer, Mr. Laude and Mr. Kelnhofer are going to meet to formulate a document that will be acceptable. The group is meeting this coming week to formulate the document and will have it complete by the May meeting.
6. **Bulk Emails.** Ms. Osinga-Bouma stated that she believed the option to opt out of emails will be good as long as the member doesn't opt out of all emails for example emails to vote. Ms. Osinga-Bouma did state that she was reassured that FHANA is not giving out member email addresses. She did note that it would have been good if FHANA sent out a late reminder that voting is close to ending and therefore please cast your vote if you hadn't already done so and not have the reminder come from a candidate.
7. **Chapter Application - Florida Friesian Horse Club.** The documents were attached to the agenda for review prior to the meeting. Ms. DePuydt notified the FMC that she had checked with Mr. Tice and confirmed that all proposed Directors for FFHC were eligible to hold the proposed positions on the Board for FFHC. Mr. Laude opened it to discussion and only a grammatical error was noted on the final page of the proposed Bylaws. Ms. DePuydt will reach out to the applicant to have it corrected. **Mr. Kelnhofer made a motion to accept the application for Chapter status. Ms. VerMerris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The application will now go to the FHANA Board with a recommendation for approval from the FMC.**
8. **Meeting Decorum.** Mr. Kelnhofer addressed the members to remind everyone that the purpose of this council is to assist the communication between FHANA chapters and their members and the FHANA Board. Any issues or opinions with regard to council member's business practices are not appropriate topics for discussion in these meetings. Ms. Bechler agreed with Mr. Kelnhofer and noted that this group works very hard to stick to principles and not personalities. Mr. Vanderkooy reminded the group all members should ask the Chair for the floor before speaking to assure all members have the opportunity for input.
9. **Roundtable Discussion.** Ms. DePuydt reported that the West Coast Friesian Horse Club and the Friesian Horse Association of New England are both working on their chapter renewals. They did not meet the deadline. It may take a few months for the renewals to be completed. Ms. DePuydt also noted that there was some feedback on the length of our last meeting. It was suggested that we poll the group at one hour on whether to continue meetings or table the remaining topics until the next meeting.

Mr. Vanderkooy brought up the article, The Tipping Point, and asked whether FHANA was going to distribute the article to the membership for reading. Ms. DePuydt did state that she sent the English translation to the author for approval to distribute. Ms. DePuydt received permission from the author to share the article and will send it to Ms. Miley for FHANA to distribute if they wish. Ms. DePuydt will also send it to the FMC members as they requested. Mr. Kelnhofer complimented Ms. DePuydt for taking the initiative to translate this article and get clarification and permission from the author.

Ms. DePuydt noted that the KFPS is really encouraging the membership to attend the regional meetings (noted above to be on May 14, 2022) because they will be addressing the concerns of the membership regarding the health of the Friesian horse and other topics and they are looking for

feedback from the membership. All FMC members are encouraged to contact their chapter membership and have them sign up on the FHANA website to attend.

Mr. Laude informed the members that the first meeting of all the FHANA Committee chairs has taken place and was very informative. Ms. Miley noted that it is a great opportunity for the committees to collaborate and gain information on the initiatives of each committee.

10. **Next Meeting Date.** Wednesday, May 25, 2022

11. **Motion to Adjourn.** Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Kelnhofer and seconded by Ms. Sharp. Meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm EDT.

Minutes presented by Caron Osborn.