

Arabian Horse Youth Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Approved Minutes  
Tulsa, OK  
November 20, 2016

- I. **Welcome and Call to Order – Flora**
  - a. Meeting called to order at 8:11 am
- II. **Roll Call/Introductions – Flora**
  - a. Danika Overstreet (Secretary), Flora Elmcolone (president), Kate Lewis (VP), Tessa Kimbler (Treasurer), Katie Treadwell (10), Hunter Offord (10), Emily Farago (10), Savannah Demot (11), Kailey Wessel (3), Harper Hamill (8), Alycia Bouche (9)
  - b. Guest: Cindy Howey, Debbie Himmel, Kari Amundson, Deborah Johnson, Nancy Harvey, Brenna Whitlock, Joyce Schrader, Dave and Val Waggoner
- III. **Robert’s Rules of Order – Brenna**
  - a. Due to briefing meeting the day before hand
- IV. **Approval of Agenda – Flora**
  - a. Hunter makes a motion #1 to approve the agenda, Kailey seconded the motion. Everyone was in favor, motion passed at 8:16 am.
- V. **Treasurer’s Report – Tessa**
  - a. 2016 entries: budgeted to spend 5,000 but spent 4,000. Sponsorships budgeted for 17,000 and got 14,000. Fundraising budgeted to get 19,000 and got blank. Donation budget is 20,000
  - b. The goals for 2016, AHYA board to continue for fundraising activities at the respective national events. AHYA board to submit silent auction items that would be the equivalent
  - c. Forecast for 2017: continue with golf cart raffle or make the switch to horse trailer.
- VI. **Unfinished Business – Brenna**
  - a. AHYA Blog
    - i. In need of more people to sign up to make blog posts. Need blog posts for December, January, February, and March. Harper will do one for November, Region 5 will do March, Danika will do January, Kailey will do December, Hunter will do one in May.
  - b. Sponsor Thank You Notes – from AHYA
    - i. Girls completed notes before the beginning of the meeting.
- VII. **BOD Roles & Responsibilities – Brenna**
  - a. Welcome!
    - i. Welcome all new board members, we are glad to have you!
  - b. 2015-2016 Timeline
    - i. Will be emailed out after board meeting

### **VIII. Regional Reports – Flora**

1. Kailey (3)- budgeted 14,000 and earned 12,000. Main fundraiser was the trainer equitation class, lots of trainers nominated. 900 dollars of fundraising came from that class, very goofy lots of fun. A few smaller fundraisers. Will have a meeting in December
  2. Kari for region 5- couple fundraisers, dessert dash, stuffed bears, silent auction. Raised 4,000. At regional mini convention raised 1600. Outside activities such as racetrack tour and bowling. Upcoming plans are a charitable event (toy drive) which will go to a domestic women's shelter.
  3. Harper (8)- looking forward to get fellow board members, goals for expansion and fundraising.
  4. Alycia (9)- meeting at regional show. Had an ice cream social and chuck a duck, fairly quiet in prep for next season, successful year
  5. Hunter (10)- held silent auction at regionals, held a regional fundraiser (first time having the youth run it). Raised 18,000 for the AHF. At youth nationals they were reserve champions is the parade of regions. 5 teams attend the judging contest, 5<sup>th</sup> overall in halter and several in placings. Had a coloring contest at the regional show and gave away prizes.
  6. Savannah (11)- at regionals had an ice cream social.
- ii. Email reports to Brenna before thanksgiving

### **IX. AHYA Committees – Flora**

- a. Reports
- b. Need people to step up and take charge
  - i. Youth Activities –
    1. Elizabeth Elkin was volunteered as chair for this committee by Kari Amundson
  - ii. Membership/Fundraising & Promotions –
    1. Kate Lewis will step up as chair for this position
  - iii. Regional/National Classes – Danika Overstreet
    1. Will email out the survey
  - iv. Equitation & Showmanship –
    1. Flora volunteered to be the chair for that (previously vice-chair). No updates
  - v. Sport Horse –
    1. Danika volunteered to be chair of this committee.

- vi. Canadian Nationals –
  - 1. The goal of this committee is to create youth activities for the Canadian youth. Lack of activities last year. No volunteers for this position.
- vii. Distance – Tessa Kimbler
  - 1. Nothing has changed, not distance season
- viii. Working Western –
  - 1. No volunteers
- c. Any AHYA member can serve on a committee! Spread the word.
  - i. Any AHYA member can serve, let Brenna know if they join so they can be put on the list.

**X. 2016 Youth Nationals Report & Debrief – Brenna**

- a. Youth Nationals Survey Results Summary
  - i. We definitely need to refresh all of the activities, people feel that they are worn out. Need to keep in mind the intense heat when planning activities. Some people were complaining that they were not aware of what was going on. Cindy suggested putting out a Daily flyer, suggests kids will pass it out. It was brought to attention that we do already pass out flyers every morning. Nancy suggests doing things more in the center. Danika suggests taping the flyers to the drapes, Brenna says they try to hand it to people. Nancy thought about doing a mass messaging system. Kate and flora suggested a remind for the national shows, Flora found success with this in her region.
- b. Activity Success: Hippology, Ice Cream Social, Parade of Regions, Photo Booth, Stick Horse
  - i. Photo booth was not done; all activities were successful but leveled off (less attended). Need new things.
- c. Fundraiser Success: Flying Pigs, Flamingos, Golf Car Raffle, Limited Edition Dog Collars – **Tessa**
  - i. Decided to not do flamingos this following year, if any regions want to buy them contact Brenna.

**XI. Youth Nationals Planning - Brenna**

- a. Theme
  - i. This year is the silver anniversary of youth nationals (25 years)
  - ii. Some ideas:
    - 1. Denim and diamonds **main option (0 votes)**
      - a. Wear blue dreams and crystals, glitz and glam
    - 2. Vintage **main option (6 votes)**
      - a. Maybe have a dance theme
      - b. Maybe make a horses throughout history theme, with different parts of the grounds decorated as different eras.
    - 3. May the horse be with you

4. Song themed
5. Board games:
  - a. Base it off of any kind of board game
- iii. Themes from last year:
  1. Black and white
  2. Old west
  3. Game night
  4. Winter wonderland
  5. Medieval times
  6. Zodiac symbols
  7. Starry night
    - a. Cindy suggests that silver could be incorporated into this
  8. Fairy tales (4 votes)
- iv. Harper suggests a Disney theme; we have to be careful of copy right.
- v. Carnival theme ( 5 votes), night at the museum (0 votes) and luau (6 votes) themes were suggested
- vi. Luau and vintage were the most popular votes between the top two:
  1. Vintage (7 votes)
  2. Luau (4 votes)
- vii. Vintage is the new theme. Kailey thinks for the parade of regions each region could be a different decade in the 1900's. Deborah talks about people dressing back in the day and making it fun to honor past mentors. Cindy talked about breaking down each region to a different time period and picking an influential horse from the period. Brenna brings up concern as to how we will get a whole region to dress up as that time or period? She suggested that decorations will be catered to the vintage theme but the parade of regions will be decade based.
- viii. Suggested for having a formal night or party. Tessa said that there may be problems having people dress up with the heat
- ix. Suggested having dances or party but make it casual on the first Friday night of the show?
  1. How will we pay for it?
    - a. Tessa suggested having a speaker to play music off of a phone. Cindy suggested finding a sponsor.
    - b. Flora suggested making a group playlist and just plugging it in.
    - c. Tessa talked about getting a nice band or singer who would be willing to come
    - d. Potentially charge for a ticket?
    - e. It will be discussed more at march meeting

- b. Convention
  - i. Have been getting less and less people, Brenna asks that you talk to trainers and say that for one hour on Friday to not have them riding horses so they can attend convention. Nancy suggests distribute the pattern books at the convention, so that way people have to come (will need to double check the rules). Brenna suggested having a mandatory trainers meeting at the same time.
  - ii. Leadership Development
    - 1. Key note speaker – do we want?
      - a. Everyone enjoys having a key note speaker
      - b. Suggestion from our guests: look for someone who showed in the very first youth nationals. Have them come and talk about the differences?
      - c. People discussed from last year:
        - i. Christy Landwehr
        - ii. Rebecca LaMafia
      - d. Will discuss this more at the march meeting
      - e. Kari suggested someone that has appeared on ted talks
  - iii. Activities – Greeting/Welcoming
    - 1. Last couple years we have done group activities, should we continue? Decided to keep the icebreakers
  - iv. Recruiting Ideas - delegates at the regional level
    - 1. Potentially having the patterns at convention
    - 2. Any other ideas?
      - a. Regional instagrams
  - v. Committee Meetings – are they worth it?
    - 1. Thoughts?
      - a. Flora recruited some new people, but there was a lack of things to talk about.
      - b. Maybe hold all of the meetings beforehand so that the general public knows about all of them.
      - c. Executive board decided (all are committee chairs). Put a signup sheet?
        - i. If we do have signup sheets each committee head need to write up a small blurb about their committee.
- c. Parade of Regions
  - i. How were prizes from last year?
    - 1. Prizes were very nice; the banner is a nice touch.
  - ii. changes from youth national commission:
    - 1. struggled to get people to be involved

- a. it was hot and short and most people didn't have golf carts
  - 2. the idea is to move it into the main rings and put it in the opening ceremony, walk with a banner and dress to theme or as a region. Very similar to the judging walk around.
    - a. Thoughts: maybe include wheelbarrows, having it in the main arena would be nice, since we can't have golf carts maybe walk around with region and play music and throw candy. Kailey suggests making it very open to interpretation on what they want to do. Harper suggested decorating a horse, the hard part would be finding a horse to be volunteered and there is a potential liability issue. Hunter asked how it would be judged, answer was spirit. Kari talked about the benefits of using wheelbarrows. Flora suggested bikes or anything on wheels, allow regions to have fun with it and make it unique. Cindy says they can use anything but **must be non-motorized.**
- d. Flamingos – not doing
- e. College Fair – did you all like?
  - i. Flora thought it was very well run. Danika suggested to continue with it and it shall grow.
  - ii. Kari brought up the NCAA riding programs that are recruiting on full scholarships, but none of the Arab kids are being recruited, try to incorporate this into the college fair. Harper talked to a scout last year and she said it helps a lot to talk to them and that they are interested in doing more things with the breed. Maybe have a flyer that lists school with an equestrian program so that way we don't go against NCAA bylaws. Flora suggests that if we give them the resources through a flyer and provide the information, they can look up to find them and talk to recruiters on their own so that way we avoid legality issues with recruiters. Tessa suggested a list of websites with coaches to contact.
- f. New Activities and fundraisers
  - i. General fundraisers:
    - 1. Nancy talked about the ties and scarves from AHA and maybe incorporating it with the bears?
    - 2. Flora came up with the idea of selling bears at Scottsdale? The idea was denied because we do not have control over what happens at Scottsdale.
  - ii. Idea for having a youth activity room with a TV and games and a foosball table. Emily said that they had it at regionals and was nice

but there has to be someone their supervising the whole time because their region had it vandalized.

- iii. Youth committee suggested a 50/50 raffle, daily raffle of things donated, regional basket raffle, trainer dunk tank, the road apple rumble, tandem bareback talent contest, talent show. Kailey talked about the road apple rumble and said it was a big success in her region.
- iv. Talent show
  - 1. With or without horses? Undecided
- v. Talked about a Simon says class or a pro/am class
  - 1. Scheduling it may be an issue
- g. Motion #2 to bring back the road apple rumble was made by savannah, harper seconded this motion. Everyone agreed, motion passed at 9:46 am
- h. Motion #3 to have regional raffle baskets as a fundraiser was made by Kailey, Katie seconded this motion. All agreed, motion was passed at 9:48 am.
- i. Kailey brought up the idea of making thank you crafts for your trainer, charge a dollar to make a craft. Brenna said this will be looked into and brought up at the march meeting.
- j. Activities:
  - i. Brought up the idea of paint a pony
  - ii. Deborah talked about how they are trying to make up bryer sized Goldie's.
  - iii. Hunter suggested a scavenger hunt based off of trainers. Flora talked about her success within her region doing similar things. Emily talked about how making rules about who you can team up with can increase interaction, flora also suggested making up a rule about age to increase fairness. Brenna will bring it back up at the march meeting.
  - iv. Debbie brought up having a running regional score for different activities.
  - v. Decided to keep stick horses, hippology, and flying pigs.
  - vi. Stall decorating:
    - 1. Harper said that some people just aren't aware of what the regional or national themes are until they arrive. Flora suggests advertising to trainers through an email blast.
    - 2. Cindy said that one of the problems this year was that some of the people were cautious because they were feeling their way. But having nice prizes is really helpful in increasing participation.
    - 3. Debbie said that the heat made people come and crowd around the large fans and head towards the large barns that had areas set up and it started to become a liability

issue with the amount of people crowding around the large barn lounges. Also some of the smaller barns didn't have room to put stuff out.

4. Flora brought up the struggle with plastic stalls and that it made difficult to hang up stuff.
  5. Brenna recommended people think about it and bring it back at the march meeting.
- vii. Stuffed bears with ribbons to sell as a fundraiser. Flora suggested having different color ribbons for the different awards you earn. Nancy brought up the reminder that you need to help put the ribbons on. Make it a delivery service.
1. Savannah makes a motion #5 to have the bears at a fundraiser at youth and Emily seconded it. Motion was passed at 10:09 am
  2. A guest suggested that if people didn't want to take their bears home the AHYA could donate them to a local hospital.

**XII. Brenna announced a quick break at 10:10 am**

**XIII. Meeting called back to order at 10:29 am**

**XIV. Youth Awards & Recognition - Brenna**

- a. AHA Youth of the Year
  - i. Flora Elmcolone is youth of the year
- b. USEF Awards
  - i. Youth Sportsman of the Year
    1. Tessa Kimbler nominated for this award

**XV. New Business – Brenna**

- a. Scottsdale – 2016 Youth Booth
  - i. There will be a booth. If at Scottsdale let Brenna know when you show and also stop by to volunteer and do social media.
- b. AYHC Leadership Symposium
  - i. April 21-23, 2017; in Boston Massachusetts.
  - ii. Who Attends
    1. Flora and Kate will attend for sure
      - a. Anyone is allowed to attend but AHYA will not pay for it
    2. Amber Lee Schneider will come to speak.
- c. Updated board requirements
  - i. Would like to get a scholarship going for the youth board. Officer would be 1500-2000 and regional director one would be 1000.
  - ii. These would replace the 3-strikes you're out policy.
  - iii. These rules are not in effect this year.
  - iv. Thoughts/ questions:
    1. Discussion about the difficulty to participate in this for people not in the show ring and attend board meetings.

Response was that if you want the money you should be active.

- v. The requirements list that was viewed is just a proposal and adjustments can be made.
  - 1. Maybe include having to do a blog post
  - 2. Suggestion to redefine the class project one
  - 3. The fundraiser budget can be on a national level as well
- d. Text message alerts
  - i. Having alerts for the board members. Kate suggested Whatsapp to communicate. Discussion was made about its benefits. It will be looked into more.
- e. How to get more AHYA Board Members?
  - i. Discussion about personally reaching out to trainers and individuals and posting information about how fun it is.
  - ii. Suggestions:
    - 1. Give regional directors a speech to give to their youth?
    - 2. Make youth aware of it
    - 3. Press how it can be put on college apps, plus press the incentive program and AHYA scholarship.
    - 4. Flora suggested writing a letter to the regions and how vital it is and valuable to them.
  - iii. Assignments for writing letters to a region to encourage youth involvement:
    - 1. Flora – region 1, 16
    - 2. Danika – region 4, 18 (try Slyvia Carrhutes)
    - 3. Kailey – region 7
    - 4. Tessa – region 6
    - 5. Alycia – region 12
    - 6. Hunter and gang – region 15
      - a. Please complete before the Christmas holiday.
      - b. Look into past officers as well for help with youth in the region
  - iv. Youth Show Commission question:
    - 1. From the hat lady you can get the letterman jacket or the softshell one or the buckle, what is preferred?
      - a. A choice between the jackets would be nice
  - v. Board member AHYA shirts
    - 1. No polo's, maybe a quarter zip pull over. The shirt is designed to be something worn when promoting the breed in a professional setting.
    - 2. Idea brought up of t-shirts with positions on the back.

#### **RESPOND TO BRENNAS EMAILS**

#### **XVI. March BOD Meeting**

- a. Choose Date

- i. Adult board meets March 9-11; if AHYA wanted to meet then, dates would be March 10-12, with arrival on the 10<sup>th</sup> optional for an optional tour day on the 10<sup>th</sup> (Friday).
  - 1. Will be march 10-12, optional tour day on Friday, open to suggestions.

**XVII. Reminders**

- a. November 30 – RYTT results close
- b. December 15 – RYTT results due to AHA
- c. February 1<sup>st</sup> – RYTT Entry Deadline
- d. February 11-21 – Scottsdale Booth
- e. March – BOD MEETING
  - i. Written Regional Updates **DUE**
  - ii. Regional Meeting Minutes **DUE**

**Flora Elmcolone declared this meeting adjourned at 11:19 am**