



CANADIAN FJORD HORSE ASSOCIATION

2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AUGUST 7, 2010 8 :00 – 11 :00 am TELECONFERENCE

LAKEVIEW INN AND SUITES, OKOTOKS, ALBERTA

1. INTRODUCTION AND IDENTIFICATION OF MEMBERS PRESENT

Outgoing president Burt Shewfelt introduced the directors present and on the phone. Attending the meeting in person were: Burt, Carol Boehm, Barb Neufeld, Alison Bakken, Anna Middleton, Orville Unrau, Ted Svendsen, Uli Schnable, Pat Wolfe, Gerry McNeil, Gord Fulton, Dan Watanabe and Andrea Thiel. Attending via conference call: Eunice and John Bosomworth, and Gunnar Rogstad.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with no discussion.

3. APPROVAL OF 2009 AGM MINUTES

Carol Boehm moved that the 2009 AGM minutes be adopted, seconded by Gunnar Rogstad. The motion was approved.

4. 2009 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Barb Neufeld moved that the 2009 financial statement be adopted, seconded by Carol Boehm. The motion was approved.

5. 2010 AUDITOR

Barb moved that Ted Svendsen be the auditor for the 2010 financial statements. The motion was seconded by Alison Bakken and approved.

6. 2010 BUDGET

There was a discussion concerning a budget for 2010. The Secretary informed members that the new Treasurer Ron Black would do that once he receives instructions from the Board. Gerry McNeil agreed that a budget could only be put together once the CFHA had a strategic plan. Pat Wolfe asked that any extra money in the CFHA coffers be put into education. Eunice Bosomworth pointed out that a budget can only be approved at an AGM. Gord Fulton suggested that the new Board come up with a budget for early October. Members agreed on a date of October 15.

7. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Website: Barb reminded members that members had suggested a special page for juniors at the last AGM. The page has been created on the website, and in addition a Facebook Account has been created. In response to a question, she said that to date only adults have used the sites. Barb reported that the website has been working well and has earned the CFHA \$700 net. She's added a page for services and products which has met with limited success. Members were asked to refer any service providers to her who are familiar with Fjords since those ads generate more revenue. Barb was asked to promote stallion services in a more obvious manner because at present members have difficulty finding them. Finally, Barb called for evaluation results to be available on the website.

Microchip Distribution: Burt asked for general feedback on the new system of microchip distribution now handled by the CLRC. Barb pointed out that several entries at the Western Evaluation needed the chips and received them without problems. The problem of chips in older horses was discussed because the scanners are not picking up some of the older chips (although member Uli Schnable said vets seem to be able to read them). The Secretary agreed to look into the earliest type of scanners used to see whether those would read the old chips.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Evaluation: Burt thanked those who had made the Western Evaluation such a success and told members it demonstrated that the CFHA was moving forward and doing more to educate its members. He expressed gratitude to all those involved. Alison Bakken, chair of the Evaluation Committee reminded the meeting that the new Family Fjord tests debuted at the Western Evaluation. They were fun to do and demonstrated the basic, everyday use of Fjords. The Calgary Polo Grounds were beautiful, the weather cooperated and Alison thanked everyone who helped.

Pedigree Committee: Burt announced a correction that was made this year after a registration concern was received. The membership of the Committee includes the General Manager of the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation, the CFHA Registrar as well as the CFHA Secretary.

Membership Committee: Eunice Bosomworth reported that membership has been decreasing over the last five years and is now 140, down from 153 last year. She's not sure why, but wonders whether there are more people with just one or two horses who don't see the need to spend money on a membership. Gord Fulton has been talking with a lot of members and found that about

30% have downsized to one or two horses and no longer wish to be active. The demographics of membership distribution has changed as well with increasing membership in the East. A discussion followed on how to increase memberships. One possibility Burt raised was to grant a free one-year membership to anyone not a member who buys a Fjord in Canada. Barb suggested a courtesy letter could be sent out along with a membership form welcoming new Fjord owners. She pointed out that in a recent member survey, marketing, promotion and the registry were reported to be by far the most important elements of the CFHA, so if we focus on those things, membership could be turned around. Anna reminded everyone that the most effective form of communication was the telephone.

Proposed by-law amendments: At the last AGM, the membership committee was asked to write amendments to the by-laws. Carol Boehm and Andrea Thiel took the job. Burt reviewed these proposals, which will be voted on by mail-in ballot. Several concerns were raised including: requiring members to own a registered Fjord, the new four-year terms for directors, allowing members to vote in elections as long as they're in good standing 30 days before the vote and whether the new ID requirements are grandfathered. Directors agreed to look at all these concerns and propose adjustments if necessary.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Burt reported that work is still being done on trying to keep track of horses that have been transferred from one country to another. Dan said this is a larger problem than North American, and includes all horses from countries belonging to Fjord Horse International. He has suggested a database that all home registries would have access to.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Carol said the CFHA needs to know the outcome of the vote on new by-laws before new planning can begin.

Uli called for new ideas to bring in more young people and mentions a German website that has had a lot of success in this area. She will research this to find out how they do it. Carol suggested some kind of award that juniors could strive for each year, such as best Fjord in a particular discipline.

11. NEXT MEETING

The new Board of Directors will announce the date of the next AGM. Before the meeting adjourned, Burt bowed out as President of the Association, saying he is confident that the CFHA is moving forward in the right direction. He refused the suggestion that he take up the director's position currently vacant. Members thanked him for his years of service and the meeting was adjourned.