

Southwestern Donkey and Mule Society

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2009

Opening:

The Board of Directors meeting of the Southwestern Donkey and Mule Society was called to order at 7:12 PM, November 7, 2009 in Corsicana, Texas by President, Larry Wolfe.

Present:

President,	Larry Wolfe	Director	Lynda Cornell
Vice President,	Debbie Lee	Director	Mel Howes
Secretary,	Lori Miller	Director	Lou Ann Guthrie
Show Chair,	Sally Armstrong	Director	Ricky Scott
Points Keeper,	Shirley Knott		

Also Present: Greg Schlosser, Royce Lee, Susan Carter, Deborah Nowlin Keith, Mark & Wendy Armstrong, Walter & Lee Fuerman, Glinda Scott, Michelle Fowler and Kimmie Rogers.

Absent:

Treasurer	Judy Shulter
Director	Sisu Morris
Director	Robert Shulter

I. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 1, 2009 meeting were circularized and approved by Sally Armstrong, Debbie Lee, Shirley Knott, Lynda Cornell.

III. Committee Reports

A.) Nomination

Shirley Knott reported to the Board of Directors (BOD) on the solicitation of nominees for the upcoming 2010 election of SDMS Directors. Shirley notified the board of nomination forms mailed to all SDMS members by Elaine Wolfe. Shirley also encouraged SDMS members in attendance to “get involved” by running for a director position. The requirements and commitment of directors was also reviewed.

B.) Show Committee

2010 SDMS Show Schedule:

Sally Armstrong reviewed the 2010 SDMS show schedule. She reminded members of the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo information and deadline of November 15, 2009. Sally announced the scheduling of the SDMS Spring Show at the Somervell County Expo in Glen Rose on May 1 – 2, 2010. She informed the board that the 2010 Texas Shoot-Out will remain in Bryan at the Brazos County Expo during the month of June. Sally then announced the SDMS Fall Show will be held October 23-24, 2010 in Corsicana at the Navarro County Expo. A discussion was held concerning the SDMS sanction of the Houston Live Stock Show & Rodeo. Sally stated she had presented Houston with several suggestions to insure an increase in participants and success of the Donkey & Mule show compared to other years. Unfortunately, she reported, the Houston Show committee would not make the changes needed to make it feasible for SDMS to sanction the show. The concern of point accumulation for the year is a major concern. The questions created because of two organizations sanctioning the show, and the number of classes available for the miniature donkeys were also concerns.

C.) PR / Newsletter

Lori Miller reported on the price of mailing the November Show Bill and September newsletter. She notified the board that she has joined another savings program with Staples at no charge to the club. On the September newsletter and November Show Bill printing, SDMS saved \$128.73 with the new program. Lori requested direction on mailing a show bill to all members or have members print the show bills from the SDMS website. After discussion, it was determined SDMS should continue to mail a show bill to every member to insure everyone receives it. Larry Wolfe encouraged members to sponsor ads in the newsletter to help defer the printing cost.

D.) Rules:

Debbie Lee notified members of the January 10, 2010 deadline for rule changes to the Texas Rule Book. Debbie reiterated that the club must submit these items to the rules committee in order for them to change. Debbie also explained the rules committee process.

E.) By-Laws:

Elaine Wolfe reported that she had mailed out By-Laws changes the week prior to the meeting for membership review. She reviewed the proposed changes and answered any questions. Elaine stated the reason for the proposed changes were to insure a smoother audit process and ease the amount of work on members. These changes should not create any additional work for the Treasurer.

F.) Scholarship

Due to Robert Shulter's absence, Sally Armstrong presented the scholarship report. Sally reported that there is one applicant for the SDMS scholarship. Weston Shefcik has applied and is continuing to do the necessary steps to complete the application process. She informed the board that he has completed the third-party interview and is still gathering academic transcripts. The scholarship committee hopes to have everything completed by the December 5, 2009 annual meeting.

Sally also notified the board that she will be mailing information on the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo scholarship program. At this time, SDMS youth are only eligible for the essay scholarship. Sally encouraged members to have the youth participate.

Sally also reviewed the BOD's commitment to allot a percent of the proceeds from the SDMS Fall Harvest of Fun show to go to the scholarship fund.

G.) Treasurer

Due to the absence of Judy Shulter at the meeting, Larry Wolfe presented the Treasurer's Report. Larry presented financial reports and reviewed the current financial status of SDMS. The report was filled subject to audit.

H.) Audit

Shirley Knott reported the audit of the 2007 & 2008 financial years is incomplete at this time and a full report will be presented at the December meeting.

IV. Unfinished Business

- a) Larry Wolfe requested volunteers for the 2010-2011 Directors Elections. He encouraged other members to get involved and impact SDMS with new ideas.
- b) Elaine reviewed the annual meeting will be held at the Elite Café in Waco, Texas. She reviewed the order of the event will be that we will eat, hold the annual meeting with election of Directors and present year-end awards. A meeting of the new BOD will follow.

V. New Business

- a) Transfer of Funds to Scholarship Account:

Larry Wolfe reviewed the prior practice of funding the scholarship account with money generated from auctions. Larry requested input from the BOD on the total amount to move into the scholarship fund. Debbie Lee suggested the BOD wait to until the audit is complete to move the money. Concerns over smaller than expected numbers and potential loss of revenue for the show, prompted a discussion of how much to allot. After discussion, a suggestion was made to move the amount owed to fund from the prior auctions and from the November show. It was also suggested to allow the 2010 BOD to determine what amount will be budgeted for the scholarship fund for the 2010 year.

Motion “SDMS transfer the money generated from prior year-end auctions and the amount committed from the November show revenue to scholarship fund.”

Motion By: Mel Howes

Second: Ricky Shulter

Motion: Carried

b) TSO account transfer:

A general discussion was held concerning combining the TSO account and the general operating account. Several members noted the account was originally established to insure the financial stability of the TSO and now the separate account is not needed. The board decided the merge was needed to alleviate dual accounting practices.

Motion: "SDMS will operate with one general operating account which will include the TSO account."

Motion By: Debbie Lee Second: Shirley Knott Motion: Carried

c) 2010 Non Show Events

Larry Wolfe requested suggestions for new non-show type SDMS events. Several members suggested training events, trail rides and arena play days. Several member groups and individuals agreed to inquire about event locations and availability and report their findings to Sally or Larry.

d) Houston Live Stock Show and Rodeo:

Discussion was held concerning the SDMS sanction of the 2010 Houston Live Stock Show and Rodeo. Sally Armstrong reviewed the concerns of the show committee, previously discussed at this meeting.

Motion: "SDMS will withdraw the sanction of the Houston Live Stock Show and Rodeo due to the unfairness of the show schedule to the majority of the SDMS members."

Motion By: Ricky Scott Second: Sally Armstrong Motion: Carried

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. by Larry Wolfe, President. The next meeting will be December 5, 2009.

Minutes submitted by: Lori Miller

Approved by: Sally Armstrong, Shirley Knott, Debbie Lee, Mel Howes, Lou Ann Guthrie
Lynda Cornell