

Southwestern Donkey and Mule Society

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2009

Opening:

The Board of Directors meeting of the Southwestern Donkey and Mule Society was called to order at 11:13 on August 7, 2009 in Salado, Texas by President, Larry Wolfe.

Present:

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

Also Present: Lee Fuerman, Royce Lee, Greg Schlosser, Chyrel Kennemar

Absent:

Director Sisu Morris

I. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 7, 2009 meeting were read by Lori Miller and approved by Ricky Scott and were 2nd by Robert Shulter.

III. Committee Reports

A.) Treasurer

1) Current Financial Information: Judy Shulter distributed financial reports and reviewed the current financial status of SDMS. The report was filled subject to audit.

a) Those present reviewed the May Show and Texas Shoot-Out expenses and discussed changes and corrections. A discrepancy concerning the charge/non-charge of shavings was found on the Bell County Expo bill for the May Show. Larry will contact the Bell County Expo regarding the bill.

2) Budget Review / Amendments: No Amendments were suggested.

- 3) Refund / Cancellation Policy: Sally Armstrong and Judy Shulter requested the Board of Director's (BOD) input concerning the SDMS Cancellation/Refund Policy. Discussion was held concerning circumstances that justify a cancellation. Sally Armstrong presented cancellation/refund policies from other clubs and events. Ricky Scott referred to the section in the Texas rule book concerning cancellations. After discussion, Debbie Lee suggested SDMS use the Houston Stock Show policy. Lee Fuerman agreed. However, Lee suggested we reduce the refund by any expenses the club has incurred. A motion was made for Sally and Judy to create a refund policy and present it to the Board of Directors.

Motion: "Sally Armstrong and Judy Shulter will create a refund policy for SDMS and will present it for approval."

By: Sally Armstrong Second: Lou Ann Guthrie Motion: Carried

- 4) 2007-2008 Audit: Shirley Knott and Debbie Lee of the audit committee suggested the first available date for the audit of the 2007-2008 SDMS records would be October 3, 2009. Judy Shulter, Treasurer stated that she could not be without the records for any length of time. She also expressed concern over releasing the original records from her possession. Judy suggested the records could be copied at the expense of the club and that she did not have the time to copy them. A lengthy discussion was held to resolve the problem. Lee Fuerman suggested a third party review the records. The Board of Directors concluded that Judy Shulter will deliver the records to Larry Wolfe, President. Larry will be responsible for the records during the period Judy is not in possession of them. Larry will appoint two additional auditors not currently on the audit committee. The 2007-2008 audit is scheduled for October 3rd and 4th at Fairway Golf Carts in Salado, Texas.

Motion: "On October 3 & 4, 2009 two groups will audit the 2007-2008 records at Fairway Golf Carts. Judy will relinquish the records to Larry Wolfe for this audit."

By: Ricky Scott Second: Lou Ann Guthrie Motion: Carried

B.) Longears Festival

Judy Shulter, Longears Festival Committee Chairperson presented a report concerning the status of the 2009 Longears Festival. The event will be held September 4-6, 2009 at Parrie-Haynes Equestrian Center. She reviewed and presented the ideas discussed in the Longears Committee meeting held prior to the Board Meeting.

C.) Show Committee

- 1) Show Committee Recommendations:

The Show Committee proposes researching the feasibility of the Texas Shoot-Out (TSO) including "NASMA" rules and making the TSO a "NASMA" sanctioned show. A discussion was held concerning the classes needed, schedule, and limitations of adding "NASMA" rules.

Motion: "Sally Armstrong will research and create a proposal for the 2010 Texas Shoot-Out to be a "NASMA" sanctioned show."

By: Sally Armstrong Second: Lou Ann Guthrie Motion: Carried

2) Texas Shoot-Out Update:

A discussion was held concerning changing the Texas Shoot-Out trail classes from "at-will" classes to "scheduled" classes. The BOD discussed schedule changes in the classes and what classes to offer for the 2010 TSO. The challenges of sharing the arena with large and small animals and the number of classes in the time allotted were also discussed. Several suggestions were made for changing the date. Conflicts with other events were discussed and it was concluded the second weekend in June was a good date. Suggestions were also made that the Board consider researching the possibility of making the TSO a NMDA sanctioned show. No motion was made.

3) 2010 SDMS Show Schedule:

A discussion was held concerning the number of shows SDMS should have in 2010. Sally Armstrong reported the Bell County Expo does not have any spring dates available. The suggestion was made to change the Spring Show to Corsicana and move the Fall Show to Belton. The BOD expressed an interest in pursuing more "non-show" events. Sally presented information on a driving clinic scheduled in October. Chyrel Kennemer presented information on a ground working clinic and trail ride in October. Discussion was also held concerning rumors that GCDMA will not do The San Antonio Stock Show in 2010 and if SDMS would like to pursue it. A discussion was then held concerning the Houston Live Stock Show & Rodeo and it's availability to be a SDMS show. Concerns were discussed and the general attitude was positive toward the pursuit of making the Houston Live Stock Show & Rodeo a SDMS show. Several BOD members will research and pursue information regarding the Houston Live Stock Show & Rodeo.

Motion: "2010 SDMS show schedule will consist of the FWSSR in January, a regular SDMS show in April, The TSO during the 2nd weekend in June, and a regular SDMS show near the end of October, all dates subject to availability."

By: Sally Armstrong Second: Mel Howes Motion: Carried

4) Left over imprinted awards:

The Board of Directors discussed what to do with remaining un-awarded imprinted items. Several suggestions were made and the general consensus was to place the items on a silent auction. Suggestions were also made to donate the items to special-needs organizations.

Motion: "SDMS will disperse of the left-over imprinted awards."

By: Ricky Scott Second: Mel Howes Motion: Carried

5) Auction at November show instead of annual meeting:

- Larry Wolfe proposed the auction be moved from the Annual Meeting and Year-End Awards Banquet.

Motion: “The SDMS auction will not be held at the Annual Meeting and Year-End Awards Banquet.”

Motion: Debbie Lee Second: Sally Armstrong Motion: Carried

- In lieu of the absence of an auction to benefit the scholarship fund, Mel Howes suggested a portion of proceeds from the November show or a specific amount be designated for the scholarship fund.

Motion: “Some of the proceeds from the November 2009 show will be allocated to the scholarship fund in the amount of \$1000.00 or 20% of the profit, whichever is greater.”

Motion By: Mel Howes Second: Sally Armstrong Motion: Carried

6) Meal at November Show:

Due to an overwhelming response last year, it was suggested SDMS provide a meal at the November 2009 show in Corsicana. Discussion was held concerning the planning and sponsoring of the meal. It was suggested that SDMS provide the food and members will prepare the food. Sally will research the availability of the room and Ricky Scott will be in-charge of the cooks.

Motion: “SDMS will provide a meal at the November 2009 show in Corsicana.”

Motion: Debbie Lee Second: Ricky Scott Motion: Carried

D.) PR/ Newsletter:

No Report

E.) Rules:

Debbie Lee notified members of the January 15, 2010 deadline for rule changes to the Texas Rule Book. Several potential changes were suggested and discussed. A general agreement was made that the rule book needs more specific wording and more clear definitions of exhibitor levels. It was suggested Debbie “spotlight” a rule in each newsletter to raise awareness of the rules. 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.

F.) By-Laws:

No Report

G.) Scholarship:

No Report

H.) SDMS Store:

Judy Shulter reported on the sale of store items and on new items for the store.

Motion: "SDMS will pursue carrying items on a per item bases for sale through the store."

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

I.) Summer Sizzler:

Debbie Lee presented a recap of the event. The event generated a profit and everyone had an enjoyable time. If another Summer Sizzler is planned, a suggestion was made that Debbie create a committee to assist in the planning. A suggestion was made to change the event to another time of the year.

IV. Unfinished Business

Sally plead to the BOD for a push to secure a Show Coordinator. She stated we MUST have a Show Coordinator in order for the shows to run properly. It was suggested SDMS hire a third-party or Rodeo organization to run the shows. A suggestion was made to increase the annual membership dues to cover the additional expenses. After discussion, a volunteer was secured for the November 2009 show with an option to be Show Coordinator for 2010.

V. New Business

a) 2010-2011 Directors Elections:

Judy Shulter reminded members of the upcoming elections. She verified who wishes to run again. She also requested a reminder be placed in the newsletter.

b) Year End Banquet Plans:

Elaine Wolfe requested suggestions on the location, date and time for the Annual Meeting and Year End Banquet. The BOD suggested the same as last year, depending on the availability of the Elite Café. Elaine Wolfe was directed to contact the Elite Café.

c) Safety Kit:

Judy Shulter proposed SDMS purchase a first aid kit to keep at all SDMS events. Discussion was held concerning the logistics for getting the kit to each event. Judy provided information on a safety kit and suggested SDMS purchase that style.

Motion "SDMS purchase a first aid kit for all SDMS events."

Motion By: Judy Shulter Second: Robert Shulter Motion: Carried

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m. by Larry Wolfe, President. The next meeting will be designated at a later date.

Minutes submitted by: Lori Miller

Approved by: Sally Armstrong, Debbie Lee, Shirley Knott and Lynda Cornell via email.