

NASS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2008
6 p.m. PCT

Our meeting was called to order by Lori Baker, President, at 8 minutes past the hour. Jamie Buck was unable to be present and therefore the meeting was not recorded.

Roll Call: Present were Lori Baker, Elaine Kerrigan, Arlene Michaud, Kathy Richkind, Adele Furby, Gwyn Davis and Terry Hey.

Lori announced that the minutes from our Oct. 24th '07 meeting have been posted on the website under the "Membership" button, and that fees for lifetime membership have been temporarily reduced to \$200.

The Board will hold quarterly meetings with dates being posted on the website on the NASS calendar. Additional meetings can be scheduled if necessary, again with announcements of such posted.

Treasurer's Report: Arlene stated that Mr. Huse needs some financial information to complete the 501(c)5 filing. He sent us via email part three of form 1024. Once this is completed and received by Mr. Huse, he will file the 501(c)5. He had tried to send this earlier, but had forgotten the attachment. He then sent it again. He stated he would be out of the office on Friday (week of Jan. 14) so the filing would probably take place the following week.

Lori offered to start working on responding to the 501(c)5 questions and Arlene agreed to work on it with her though she isn't real familiar with these types of forms. Lori stated that her husband will help as he is good at spreadsheets.

Arlene then reported that our balance is now \$1,931.73, and she has yet to deposit \$285, which brings the balance to \$2216.73. She requested approval to pay filing and phone bills. She reports we have two phone bills and has written checks for them, one for \$52.32 and one for \$101.98 for recent conference calls, (one for a by-laws committee meeting and one for our recent Executive Meeting.) She also wrote a check for \$464.00 to the Huse Law firm for legal fees pertaining to our filing. She states she also received a bill from Carol Neubauer in the amount of \$100.37, for registration expenses, bringing our total expenses to \$718.67

Kathy moved that these bills be paid. Lori seconded. All voted "yes" – motion carried. Arlene stated she would mail out the bills the next day.

Memberships were discussed next. We currently have received four new lifetime memberships and four new members, and three renewals, bringing our membership total up to 99 members. We have ten addresses which we are not certain are correct and these need to be checked. Arlene reported that she purchased a new accounting software program for NASS called Peachtree Pro which will save NASS a monthly expense of \$19.95. Arlene states she will contribute this to NASS.

A round table discussed followed consisting of **Board News and/or comments**. It was reported that IGive.com netted around \$75 but it is not yet clear to whom the money will be sent.

Photos for the “Shagyas For Sale” page are up and running. Lori states she needs to remind people to keep them updated.

Kathy asked if our ad in *Equestrian* magazine generated new hits on our website. Jamie Buck was not present to share whether or not she has this information. However we will ask her at our first opportunity.

Lori announced that the Shagya stallion Janos, formerly owned by Stephanie Fine, is now in Japan. Lori has talked to the new owner’s assistant who is working out of Washington State about getting started with Shagya breeding in Japan, and creating a Shagya society in that country. She is answering questions for him and Adele suggested they register their horses with NASS at first while assisting them in establishing their own registry and relationship with ISG. Once they have set up their own registry, they can then register their Japanese bred horses with their own society.

The Stallion Auction and Raffle has been postponed and will be resumed as a project at a later date, as the primary concern is the filing of the new 501(c)5 application.

ISG News: The letter written to the ISG will be published in our next newsletter. Also published in the newsletter will be an up-date on the work of the By-laws committee and our website. There will also be an announcement of Janos exportation to Japan and NASS’ role in helping that country establish a Shagya breed registry.

By-laws: A draft has been completed. A vote is needed to post them. Lori moved to post, seconded by Kathy, all present voted yes to post this draft on the website. This will remain posted for 30 days in order to allow the membership to read them and offer questions or comments. After 30 days, any necessary revisions will be made, then submitted for legal review, and then the final draft will be posted again. Jamie will send out a group email copy of the by-laws. Anyone without email will receive a hard copy in the mail.

Breeding Committee Report: This was an update and summary of NASS policies regarding stallion owners who are not members of NASS or members not in good standing. Kathy moved to accept the policies as drafted. Elaine seconded. All present voted “yes.”

Linda Rudolphi had communicated an objection to this policy via email, read verbatim and was so noted. Jamie will add a paragraph about policy to the Breeding Guidelines link on our website stated that this policy was standard in the horse industry among virtually every registry. Gwyn pointed out that any stallion owner has to sign a breeding certificate anyway, before a foal can be registered, and has the option to decline.

Learner Judge Committee: No news to report.

Website Report: Webmaster Jamie Buck was absent.

NASS Newsletter: There was discussion regarding whether or not to switch to an email format to save the cost of postage in mailing hard copies. It was agreed that this would be a wise idea and again, those without email or anyone requesting a hard copy would still be able to get one. It was suggested that we include a line in our membership renewal letter asking that a box be checked, indicated the preference for electronic or hardcopy of the NASS Newsletter. Arlene suggested that, at the end of each month, we could send Hallie a list of those wanting hard copies. A question was asked: should we wait til the membership renewals are all in? Adele suggested slipping this in on the By-laws vote ballot as we'll be mailing that out anyway and individuals could then indicate their preference of format for receiving the newsletter.

Gwyn requested extra hard copies to send out as information officer. Kathy stated these are also good to take to Europe to ISG meetings as well as it is cheaper than mailing them out.

Awards were discussed next. Lori stated that Becky McCarty was working with Jamie on getting an awards page on the website. Lori asked for input on improving the awards program. Gwyn suggested looking at other organizations to see how they do it. Ours is modeled on the Arabian Sport Horse Association Inc. Elaine volunteered to look into this. She noted the point system in some disciplines are out of balance compared to others, especially endurance. She noted it can be complicated. Adele suggested a committee for awards. Lori pointed out the Board currently reviews the system, but noted that it is good for others to be involved. It was agreed that Elaine has experience in this area and is good at it. There was general agreement that the point system needs revision. It was noted that the versatile Shagya competes in more disciplines than other breeds, so it might be difficult to find a model to emulate. Elaine explained that the Arabian Sport Horse Association Inc. also found a need to change this system. Elaine promoted the score system. Gwyn asked how is this done in Europe? She asked if Adele knew, however, no one knew the answer to this and it was agreed that more research needed to be done. Adele suggested we contact Carin Weiss who actively competes in Europe. Lori asked for a volunteer to contact her? Adele and Kathy agreed to "put out feelers" when they go to the ISG meeting in June.

Registrar's Report: Terry Hey reported that Carol had sent a letter stating she had had a few new registrations and transfers and that thus far Carol felt this was a good start to the new year. Carol had reported that the replacement certificates for the four horses that had not been signed and sent on to new owners by K. Voyer have been sent out.

New Business: Lori mentioned that we need to schedule our annual meeting for September or October. She suggested we have an actual physical meeting of members to coincide with a major event such as the Sport Horse Nationals which will next be held in Boise, ID. We discussed possible events with which we could hold our meeting. Elaine states she will possibly be competing at the Arabian Sport Horse Nationals and that it would be great to have NASS registered horses there.

Grievance Procedure/Committee Report - Lori stated we have not yet crafted a conflict resolution, but that we need to stick with protecting NASS and not get involved with conflicts between individuals.

The Learner Judge and Education Committee Report: it was decided these will be split into two committees.

Marketing and Promotion Report: Terry Hey reported that no one else volunteered to bring a horse to the Midwest Horse Fair since the sending of a mass email to Midwest NASS members, therefore, Gwyn and Terry will be the only exhibitors but plan to have four horses there. Terry reported she sent in the check to reserve the stalls and has found a low-cost valance from Schneider Saddlery which can be lettered with the NASS initials and logo for stall and booth décor.

USEF (United States Equestrian Federation) Liaison Report: Kathy states this is a discontinued category with USEF as they have moved toward “Participating Breed Organization” instead. We will keep our business membership.

Lori reported there will be two booths for the Pacific North Endurance Riders convention and several people will be sending her brochures. Terry Hey has loaned her the NASS banner she made for the Horse Fair in '06. Killian and Drena Dill will operate a Shagya booth and that they have expressed continued interest in unification with NASS. Adele mentioned she had looked up the unification information used by the American Trakehner Association and had passed it on to Killian, and that he has been receptive.

Lori then asked us to be thinking of an appropriate time for our next meeting. It was agreed that March might be a good month, and that we may need another Executive Meeting beforehand to finalize the By-Laws.

Lori then moved to adjourn the meeting. Elaine seconded. All present voted “yes”. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 9:24 CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Hey
NASS Midwest Regional Coordinator
NASS Assistant Registrar