

MAINE DRESSAGE SOCIETY
Board of Directors Meeting
October 11, 2007

I. Meeting called to order at 6:22PM

II. Those in attendance were as follows:

Willette Brown	at large	Pat Martin	WMDEA
Rebecca Reed	EMDA	Paula Bonarrigo	CMDA
Bryn Walsh	EMDA	Cheryl Peaslee	CMDA
Sandy Welsh	at large	Susan Pendleton	SMDA
Dot Bournassa	CMDA	Wendy Brunson	SMDA
Beth Braineid	WMDEA		

III. The Secretary's report was read and a motion was made to accept by Bryn. The motion was seconded by Sandy.

IV. The Treasurer's report was read by Sandy. The balance in the checking account is \$14,104.91. Sandy reports that all bills are currently paid. Costs for the omnibus, banquet, and membership to USDF will soon come out of that total. Sandy reported that she has looked into a money market account so that our money can earn interest at a locked in rate of 4%. The rate can increase but not decrease. Sandy will gather more information from a personal friend who is a financial advisor. Sandy reported that she will be preparing a budget in the near future, if anyone has cost information that should be given to Sandy. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report by Paula, the motion was seconded by Bryn.

V. Old Business-

- A. Membership Timetable – Paula questioned why the clubs membership forms were due to MDS by September 1st, and were not online until September 6th. It was clarified that ultimately it is the individual clubs responsibility to get the membership forms to their members in a timely manner and not the responsibility of MDS. The \$10 fee that is incurred by membership forms received after September 1st is not a late fee, rather, if the form is received before the 1st of September, members can save \$10 as an early bird discount. The club memberships are due to MDS by September 1st to allow Sandy processing time of the rosters, to get them to USDF by their deadline of November 1st. Willette encouraged the board to try and remain positive to their club members as we cannot help price increases.
- B. Omnibus – Sandy has taken over the omnibus as Shelly Wagstaff has moved out of state. Bryn is heading up advertising and Willette again, is the omnibus cheerleader! Sandy has sent copies of ad forms to club treasurers, membership, and board members. At this point Sandy needs to know how much space will be needed for advertising. The deadline for ad space is November 7th. We need to get ads for the omnibus to cover the cost of printing. New this year to the omnibus is that all shows are to add a \$2 trophy fee for MDS. If anyone has not collected omnibus money from sales at local businesses, please do so and get that money to Sandy.
- C. Banquet – Again, some discussion on banquet location. It was decided to hold the banquet this year at the Senator Inn in Augusta. Beth clarified that the cost of championship medals is incurred every few years, not yearly and they are bought in bunches that last about 6 years. Bryn and Beth will look into the cost of lapel pins to replace rider medals. The pins will be in the gold, silver or bronze color and can be worn on your lapel. There will be an ad in the omnibus for anyone who has earned their rider medal and would like to order a lapel pin. Dot suggested a volunteer award to support our non-competitive members at the award banquet. Each club will decide who will nominate one of their members to receive this award at the banquet. Becky will put a

note in the next newsletter and send an e-mail to the membership to alert them of this new award. Bryn moved to accept a volunteer award and Beth seconded. Beth will determine what the award will be. We will have a silent auction at the banquet. Becky will put a notice in the newsletter, and send an e-mail for members to bring items for the auction to the banquet. Pat will run the auction table. The banquet will be held the last Sunday in January, Beth will confirm the date. There will be a board meeting before the banquet at 10 o'clock.

- D. Officers for 2008 – We will be voting for new officers at the meeting in January. Willette's two-year term as president will be over. It was suggested that Bryn move into the president slot, as she is now VP. Bryn is open to being president. Sandy would like to run again as membership/treasurer. Becky is unsure if she would like to remain as secretary and may run for VP. Becky will put something in the newsletter for filling spots for the slate of officers.
- E. Symposium Suggestions – Willette will head up the symposium. We need to be thinking of something with our best interests in mind. The speaker will need to be accomplished, and the symposium will again be held in January or February. Susan Harris and musical freestyle were some ideas given, e-mail Willette with any other symposium ideas.

VI. New Business

- It was questioned if MDS should send a representative to the USDF national convention. This year the convention is in Florida. The representative will be a board member and will speak about what they saw and learned at the convention at the banquet in January. MDS may give the representative \$500 to cover costs, or may cover all expenses depending on what the costs are. Sandy will look into the cost of airfare, and Willette will look into the cost of lodging and the convention. Sandy made a motion to send a board member to the convention and Beth seconded. A motion was made by Paula to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Beth.

VII. The next meeting will be at the award banquet tentatively set for Sunday, January 27, 2008 at the Senator Inn in Augusta.

Respectfully submitted,

**Rebecca Reed
Secretary**