

Michigan State Rabbit Breeders Association
General Membership Meeting
March 1st, 2008
MSU Pavilion

Roll Call of Officers:

President: Jane Burt
Vice President: Willis Plank
Secretary: Sherry Garrett
Treasurer: Gail Samson
40 Members Present

Secretary's Report: Sherry Garrett - Minutes & Communications

Motion by Sandy Doyle, second by Larry Walthorn to approve the minutes as printed. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Gail Samson - presentation of bills

As of 2/29/08: Income: \$3,880.01
 Expenses: \$7,116.70
 Cash: \$4,483.16
 CD's: \$5,726.33
 Total Assets: \$10,209.49

Motion by Bob Bolyard, second by Carlene Bell to accept and file the treasurer's report with the Auditing Committee. Motion carried.

Gail stated that the CD came due in February. If it is rolled over in the current account it retains 1/5% interest. It is sitting currently in check form with Gail. There is a bank available that offers a 3.51% interest rate as of this date for a 13 month CD. This CD is currently \$2870.13. Bob Bolyard made the motion, second by Lori Newberry, to place this fund in a CD with the best rate possible. Motion carried.

President's Report:

President Jane Burt recognized George Carpenter for four years of service to our organization as Past President.

Vice President's Report:

Willis Plank reported that the 2008 Rabbit School had an excellent turnout. Three individuals presented the program.

Secretary's Report:

Sherry Garrett reported that the postcard reminders seem to be working, and will have a full report on this venture at the end of 2008. We are currently working on a full membership update of addresses, phone numbers and email addresses. Please stop by the MSRBA Booth to check your current membership record status and update where needed.

Standing Committee Reports:

Equipment:

Tony Parker reported that there are new tables for the writers, new sawhorses for the judges table cooping. We are selling the previously used wire sawhorses. The old card tables have been sold. Nineteen wire bottoms are available for behind the judging tables.

\$878.29 was spent on the writers tables and sawhorses.

\$236.00 was taken in today on equipment.

We are selling the semi for around \$700.00.

The new equipment will lighten up the trailer to insure safety in transport. The Board of Directors have approved the income from the semi for updating equipment. Three shows are renting the equipment (\$750.00 total income.)

Show Circuit:

Bonnie Hecksel has retired and was recognized by the Executive Board and membership for her many years of dedication to our club. Carlene Bell, the new Show Circuit Chairperson, stated that she needs a copy of all affiliated clubs ARBA Charters by March 15th. Insurance Certificates for the following clubs were still available for pick up: Ann Arbor, Heart of Michigan and the Michigan Cavy Breeders.

Auditing:

Mary Lou Bignall has not yet received all of the information for the audit. The balance of paperwork was supposed to be turned in today and the report will be presented at the next meeting.

Promotional:

Katie Carpenter has the logo embroidered on new items. There are aprons, denim shirts, sweatshirts, vests, etc. She has already gotten about \$250 in income on promotional items. The logo being digitized allows the colors to be changed on individual items. Katie needs an order of 12 items to place an order for embroidery. The items are coming from Slick Shirts in Lansing. She also has 2008 show calendars available for \$2.00 each.

Constitutional:

Brenda Reau has identified some areas that are ambiguous in the Constitution and the committee is working on changes to refer to the resolutions committee.

Publication:

Jane Burt stated that if you have an ad that has expired see her. Cost is going up slightly.

Budget:

The Board of Directors raised the amount in the budget for Convention trophies to reflect the numbers being given.

Master Breeders Plaque:

Al Ireland has produced a beautiful tri-fold Master Breeder Plaque.

Convention 2008:

Tiffany Weiss reported that preliminary entry numbers were as follows: 854 youth rabbits, 97 youth cavies, 1276 open rabbits and 91 open cavies. The Florida White and Thrianta Specialty shows for Sunday have been cancelled. She hired Karah Baareman as a replacement judge until Willis Plank is available from the general membership meeting. Discussion on \$1 per head until Willis is available.

Fall Show:

Carlene is working on getting the judges hired. Discussion on the fall show. Janet Bowers suggested that the fall show be a double show. It was decided to table this and let the committee work on this and bring it back to the June meeting.

Sweepstakes Points:

The decision of the BOD at the February Board of Directors meeting about a change in a dual membership for Sweepstakes Points and the membership renewal was discussed. Rob Silance discussed his situation with his appeal of the Board of Directors decision in February. Discussion on the actual names listed on the membership. Brenda Reau of the Constitution Committee states that the committee feels that the Board of Directors acted appropriately in their decision on this issue. Jane Burt discussed how National Clubs handle the same basic situation. Bonnie Hecksel discussed partnerships. Tony Parker made the motion, second by Bob Hunt, to support the Board of Directors decision on this issued. All in favor with the exception of two opposed, and one abstention. Motion carried.

Clarification of Out of State Members and Sweepstakes:

Brenda Reau of the Constitution Committee stated that this area of the Constitution needs to be looked at and changed. They will formulate revisions and turn them into the Resolutions Committee.

Commercial Meat Buyers:

Discussion. Agricultural National Resources Week holds the contract for our Convention Event. Any adverse publicity will remove us from the facility for future events. There is a MSU ordinance prohibiting solicitation. Persons must have a permit from the Board of Trustees. Violation is a civil infraction. MSU states a commercial meat buyer is a vendor and must be under specific guidelines. Written record is available of these policies with the University. University Vet requests and has set a standard of one (1) rabbit per cage for everyone. There are livestock regulations that need to be followed. It is recommended that a Commercial Meat Buyer contact individual show committees when wishing to attend their shows for permission.

Constitutional Proposals:

- Proposal 1: Motion by Larry Walthorn, second by Darrell Howe to reject Proposal 1. Motion carried, 2 abstentions.
- Proposal 2: Motion by Bob Bolyard, second by Beth Dunlap to reject Proposal 2. Motion carried, 2 abstentions.
- Proposal 3: Sent back to the Resolution Committee to be rewritten. Article II, Membership Paragraph C was not also changed. Motion to reject this proposal by Bob Hunt, second by Bob Bolyard. Motion carried with 2 abstentions.
- Proposal 4: Motion by Tony Parker, second by Rae Harris to accept Proposal 4. Motion carried with 2 abstentions.
- Proposal 5: Motion by Carlene Bell, second by Chris Garrett to reject Proposal 5. Motion carried, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- Proposal 6: Motion by Lori Newberry, second by Larry Walthorn to reject Proposal 6. Motion carried with 3 opposed.
- Proposal 7: Motion by Janet Bowers, second by Sandy Carey to reject Proposal 7. Motion carried with 1 abstention.

2008 Directory/Yearbook:

The following are the minimum bids for the Auction of prime pages in the 2008 Yearbook:

- Back Cover in Color \$125
- Inside Front Cover in Color \$100
- Inside Back Cover in Color \$100
- Four Center pages in Black & White \$75 each.

The purchaser has until May 1st, 2008 to pay for their pages purchased. Contracts will be signed by those awarded the winning bids. The Auction will take place after the Master Breeders Photo during the show. The Yearbooks will be shipped to the membership in early June.

Secretary's Computer/Printer:

The computer is outdated with Windows '95 on it. Willis Plank made the motion, second by Lori Newberry, to dispose of the computer. Motion carried. The printer is a parallel port printer, Hewlett-Packard. The Guesswin's old program will work on this printer. Willis Plank made the motion, second by Carlene Bell, that we acquire the printer and arrange for storage of it through the Equipment Committee. Motion carried. Tony Parker will get these items along with the file cabinet from the former secretary.

Any other New Business: None

Motion to adjourn by Lynn Bolyard, second by Darrell Howe. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Sherry S. Garrett, secretary