

Minutes – Kentucky – 2006

The Annual Meeting of the American Driving Society was held on Saturday, October 7, 2006 at 1:12 p.m. and continued on Sunday, October 8, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY. the President being the Chair and the Secretary being present.

Present were: Jody Cutler, President, Wayne Kramer, Vice President; Bill Lawson, Treasurer, Bob Koopman, Mike Lyon, Tom Knicker, Marc Johnson, Barbara Chapman, Natasha Grigg, Simon Rosenman, Tom Hilgenberg, Pat Cheatham, Holly Pulsifer, Kelly Valdes, Boots Wright, Susan Koso, Secretary. The members present constituted a quorum.

On a motion by Mrs. Pulsifer, which was seconded, the minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2006 were approved as distributed.

President Jody Cutler reported on the accomplishment of her presidency, noted the deficiencies and wishes for the future.

Executive Committee Report:

The Executive Committee presented for the consideration of the Board of Directors the following:

- Including proxies with meeting notices to aid in achieving a quorum at meetings of the membership
- To achieve the required balanced budget:
- Dues should be increased to \$10
- The Wheelhorse should be placed on-line unless a paper copy is requested
- A reorganization of the Board of Directors should be considered
- A review of the ADS Fund

Executive Director's Report:

The Board received a report from Susie Koos-Acker, Executive Director, which outlined the accomplishments and areas needing improvement in the ADS office. Current projects were explained and the need for increased staffing noted. The report was placed on file.

- Forms to allow the electronic submission of Judge's and Technical Delegate report are being developed
- Mrs. Koos-Acker is seeking authorization to "lock-in" information so that they are not accessible to non-members.
- Membership rosters may be requested from the Office
- Mrs. Koos-Acker is investigating ways of reporting competition results that are not time consuming for the office.

Treasurer's Report

The Board received a six-month financial report that was placed on file.

- Mr. Lawson recommends converting to a web-based accounting system, specifically Quickbooks, that will allow for a more efficient way of communicating.
- Financial reporting should be done on a monthly basis.

Committee Reports:

1. Licensed Officials Meeting: reported by Wayne Kramer
 - There will only be two ADS recognized clinics in 2006: The Super Clinic in February, and the clinic to be held in conjunction with the Bromont CDE.
 - A Code of Ethics for Licensed Officials has been drafted. The final version will appear in the Handbook and will be distributed to officials at the time of renewal.
2. By-laws Committee – did not meet
3. Local Clubs and Membership Committee. A report from this committee was received and placed on file.
4. Regional Directors – A report from the Northwest Region was received and placed on file. Other regions did not report. The President requested that all regions file written reports.
5. Combined Driving Committee – A report from the Committee was received and placed on file, as was a report from the VSE Subcommittee.
6. Hoopes-Addis Education Trust – A report from the Committee was received and placed on file.
7. Dressage Committee – Mrs. Valdez reported that new dressage tests are needed and a competition will be organized for this purpose.

Organization Restructuring

Mrs. Pulsifer presented “A Proposal for Board/Committee Re-organization to Focus on the ADS Mission and Financial Needs” to the Board. A copy has been placed on file.

- Board terms should be three years with a two term maximum
- The Technical Problems of the Disciplines is no longer the concern of the Board as it once was so the Proposal gives the disciplines only one seat.
- The Board needs to run the business of the ADS.
- More events of all types are needed

- There is currently no Education Committee. Systematic instruction and evaluation is needed.
- Booklets outlining the “how-to” of various aspects of the ADS need to be developed.

Mr. Lyons voiced concern that more emphasis should be placed on the Recreational Driver, as that group constitutes 75% of all drivers.

Mrs. Grigg stated that implementing the proposal will require a change in the By-laws.

A motion was made by Mrs. Koso, which was seconded and approved, to create a Special Committee to prepare a report on the proposal to reorganize the Board as submitted by Mrs. Pulsifer. Mrs. Pulsifer declined to be the Chair of the Committee and a motion by Mrs. Koso to appoint Mrs. Pulsifer as chair was defeated.

Mrs. Pulsifer presented information regarding EBSCO. Further discussion was tabled until the continuation of the meeting on Sunday.

The meeting of the Board of Directors was suspended at 2:50, to reconvene at 9:00 on October 8.

The meeting reconvened at 9:10 on October 8 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY in Executive session to discuss office and publication matters.

On a motion by Mrs. Grigg, which was seconded, Ann Pringle will be offered a contract to continue as Editor of the Whip for 2007 which was approved on a vote of 18 to 1 abstention (Mr. Rosenman)

On a motion by Mrs. Grigg, seconded and approved, the ADS will apply to the ADS fund to help fund the ADS publications if necessary at the end of the calendar year.

On a motion by Mike Lyons, seconded and approved, Mrs. Koos-Acker will be given an increase in salary effective on her anniversary date of January 16, 2007.

Committee Chairs are requested to develop a checklist of requirements from the ADS office.

Mr. O'Rourke reported on the ADS Fund. So far in 2006, \$7444 has been disbursed in the form of grants. A report on the ADS Fund was received and filed.

Mr. Lawson made a motion that a review of the structure and performance of the ADS fund be undertaken which was seconded and approved. The review will solicit and include input from all interested parties and will be requested to be submitted to the Executive Committee by December 1, 2006. Data will be collated for distribution, and a plan for going forward will be disseminated by January 15, 2007, prior to the February Board meeting in Dallas.

Mr. Rosenman volunteered to create a questionnaire to be used to gather the data.

The Board ended the Executive session and the meeting continued.

Mr. Lawson distributed a six-month Balance Sheet and a six-month Income statement, which was received and filed. Mr. Lawson made a motion to increase membership fees by \$10 annually for families and individuals to address budget shortfalls in 2007. The motion was seconded. Mr. Lyons amended the motion to add an increase of non-member fees at competitions to \$30 per entry. The amended motion was seconded and approved. Mrs. Grigg again amended the motion to include an increase in business dues to \$100. The amendment was seconded and passed. The motion, as amended was passed on a vote of 15 for, 4 against and 1 abstention.

The Board discussed publishing the Wheelhorse electronically to cut the cost of postage. Mr. Peterson made a motion that a written plan to publish the Wheelhorse electronically be presented to the Board at the February meeting. The motion was amended on a motion by Mrs. Wright to begin distributing the Wheelhorse electronically in 2007, with a discussion to take place before the next meeting on how members may indicate that they want a mailed copy of the publication. Both the amendment and the original motion were unanimously approved.

The Board next addressed an advertising brochure. There is currently no brochure available. Mrs. Grigg displayed a copy of the brochure, the design of which is owned by the ADS. The Hoopes-Addis Fund has proposed to pay for the publishing of the piece, with the addition of a statement: "Printing funded by the Hoopes-Addis Education Trust". Mrs. Grigg made a motion that the ADS produce a promotional brochure using the existing form to be funded by Hoopes-Addis by 2007. The motion was seconded and approved.

- Mrs. Grigg will edit the written part of the brochure so it is easier to read and more appealing.
- Mrs. Koos-Aker will explore digital printing of the piece as smaller runs can be produced at a lower cost.

Mrs. Cutler informed the Board that Horse TV is requesting driving related materials. Tapes will be offered to the ADS at a 40% discount for resale. A motion was made by Mr. Cheatham to authorize the Executive Director to attend a meeting at the Horse TV office in California, which was seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 17 for and 1 abstention.

The discussion of entering into a contract with EBSCO to make the Whip available on-line to participating libraries begun earlier was continued. A motion was made by Mrs. Pulsifer, which was seconded, to enter into a contract with EBSCO to place the Whip on-line. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Knicker presented rule changes that had previously appeared in the Whip for comment. The proposal was received and placed on file. Several changes in wording

were made to the proposal. Mrs. Pulsifer made a motion, which was seconded, to accept the rule changes as amended effective January 1, 2007. The motion passed with 15 for, one against and 2 abstentions.

Mrs. Grigg made a motion to change the name of the By-laws Committee to the "Governance and By-laws Committee" to reflect the reality of the Committee's function. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Grigg moved that John Greenall be recorded as having served as the President of the ADS in 1979 and that his name be added to the list of presidents, and that the list of presidents be printed in the white pages of the Handbook. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Grigg submitted a motion to have Holliday Pulsifer and Tom Hilgenberg be named Honorary Directors of the ADS. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cutler held a moment of silence in honor of Judson Wright, who recently passed away. Contributions may be made in his name to the Hoopes-Addis Fund.

Mr. Johnson introduced the idea of creating a North American Young Driver's program. A motion was made by Mr. Johnson to form a special committee to pursue a North American Young Driver's Program to encourage youth driving by Regions. The motion was seconded and approved. Mr. Johnson and Mr. Marcoux were directed to present a proposal at the meeting in Dallas.

The Following Committee Members were presented for approval:

Competition Standards Committee: (Boots Wright – Chair) Ellen Ettinger, Natasha Grigg, Jay Hubert, Marc Johnson, Jamie O'Rourke, Kelly Valdes. On a motion by Mrs. Grigg, seconded, the members were approved.

Governance and By-laws Committee: (Natasha Grigg – Chair) Elaine Kendig, Jay Hubert, Penny Nicely, Susan Koso, Mary Jo Stockman. On a motion by Mrs. Wright, seconded, the members were approved.

Safety and Education Committee: (Jay Hubert – Chair) Gail Saunders, Marc Johnson, Joanne Bellion, Gerry Pearson, Beth Hitchman, Gary Grisham. On a motion by Mrs. Wright, seconded, the members were approved.

Dressage Committee: (Kelly Valdes – Chair) Hardy Zantke, Boots Wright, Sara Schmitt, Derin Stewart, Holly Brinker, Larry Brinker. On a motion by Mrs. Grigg, seconded, the members were approved.

Combined Driving Committee: (Tom Knicker – Chair) Barb Chapman, Natasha Grigg, Tucker Johnson, Penny Nicely, Simon Rosenman, Chester Weber, Boots Wright, Hardy

Zanke, and a VSE Representative to be selected from the current VSE subcommittee. On a motion by Mrs. Grigg, seconded, the members were approved.

Local Clubs and Membership Committee: (Bob Koopman – Chair) Louisa Emerick, Mark Borkoski, Bill Allen, Julie Anthony, Cherie Winslow, Deb Terry, Beth Hitchman, Nancy Lawson. On a motion by Mrs. Right, seconded, the members were approved. The Chair was asked by the Board to include Regional Directors in emails.

Committee Chairs who did not propose member names for proposal must do so as soon as possible: Finance Committee, Licensed Officials Committee, Pleasure Driving Committee.

The topic of the upcoming Super Clinic was brought to the floor. Mrs. Valdes and Mrs. Grigg volunteered to be responsible for hospitality. The Local Clubs and Membership Committee and the Safety and Education Committee with the help of Mrs. Grigg will take responsibility for the membership sessions. A Coaching Clinic must be offered. Clinic sessions will not overlap. A silent auction will be held.

Mr. Keathley proposed a Transition Committee to be in place until January 1 when the new Board takes office. The Committee will consist of new and old officers.

Mrs. Wright made a motion that the ADS fall meeting (Annual Meeting) be held on the same weekend each year, for example the first weekend in December. The motion was seconded. After much discussion the motion was defeated with 6 for and 7 against. The topic will be reconsidered by the new Board.

A motion was made by Mrs. Wright that no other ADS recognized events be approved on the same weekend as the ADS Fall (Annual) meeting. The motion was seconded and passed on a vote of 8 for and 4 against.

A motion was made by Mrs. Koso to rescind the prior motion. This was seconded and approved unanimously.

Mrs. Grigg made a motion that was seconded and approved unanimously that the Ads will avoid scheduling the Annual Meeting on the day of an established show or event unless it is linked to the Meeting of the Members.

On a motion by Mr. Peterson, the meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m. The motion passed.

