

FHANA Member Council Minutes: October 12th, 2022

Present:

Marq Laude – Mountain Time Friesian Chapter (Chairman)
Scott Kelnhofer – Great Lakes Friesian Horse Association (Vice Chairman)
Sharon Bechler - Central California Friesian Horse Club
Carrie Blair – Ohio Valley Friesian Horse Association
Lori Brock – North Michigan Friesian Club
Dan Dali Haber – New England Friesian Horse Club
Marvel Jeffcoat – South Central Friesian Horse Association
Anna Osinga – Atlantic Canada Friesian Horse Association
Mark McGowan – Lone Star Friesian Horse Club
Jack Vanderkooy – Ontario Friesian Horse Association
Kay Veinotte – Pacific Friesian Horse Club
Janice VerMerris – Michigan Friesian Horse Club
Beatrice Whiteley – Friesian Horse Club of Southern California
Erin Miley – FHANA Board Liaison
Angie DePuydt – Administrator
Caron Osborn – Administrator

Absent:

Lisa Baker – Friesian Horse Association of the Mid-East
Joe Michielli – Cascadia Friesian Horse Club
Klazien Sietsma - Alberta Friesian Horse Association
Danielle Barrasso - Friesian Horse Association of New England
Pam Groom - Florida Friesian Horse Club

- 1. Opening Remarks.** Mr. Laude called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm EDT.
- 2. Approval of June 2022 Meeting Minutes.** Mr. Vanderkooy made a motion to accept the September 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Kelnhofer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- 3. FHANA Board Updates.** Ms. Miley commended the chapters and site hosts for running very successful inspections so far. So far, the Star predicate percentages are higher than in previous years, and this year's inspection registration numbers are the highest FHANA has had in many years. The Sport Committee has developed a new award for trainers. The Inspection Committee is still seeking applications for late Fall/early Spring inspections. Mare shows are coming up, and all qualifying mares are encouraged to attend. The Youth Committee is looking for youth members to feature in the magazine.
- 4. B Book Horse Registrations.** Ms. Bechler provided information about B Book horses in her state of California by researching the member directory and reviewing the horses listed under each profile in the state. These numbers only include the B Book horses registered with the KFPS. They do not include horses whose owners either did not become FHANA members or let their FHANA membership lapse and are not currently listed in the database.

82 FHANA members in California presently listed in the database own B Book horses, but only 19 own B Book horses exclusively; the rest also own Main Book horses. Ms. Bechler discovered that 572 horses in California are registered with the KFPS. Of those 572 horses, 55% (314) are Main Book horses, and 45% (258) are B Book horses. B Book horse owners in her area have expressed that there is no reason to register their horses with the KFPS as they cannot attend inspections. Many B Book horses in California have been born in the last five years. Many owners she spoke to previously only had Main Book horses but have recently purchased or bred B Book horses. Many of these owners are Hispanic. FHANA is not following the KFPS regulations regarding registering or inspecting B Book II horses. Ms. Bechler feels this information presents some excellent questions: Why has the number of B Book horses in her area increased recently? Why are people breeding B Book horses? What are we doing to educate and support B Book horse owners who are FHANA members? The FHANA office puts a lot of time and energy into answering questions about B Book horse registration, but we do not receive any revenue for those efforts. Ms. Bechler feels we are missing out on helping all these horses and their owners. Is FHANA being inclusive, and are we meeting these members' needs?

Ms. Miley reported that the board had a special meeting to discuss B Book registrations. The office reports that 60% of their calls are related to B Book horse registrations, despite the thorough information on the website in multiple languages describing the registration process and steps. This has become an issue that's negatively affected the FHANA office staff. The board discussed that B Book horses are registered Friesians. FHANA does not register these horses, but they are part of the Studbook, and they are Friesian horses. FHANA's responsibility is to protect and promote the Friesian horse. Several ideas were discussed for a way ahead to include B Book mentors to help members with the registration process. The board approved a motion to create an ad-hoc committee to address the registration issue with a moderator. The committee will include members for and against the registration of B Book horses. The committee will be tasked with such items as educational materials, videos in multiple languages, assistance in answering questions, surveys to poll members about B Book registrations, developing a list of challenges and issues, and a possible way ahead. Mr. Laude asked if any FMC members were willing to volunteer for the committee. Ms. Osinga volunteered, and Mr. McGowan volunteered his wife, Ms. McGowan.

The FMC discussed this issue at length. Mr. Kelnhofer would like the board to entertain a referendum on this issue so the members can decide the outcome. Ms. Osigna felt the question on the ballot could have been more clearly written. Although she was in favor of registering B Book horses, she voted no because the way the ballot was written gave no option also to have B Book horses attend inspections. If there is a referendum in the future, Ms. Osigna feels it should include many more facts and concerns from members than the previous referendum did. Mr. Vanderkooy feels one item to consider concerning this discussion is genetics. If FHANA were to recognize B Book horses and bring the owners and horses into the fold, the KFPS might be looking to North America for a pool of genetics that is not common in the Netherlands in the future. He feels it makes sense for the good of the breed, and it's long overdue to bring these horses into the fold and treat their owners as full members. Mr. Kelnhofer agreed with Mr. Vanderkooy that genetic diversity is very important. There may be genetics in North America that will be appealing in the future, and that would be Mr. Kelnhofer's motivation for reconsidering his previous position on the matter. Ms. Veinotte asked, in the interest of health and genetics, if these B Book horses are being tested before they are bred. Ms. Miley responded that it's likely both; some are testing, and some are not. That concern presents a potential argument in support of B Book horse registrations so FHANA can ensure those owners can receive education on the need for genetic testing. Mr. Vanderkooy commented, respectfully, that he is concerned the committee will just paper over this issue. He encourages the board to deal with this issue by following the example of the KFPS.

5. **Stallion Testing Committee.** Ms. Miley reported that she took the FMC's recommendation to the board, and they discussed this issue again. The committee will be reinstated, and FHANA is asking for volunteers for this committee. Interested members are encouraged to contact FHANA.
6. **Roundtable.** No discussion was brought forward.
7. **Next Meeting Date.** Wednesday, November 9th, 2022, at 8 pm. EDT
8. **Motion to Adjourn.** Mr. Kelnhofer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. McGowan seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Minutes presented by Angie DePuydt

