

FHANA Member Council Minutes: June 14th, 2023

Present:

Marq Laude – Mountain Time Friesian Chapter (Chairperson)
Scott Kelnhofer – Friesian Horse Association of the Mid-East (Vice Chairperson)
Carrier Blair – Ohio Valley Friesian Horse Association
Marvel Jeffcoat – South Central Friesian Horse Association
Heidi Smith – Great Lakes Friesian Horse Association
Mat Jenkins – Central California Friesian Horse Club
Lori Brock – North Michigan Friesian Club
Beatrice Whiteley – Friesian Horse Club of Southern California
Joe Michielli – Cascadia Friesian Horse Club
Anna Osinga-Bouma – Atlantic Canada Friesian Horse Association
Jaime Caesar – Northeast Friesian Horse Club
Mark McGowan – Lone Star Friesian Horse Club
Klazien Sietzema – Alberta Friesian Horse Association
Jack Vanderkooy – Ontario Friesian Horse Association
Janice VerMerris – Michigan Friesian Horse Club
Robin Spaeth – Friesian Horse Association of Oklahoma
Pam Groom – Florida Friesian Horse Club
Erin Miley – FHANA Board Liaison
Angie DePuydt – Administrator
Caron Osborn – Administrator
Annie Muilwijk – FHANA Member Guest
Juleé Kula – FHANA Member Guest
Katie Wenger – FHANA Member Guest
Lisa Driver – FHANA Member Guest
Theresa Marshall – FHANA Member Guest
Bert Mourits – FHANA Member Guest

Absent: Kay Veinotte – Pacific Friesian Horse Club

1. Opening Remarks & Announcement of Guests. Mr. Laude called the meeting to order at 8:10 pm EDT.

2. Approval of May 2023 Minutes. Mr. Vanderkooy made a motion to approve the May 2023 meeting minutes. Before the motion could be seconded, Ms. Smith commented that she felt the minutes were incomplete, particularly agenda item four. She commented that the minutes do not include all positions and responses, as well as comments made that were disrespectful to the guest. She further commented that the follow-up emails sent to the FMC members constitute a meeting outside of a meeting and violate the rules of order and code of conduct. Ms. Smith made the motion to suspend Jack Vanderkooy from attending any FMC meetings and any communications for six months for violating the code of conduct and rules of order with misconduct in the May 10th, 2023, FMC meeting. Ms. Brock seconded the motion to

suspend Mr. Vanderkooy. Ms. Jeffcoat agreed that Mr. Vanderkooy's comments were disrespectful, and she agreed with the motion. Ms. Brock commented that she was disgusted at the last meeting and felt the comments were disrespectful. Mr. Jenkins commented that he feels it's a bit extreme to jump to suspending a member for an emotional comment made during the meeting and that a six-month suspension is an extreme punishment. Mr. Vanderkooy felt that it would have been proper for the chair to ask the guest how many minutes the presentation would be. He didn't believe his comment was offensive but rather a compliment. The motion to suspend Mr. Vanderkooy failed.

Mr. Laude returned to the motion to approve the May meeting minutes and asked that if the council felt that the correspondence Ms. Smith referenced earlier needed to be included in the minutes, that someone make a motion to that effect. Mr. Kelnhofer did not feel the correspondence should be added to the minutes. Ms. Jeffcoat commented that the minutes were very brief. She also felt Mr. Smith's presentation should have been summarized, and the way the meeting was abruptly ended should also be summarized. Ms. Jeffcoat asked Ms. DePuydt if she was instructed to make the minutes brief. Ms. DePuydt commented that the administrators were not instructed by anyone to make the minutes brief and that given the 45-minute length of Mr. Smith's presentation, they felt the best course of action was for the presentation to be attached to the meeting minutes; however, it is not available to be released. Additionally, the administrators did not feel that the comments made about Mr. Smith's presentation would be professional or appropriate to include in the minutes. Ms. VerMerris seconded the motion to approve the May 2023 meeting minutes. The motion to approve the May 2023 meeting minutes passed.

3. FHANA Board Updates. Ms. Miley provided an update from the FHANA Board. The board has voted to hold the 2025 AGM and 40th Anniversary in Reno, Nevada, and the hotel will be the Silver Legacy. The education committee is developing judging clinics for this fall. The dates are November 7th – 9th in California and November 14th – 16th in Indiana. The Sports Committee has made changes to the awards by reducing the number of rated shows in order to encourage more members to apply. The Events and Sponsorship Committee just held an auction to raise funds to help support FHANA events. The B Book II Committee will be sending the following recommendations to the FHANA board for consideration:

- Changing the colors of the registration papers so that they are more distinct
- Allowing video inspections for all horses
- Making information on non-licensed stallions, such as DNA test results, linear characteristics, and kinship calculations, available to all FHANA members in the KFPS database
- Recommend offspring of stallions on hold to be placed in the B Book I registry
- Recommend that foal book stallions be approved for breeding in Canada via breeding permits

4. FHANA Lifetime Achievement Award Feedback. After discussion, the consensus from the council was that the current voting process for the FHANA Lifetime Achievement Award works well. The council agreed that it would be wise for the entire chapter board to be notified that the voting ballots have gone out to help ensure that the email isn't missed and each chapter president votes. They also agreed that the FMC should help remind the chapters when voting is taking place and when the deadline is so that all chapter presidents fulfill their voting requirements. Ms. DePuydt will provide this feedback to Ms. Aumiller.

5. Merits of FHANA recognizing B Book II Registration. Ms. Osigna-Bouma presented her position on the merits of B Book II registration. She feels that registering B Book horses will not create a doom's day scenario and that accepting and welcoming these horses and owners will facilitate education. She asks that the council think about this issue and talk to their chapter members about it.

Mr. Laude commented that the meeting time will need to be extended by approximately 15 more minutes if the council wishes to work through the remaining agenda items. The council agreed to continue the meeting.

6. Visitor Policy and Zoom Video Release. Mr. Kelnhofer commented that the guest policy has resulted in a tremendous amount of work for the administrators. There are challenges with vetting the membership status of the guests and ensuring only approved guests are admitted to meetings. There has been an increasing level of interest in the FMC's minutes and requests for more details in the minutes. Mr. Kelnhofer feels a good alternative to all these issues is for the council to consider removing the guest policy and approve releasing the Zoom meeting videos in a similar way to how the FHANA board meeting videos are available on the FHANA website. There may be a cost to this for website upgrades, and he is willing to pay that fee personally, but the first step would be to get permission from the board. If the board is uncomfortable with putting the FMC video recordings on the FHANA website, the video can be released to the representatives to share with their chapter members. Ms. Jeffcoat asked if we use FHANA's Zoom account, and Mr. Kelnhofer responded that the FMC has its own. Ms. Smith asked why the KFPS Member Council Representatives aren't invited to the FMC meetings. Mr. Laude responded that the FMC's bylaws don't allow it but that if that is desired, the FMC will need to vote on that to change the bylaws. Mr. Vanderkooy commented that although he is pleased that the council made it possible for guests to attend, he agrees it has become a bit of an administrative burden. He suggested that Mr. Kelnhofer come to the next meeting with a motion the council can discuss and vote on.

7. Roundtable Discussion. Mr. Vanderkooy asked why no one was given the opportunity to comment on Ms. Osigna-Bouma's agenda item. Mr. Laude responded that he would like to ask the council if they wish to have a specific meeting regarding B Book II registration and inspection. He feels this topic is consuming a significant amount of time on the FMC's agenda each month and that a dedicated meeting might allow opinions and concerns about this topic to be discussed. Ms. Jeffcoat commented that she does not feel the council needs to have a separate meeting about B Book II as the B Book II Committee is working on their tasks, and there have already been several presentations on B Book II already at the FMC. Ms. Osigna-Bouma is in favor of having a meeting, but she feels it is important that the council representatives ask their chapter members how they feel about this issue before the meeting. Mr. McGowan made a motion that the FMC hold a separate meeting dedicated to B Book II. Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion. The motion passed. The council agreed to hold this meeting on June 28th. Each chapter will be given 5 minutes on the agenda to present their chapter's position on the registration and inspection of B Book II horses in North America.

8. Next Meeting Date. The next FMC meeting will be a special meeting on June 28th to discuss B Book II. The next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, July 12th, 2023, at 8 pm. EDT

9. Motion to Adjourn. Mr. McGowan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm EDT.

Minutes presented by Angie DePuydt