

FMC Minutes: September 11th, 2024

Present:

Jack Vanderkooy – Ontario Friesian Horse Association (Chairperson)
Carrie Blair – Ohio Valley Friesian Horse Association (Vice Chairperson)
Diane Sol - Central California Friesian Horse Club
Lisa Baker – Friesian Horse Association of the Mid-East
Jamie Cesear – Northeast Friesian Horse Council
Marvel Jeffcoat – South Central Friesian Horse Association
Anna Osinga-Bouma – Atlantic Canada Friesian Horse Association
Mark McGowan – Lone Star Friesian Horse Club
Bert Mourits – Alberta Friesian Horse Association
Janice VerMerris – Michigan Friesian Horse Club
Deborah Horsch – Friesian Horse Association of Oklahoma
Barb Renico – North American Spanish Friesian Horse Association
FHANA Board Liaison – Erin Miley
Angie DePuydt – Administrator
Caron Osborn – Administrator

Absent:

LoriAnn Thwing – Northern Michigan Friesian Club
Fernando Horwitz – Great Lakes Friesian Horse Association
Joe Michielli – Cascadia Friesian Horse Club
Lauren McDonald – Pacific Friesian Horse Club
Beatrice Whitely – Friesian Horse Club of Southern California

Please refer to the meeting recording for detailed comments: [FMC Meeting Recording – 11 September 2024](#).

- 1. Opening Remarks.** Mr. Vanderkooy called the meeting to order at 8:01 PM EDT.
- 2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.** Ms. Sol motioned to approve the previous meeting minutes, and Mr. McGowan seconded the motion. Ms. Renico noted an administrative error regarding the name of the North American Spanish Friesian Horse Association, which was corrected. The motion to accept the amended minutes passed unanimously.
- 3. FHANA Board Updates.** Ms. Miley provided an update from the FHANA Board. Mr. Ryder is now working in the FHANA office in his new role as the Executive Director. The office has made customer service, including responding to any communication within 12 hours, its number one goal. The office will receive training on the website so that items such as committee minutes can be updated. 2025

Inspection site applications are due by October 15th, 2024. There is space on the FHANA calendar if any potential sponsors are interested. Chapters interested in hosting or anyone with ideas about the 2026 AGM should contact the FHANA office or a board member.

4. **Bylaw 6.3.6.** Ms. Horsch made the following motion: **Be it resolved that the FMC recommends to the board the following bylaw amendments to be included on the 2025 ballot for consideration of the FHANA membership.**

Suggested Revision to Bylaw 6.3.6.

~~At a meeting of the Board called expressly for that purpose, any Director may be removed for cause by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all the Directors. Notwithstanding the above sentence, a~~ Any Director of the Board who fails to attend three (3) consecutive Board meetings, without a satisfactory excuse to the other Board members, may be removed from office ~~by a 2/3 majority of the remaining Board members.~~ Notice of the said meeting shall comply with the notice requirements for Special Meetings ~~set for below as defined by Bylaw 6.6 below. Unless the Director is also to be suspended or terminated as a member of the Association, t~~ The requirements of Bylaw 5.6 are not mandated for removal of a Director ~~for cause due to absenteeism of Board meetings as defined above.~~ Any member of the Board may resign from the Board at any time by giving written notice to the Board. A resignation shall be effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later effective date.

Suggested Revision to Bylaw 6.3.8.

A Director may be brought for removal from the Board by the membership ~~or a fellow board member~~ for conduct unbecoming of a Director including, but not limited to, failure to follow FHANA bylaws or conflict of interest, provided the removal petition is submitted to the ~~Executive Director~~ Board. The petition must name the Director for removal, state the reasons for removal, name the petitioner, and include twenty-five percent of the eligible general voting members signed with names and membership numbers. The Executive Director has five business days to validate ~~the petition and respond to the petitioner~~ the names and membership numbers. If the petition is valid and meets the requirements of removal, the Board shall ~~call a special board meeting in accordance with 6.3.6~~ offer the affected Board member the same due process as afforded to a regular member under Bylaw 5.6.4 and 5.6.5 within seven days after responding to the petitioner. If the petition is deemed invalid, the ~~Executive Director~~ Board will respond to the petitioner with the reasons the petition does not meet the requirements.

Ms. Renico seconded the motion. The motion passed with two abstains: South Central Friesian Horse Association and Alberta Friesian Horse Association.

5. **Call for Nominations – FMC Administrator Positions.** Nominations for both administrator positions were opened. Ms. DePuydt and Ms. Osborn presented biographies for two nominees, Ms. Coreen Hill and Ms. Robin Spaeth, for the upcoming vacancies, as required by the FMC Bylaws. No additional nominations were made. Ms. Horsch made the motion to close nominations, and Ms.

VerMerris seconded the motion. The motion passed, and nominations were closed. The council approved Ms. Hill and Ms. Spaeth to fill the upcoming administrator vacancies.

6. Roundtable. Ms. VerMerris commented about the large number of entries for the Indiana inspection. The club is also doing a fundraiser, allowing sale horses to be presented at their inspection. Ms. Blair encouraged chapters to remind their members to start thinking about nominations for the FHANA Board of Directors. Mr. Vanderkooy inquired about the hiring process for Mr. Ryder. Ms. Miley provided clarification about the hiring process.

7. Next Meeting Date. The next FMC meeting will occur on Wednesday, October 9th, 2024, at 8 PM EDT.

8. Motion to Adjourn. Mr. McGowan moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Mourits seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM EDT.

Minutes prepared by Angie DePuydt