



MINUTES

Agriculture and NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund
Board of Trustees Meeting
NYS Gaming Commission
One Broadway Center
Schenectady, NY
January 26, 2015

Present; Agriculture and Markets Commissioner Richard Ball; Trustees: Peter Arrigenna & Mike Kimelman; NYS Gaming Commission Chairman Mark Gearan designee; Ron Ochrym; Also attending: Agriculture & New York State Horse Breeding Development Executive Assistant, Connie Richardson; Audience included: Agriculture and Markets Deputy Commissioner Jacqueline Czub; NYS Gaming Commission Assistant Counsel, Mark Stuart; NYS Gaming Commission Senior Accountant, Brian Squadere; NYS Gaming Commission Internal Audits: Sandy Meadows, NYS Gaming Commission Acting Director of Internal Audits; Walt Lehman, Harness Horse Breeders of New York State, Executive Director Betty Holt.

A quorum was present and the meeting called to order.

Agenda Item # 2 Designate a Board Member as Temporary Presiding Officer:

A motion was made to designate Agriculture and Markets Commissioner Richard Ball a Board Member, as Presiding Officer of the meeting by Trustee Kimelman, seconded by Trustee Arrigenna.

All in favor.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Presiding Officer Ball.

Agenda Item # 3 Approval of minutes of last meeting of February 26, 2015:

Minutes of the regular meeting of December 16, 2014 were presented for approval. A correction was made to the budget figures. It was noted, although it is our goal to reach \$900,000, the budget figures range from \$700,000, to \$950,000.

A motion to accept minutes of December 16, 2014 as corrected was made by Trustee Arrigenna, seconded by Trustee Kimelman.

All in favor.

Agenda Item # 4 Consideration of the 2015 NYSS conditions, New York Sire Stakes, New York Excelsior Series, New York Sire Stakes County Fair Races and Finals/Consolation Condition:

At our last meeting December 16, 2015 we approved all the conditions except The Sire Stakes Finals/Consolation conditions. With discussions to follow for the trotting hobble rule in all conditions.

Agenda Item # 5 Consideration of the Harness Horse Breeders of New York State 2015

Contract:

Harness Horse Breeder of New York State provided two proposals, one for \$396,350 and the other for \$316,600. The Fund approved HHB's contract for the smaller increase, from \$285,000 to \$316,000, which will allow HHB to continue to provide the services they provided to the Fund in 2014 along with providing some additional services that the Executive Director would normally perform. HHB's contract will be approved on a semi-annual basis of \$158,000.

A motion to approve Harness Horse Breeders of New York State contract for \$158,000 semi-annually was made by Trustee Ochrym seconded by Trustee Kimelman.

All in favor.

Agenda Item # 6 Consideration of 2015 Grant Request for Goshen Museum:

The Board members received a proposal from the Goshen Museum the day before the December meeting, which did not allow for enough time to review the proposal. Since then a second proposal from the Goshen track was received. It is recommended to table this item again, and the Board members visit Goshen Historic Museum/Track to view what is proposed. It is anticipated that this site visit will be completed by the next meeting, and both items be reviewed for the 2015 calendar year.

Agenda Item # 7 New web site-nysirestakes.com Recommendations:

There were two proposals for the restructuring of the Fund website. Betty Holt of Harness Horse Breeders of New York State along with Fund staff Connie Richardson reviewed the specifics of the two proposals and determined Equus Media to be the best proposal of the two to build a new website.

A motion to accept Equus Media's proposal to create a new Fund website was made by Trustee Kimelman, seconded by Trustee Arrigenna.

All in favor.

A motion was made to break for Executive Session to discuss management and personnel issues by Trustee Kimelman, seconded by Trustee Arrigenna. Everyone was asked to leave the room except the Board members and the following people; Agriculture Markets Deputy Commissioner Czub, NYS Gaming Commission Counsel, Mark Stuart, NYS Gaming Commission Internal Audits, Sandy Meadows, and Acting Director of Internal Audits, Walt Lehman

The Board reconvened from Executive Session at 2:43 p.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Arrigenna, seconded by Trustee Kimelman.

All in favor

Meeting adjourn at 2:45 p.m.

