

WEPA Meeting Minutes Feb 21, 2015

The WEPA Inc business meeting was brought to order during the Winter/Spring continuing education seminar held at the Wilderness Resort, Wisconsin Dells on Feb 21, 2015, by President Dr Matt Schaefer.

Minutes from the Fall Scholarship Meeting were reviewed and approved.

Dr Schafer asked about the loss indicated on the 2014 financial report. Down swing was explained; motion to accept was approved.

Dr McKichan reviewed how the Foundation functions for newer WEPA attendees. Dr Batker further explained the Equitarian scholarships. The Foundation financial report was reviewed and approved.

Dr Nelson thanked Midwest Veterinary Supply and Boehringer Ingelheim for sponsoring the cocktail hour being held after the day's presentation.

Old Business:

No actions taken

New Business:

Sarah Chrisler was introduced as our UW vet student WEPA liaison. A description of student rep position is attached.

The "Dung & Donuts" activity at UW – Madison Vet School was presented by student rep, Sara. She stated vet students meet with the resident veterinarian for rounds five times per semester (10 times a year). Donuts and juice is provided to encourage students to attend the rounds. The Foundation has approved donating \$300 annually to help fund this activity.

The WEPA website now includes an interactive map and list of member clinics who welcome student externs. If other clinics are interested in hosting a student, contact Jennifer Lorenz at capitalequine@me.com.

Opening our CE meetings to veterinary techs was discussed. It was suggested we charge a reduced fee of \$50/meeting with no membership fee for interested vet techs. Techs would be able to attend as a guest accompanied by a current WEPA member. We would check to see if techs could receive CE credit for attending our events. Motion to open up our meetings was approved.

Membership to the WI State Horse Council was discussed. Dr Ketover explained the different membership levels and the time commitment each entailed. It was motioned and approved to join at the basic support level of \$45/year.

Dr Lorenz presented a discussion of the open AAEP liaison position for WI. Please see her for more information. (kkleine@aaep.org) She also has information on the WI Horse Welfare Coalition – see her for contact information.

Dr Batker presented our Equitarian scholarship winners. Holly Brown gave a brief description of her experience traveling with the group to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota in the summer of 2014. Katie Weber participated in a horse rescue program. Lauren Pasch was not present to discuss her experience. Each student received \$500 to use toward her experience expenses. Dr Batker noted the next workshop experience would be held in Costa Rica in June 2016.

Discussion ensued about hosting a booth at the Midwest Horse Fair held in April every spring. Dr McKichan will work with Dr Gnadl to form a committee to explore interest in staffing a booth and what would be presented to fair attendees.

Two of our 2014 WEPA Foundation Scholarship winners were on hand to talk about their experiences at the 2014 AAEP convention:

Alex Radtke: enjoyed the students' only wet labs, the professional development and financial seminars. Found the keynote speaker to be very interesting.

Shannon Roska: Attended the lameness labs, the new graduate talks, and found the clinical talks to be very practical.

The WEPA Foundation took nominations for a new member to replace outgoing board member Ted Mertens. Tani Ketter was nominated and unanimously elected to the board.

Jennifer Lorenz announced that the Humane Society of the United States is setting up a WI Horse Welfare Coalition to support things like castration clinics and hay banks. If anyone is interested in getting involved contact Melissa Kedrow.

The WEPA INC board needs a replacement but this will be put on hold as the WEPA Inc and Foundation Boards will be meeting jointly in the next couple months. One of the topics they will be discussing is restructuring the election procedure and terms of the WEPA INC board. They will also be discussing the possibility of using Foundation money to pay for the speakers, since the Foundation has an excess of funds and WEPA Inc has not been losing money due to low attendance and high costs to hold meetings.

Discussion of possible topics for the Fall Scholarship meeting ensued. Suggested speakers included Stephanie Valberg to talk on neuro-muscular issues. Dr Borzynski will contact Dr Valberg to see if she would be available.

The motion to adjourn was offered and passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl Kopacz /Suzanne McKichan
Executive Secretary/WEPA Foundation Secretary