

Equine Science Society
Minutes from the General Business Meeting
June 2, 2017
Minneapolis, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order by Lori Warren at 5:09 PM (CDT)

Officers and Board Members present:

Lori Warren (President), Ken McKeever (Vice President), Burt Staniar (Secretary/Treasurer), Pat Harris, Karin Bump, Shannon Pratt-Phillips, Karyn Malinowski, Amy Burk, Jason Bruemmer (Past President), Robert Coleman (Executive Director), Tayler Hansen (Student Representative).

I. Approval of Minutes

Lori Warren called for a review of the minutes from the May 29, 2015 General Business Meeting, which were made available on the Society's website and on the Announcements Board during the 2017 Symposium. A motion from the floor was made to approve the minutes without change, which was seconded; the motion carried.

II. President's Report

Lori Warren summarized the projects and topics that the Officers and Board of Directors had been engaged in during the past 2 years. Highlights included strategic planning, constitution updates and amendments, renovating the Society's web presence, restructuring topic sections for the Symposium, characterizing the financial history of the Society, implementing a 2 year membership fee cycle, developing an online application procedure for new members, and distribution of two membership surveys to learn about member interests and motivation for membership in the Society. At the most recent Board of Directors meeting, there was additional discussion on the need to create standard operating procedures that could guide future Officers and Directors. Warren also reported that effective January 1, 2016, ESS has benefited from inclusion in the FASS Science Policy program at no additional cost to the Society. The FASS Science Policy provides an avenue for advocacy and representation on animal science policy development at the local, state, and national levels through a partnership with the Randel Group. Quarterly updates for the FASS Science Policy activities are posted to the Society's website.

III. Secretary/Treasurer Report

Burt Staniar delivered a report on the Society's expenditures, income and financial holdings. A historical perspective of the Society's financials covering approximately the last decade was also presented. A motion from the floor to approve the report was made and seconded; the motion carried.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Local Arrangements Report

Committee Chairperson Krishona Martinson provided a report highlighting work completed by the Local Arrangements Committee over the past 2 years. She thanked the various members of the committee and specifically mentioned the phenomenal support of sponsors that allowed for the success of the 2017 Symposium.

b. Program Report

Program Chair Ken McKeever thanked all section committee chairs and reviewers for their hard work evaluating abstracts and Ed Squires and the staff at the Journal of Equine Veterinary Science for their help with the proceedings and invited papers. He offered special thanks to Krishona Martinson, Lori Warren, Bob Coleman, and Cara Tharp for their extra efforts to make the program a success. He also thanked all the sponsors, without whom the Society would not be able to put on such a quality program. He noted the new Equine Bioscience section seemed to be a success.

McKeever reported there were 333 meeting registrants, 19 of whom were international representing 9 other countries (Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, South Korea, Sweden, and the United Kingdom). There were 211 abstracts submitted, 199 accepted, subsequently 4 withdrawn, resulting in a total of 195 presentations. There were 73 graduate and 19 undergraduate competition abstracts, along with 45 regular oral presentations and 57 posters at the 2017 Symposium.

Warren thanked McKeever for the excellent program and further thanked the judges of the student competitions, the awards committee, and members who took the time to nominate their colleagues for the various Society awards.

V. Nominations

Chairperson Brian Nielsen provided the officer nominee recommendations from the Nominating Committee. McKeever was recommended for the office of President and Staniar for the office of Vice President for the 2017-2019 term. Other nominations were solicited from the floor. Being there were none, the suggestions of the Nominating Committee were approved.

The Nominating Committee suggested Pat Harris be nominated for the Secretary/Treasurer position. Other nominations were solicited from the floor, though there were none. The appointment of Pat Harris to the office of Secretary/Treasurer for the 2017-2019 term was approved.

The terms of Harris and Karin Bump on the Board of Directors were completed in 2017, creating two Director vacancies on the Board. Nominations were received prior to the meeting and also solicited from the floor. By ballot vote, Holly Spooner and Carey Williams were elected to a 6 year term on the Board of Directors. A motion to destroy the ballots was made and seconded; the motion carried.

The term of Tayler Hansen as Student Representative to the Board of Directors concluded at the close of the 2017 Symposium. Hansen reported that nominations for a new Student Representative were solicited prior to and during the Symposium, and voting by student members was conducted by online vote during the Symposium. Christine Latham, a PhD student from Texas A&M University was elected for a 2 year term as the Student Representative to the Board of Directors.

VI. New Business

a. Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws

A copy of the Constitution and By-Laws with annotated amendments was emailed to all members the Business Meeting and was made available on the website and at the Symposium. The goal of the revisions was to bring the document current, since it had not seen significant modification for a number of years. Bob Coleman provided a summary of the proposed revisions, including simplifying types of memberships, changes to the membership fee cycle, changes to standing committees, and addition of Executive Director and Student Representative positions as ex officio members of the Board of Directors. A motion from the floor was made to approve the amendments to the Constitution without change, which was seconded; the motion carried.

b. Workshop Reports from the 2017 Symposium

- i. ESS Strategic Planning – Pat Harris thanked the organizing committee and those who participated in the workshop. Focus questions developed from surveys previously distributed to members were explored. Two priority areas were identified during the workshop: improvement of internal communications to facilitate collaborations and mentoring opportunities for ESS members, and external communications with other equine organizations and the industry and as an advocate for equine science. Harris recommended the Board consider these workshop outcomes as guidance for future planning.
- ii. Copyright and Creative Commons in Teaching, Extension, and Everyday Life – Karen Waite thanked all who participated and said that participants learned quite a bit about a topic that impacts many members in the areas of extension and teaching.
- iii. Building Your Brand – Tayler Hansen thanked Zinpro for sponsoring this professional development workshop for students, and thanked Connie Larson, Jyme Nichols, Tania Cubitt, and Kelcey Swyers for their presentations and insightful advice. Both workshop sessions were well attended.
- iv. Program Assessment for All: Setting Goals and Assessing Learning Outcomes – Lynn Tayler thanked Karen Waite, Mary Rossano, and Karin Bump for their help in leading this workshop. There was extensive discussion of different models for program assessment and how to implement these. Participants shared their experiences and thoughts on what has and has not worked in their own programs.
- v. Partnering with Cinch Ranch Sorting National Championships to Offer Unique Kids' Camps – Jennifer Zoller reported workshop participants discussed camps that had been conducted previously and how many adult and youth participants were involved in each. The workshop focused on how to partner with groups outside extension to help extension prosper and grow.

c. Other Business

- i. Lori Warren formally recognized the Board's decision to appoint Bob Coleman as the Society's Executive Director.
- ii. Ken McKeever called past Society presidents (Martha Vogelsang, Ed Squires, Jason Bruemmer, Brian Nielsen, Laurie Lawrence, Paul Siciliano, Bob Coleman, Don Thompson, Les Breuer) to the front of the meeting room to recognize current outgoing president Lori Warren for her efforts. The group presented Lori with several gifts in recognition of the many years of service she has provided to the Equine Science Society.
- iii. Host Site for the 2019 Equine Science Society Meeting – Shannon Pratt-Philips presented site bid information for North Carolina State University to host the 2019 Equine Science Society Meeting. The most likely location will be the Tryon International Equestrian Center. Asheville offers numerous excellent opportunities for families.

VII. Adjourn

A motion from the floor was made to adjourn the general meeting and the motion was seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM (CDT).

Respectfully submitted,
W. Burton Staniar