

# JUNE 24, 2024

The board meeting was called to order by James Watkins at 6:00pm. Role call was taken. In attendance was the following:

James Watkins

Scott Becker

Kevin Wilborn

Harry Lynch

Mike Moore 6:03

John Wainwright

**David Warchol** 

### **OLD BUSINESS**

## Sale of Fairmount Park Update-Accel Gaming

Jim Watkins, Scott Becker and John Costello have a 3-hour private meeting with the consultant on the sale and it was said that it should be done July 4, 2024. It was said that they would like to put 200 machines in the grandstand by April 15, 2025. Accel

would like to cut spending temporarily by cutting the November schedule out to start construction. Improvements of 11 million. Building a hotel and casino on the property.

## Web-Site Updates

Melody Higdon has updated the website on a weekly basis. Pod casts, videos, groom of the week and various events are posted to the website.

### **Grizzlies Game**

Melody Higdon reported that 28 people are signed up to go to the grizzlies game with 11 people riding the bus. She will continue to sign up the horsemen.

### **Attending Vet Concerns**

Jim Watkins discussed that issue with the vets at Fairmount Park. The vets are required to do additional paperwork which includes purchasing software programs. The HBPA is considering donating some funds to help support the vets. There was mention of possible setup of a scholarship for potential new interns.

# **Historic Photos-Jim Ansley**

Melody Higdon met with Jim Ansley for training on how to print photos from previous years. The HBPA plans to promote to sale of photos with advertising on posters, horsemen journal, website and Facebook. The price has not been set on the prints as of yet.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

# 708/709 Meeting

The Illinois money split for this year is 60%/40% with an increase by 5%. Melissa Helton was not on the converse call when the percentages were decided to support Fairmount Park.

# IL Department of Agriculture Board Meeting Notes 2023

A copy of the board meeting from 2023 were given to each board member.

## **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

June 2024 Financial Statements

Melody Higdon analyzed the June 2024 Financial Statements. No income was received from FanDuel. Lloyd Cueto is to address this issue with Melissa Helton on her holding the HBPA operating account funds.

Advertising and Marketing were under budget because we received sponsorship from Taco Bell.

Benevolence-Activities was over budgeted by \$652 due to \$400 trophy bought for Brian Zander Memorial race and \$300 deposit on grizzlies tickets.

Benevolence-Assistance was over budgeted by \$ 596 with the assistance to Debbie McComas. This is the final payment of the assistance approved by the HBPA.

Lots of benevolence money was given out in June for dental and eyeglasses.

### Bank Balance

Melody Higdon report the following account balances:

Regions \$ 2,463.90

Collinsville B & L \$19,982.46

DuQuoin \$ 191,945.56

Total Cash \$ 214,391.92

### **Purse Report**

Purse report was given by Melody Higdon with a balance of \$107,130 in the HBPA operating account.

### CD DuQuoin

Discussion of moving \$ 150,000 to a CD is on hold until funds are being released from the operating account from FanDuel.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **Aftercare Committee**

Discussion of possibly donating to reissuance and gateway this year. No numbers were discussed.

# **Lobbyist Report**

John Costello reported that there are no vetoes in the congress. Session will be back in Oct/Nov.

## **Attorney Report**

Lloyd Cueto discusses the issue with Melissa Helton hold funds. He will make a call to her with Roche on the call to explain the general purse account how FanDuel should be taking the HISA money from and not the HBPA general fund. If this is not effective, then we will be filing another lawsuit. IRB gave us the money for 2023 HISA funds which Melissa thinks that is for 2024 which she has escrowed and not used for 2023. The HBPA continues to get billed for 2024.

At 7:39pm James Watkins asked to adjourn the meeting. Kevin Wilborn agreed and David Warchol second the motion. There was no apposing to end the meeting.