

Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners' Association, Inc.

Cambridge OTB, Cambridge, Maryland

April 29, 2010 Minutes

Present:

President	Thomas Cooke
1 st VP	Dan Myer
2 nd VP	Jerry Nock
Secretary	William Long
Executive VP	Sharon Roberts
Executive Assistant	Georgina Maybee

Directors:

Betsy Brown	Gary Ewing	Ralph Hayward
Jackie MacLeod	Kenneth Schlotzhauer	James Simmons
Eli Solomon	William Spicer	Judy Welty
Gary White		

Absent:

Daniel Bittle	William DeLodovico	Tammy Lafferty
Don Milby		

President Thomas Cooke called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Motion – A motion was made by Ralph Hayward, seconded by Jerry Nock to accept the March 17, 2010 minutes. The vote was 17 in favor and 1 abstained (E. Solomon). The motion carried.

Motion – A motion was made by Jackie MacLeod, seconded by Jerry Nock to amend the February Minutes to include that “*Kelley Rogers would talk to Mark Vogel about keeping the track open one day a week for training*”. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

CEI Update – Tom Cooke updated the Board – At the April Meeting we were still waiting for Judge Mannes decision on the sale to Mark Vogel. We need to put up the “For Sale” sign but we don’t want to upset the employees. CEI has contacted consultants that could bring interested buyers to the table and made various phone calls to parties within the standardbred racing industry to see if they were interested. We were disappointed by that decision and the 2010 legislative session. We walked away nothing. Mr. Vogel is the only body standing, thankful he is still here after Annapolis. The legislative session left a bitter taste in Cooke’s mouth.

MRC Meeting – The MRC Meeting was held on April 13th. It’s fair to say the MRC meeting was less than cordial. The MRC voted 5 in favor and 1 against to extend Rosecroft’s license to July 1, 2010 in considering

their opinion of Mr. Vogel advancing \$350,000 to RCR and the possibility of running the Ocean Down's Meet at Rosecroft. Mr. Cooke and Mr. Fasy met; the meeting was constructive, positive and fair communications. Mr. Rickman gets annoyed with negative press. As long as we are still in conversations there will be no press.

Ocean Downs Update - Mr. Rickman told Mr. Cooke that Ocean Downs cannot physically hold a race meet in 2010. They would like to double the Purses in 2011 plus slot money.

President Cooke stated it would be beneficial to horsemen for a meet in 2010 at Ocean Downs too many horsemen on the edge, Mr. Rickman's commitment to race 40 days and MSS & MRF. Mr. Rickman feels Rosecroft is too unstable.

Mr. Cooke read Mr. Rickman/Mr. Fasy's letter, a copy will be attached to official minutes. We are still in conversations with Mr. Fasy.

Slots Zoning - Per the Worcester County Zoning law Ocean Downs has to race at least one day of racing within the 12 month period in order to keep their zoning. The one day of racing is not specific as to what kind of race. It could even be a qualifying race.

Ocean Downs met with the Pocomoke Fair Board about hosting the fair races at Ocean Downs. The Pocomoke Fair Board is not willing to races their days at Ocean Downs.

Ocean Downs has a contract with CSOA for 40 days of racing, enforcing is the issue. One option is to hire a lawyer, contract lawsuit and it would be fall before we get a court date.

Mr. Kelley Rogers spoke about problematic having Ocean Downs meet at Rosecroft... felt like appropriate way to keep Sire Stakes and Race Fund Programs alive and help horsemen.

President Tom Cooke suggested a site visit before we make any decision... Fighting Rickman is not in our best interest.

The horsemen want to race, at Rosecroft if nothing else. Maryland Horsemen can't make it another year, losing owners. Also lose the fan base, with even losing one year.

Several ideas were discussed about the Ocean Downs race schedule (when to start, how many days a week to race and what days). This might be possible if Vogel meets the budget deficit.

President Cooke stated that 4-5 years down the road with slot money, two tracks instead of one the horsemen will better off ... the purse subsidy percentage will get cut with just one track. The horsemen would be literally racing year round.

Kelley Rogers – as far as bringing Ocean Downs Meet to Rosecroft, has no benefit to Rosecroft, BUT wanted to help horsemen. Rickman will not be having meet.

Concerns are of losing Ocean Downs and no kids are allowed once OD is redone.

Eli Solomon stated we should focus live racing regardless in 2010 instead of defer... Where? Ocean Downs preferable but look at conditions. If to move Rosecroft letter from Mr. Fasy letter uncertainty, how do we resolve.

There was conversation on the following:

Resolve RCR's license and get an extension from MRC

Financial Backing

New Appraisal of Rosecroft

Non - Recourse Loans from Vogel and CSOA

Best Day of the week to race

Bill Long suggested a walk through try to save Ocean Downs race days, not to lose racing, then proceed.

There was NO SUPPORT to move the purse money to 2011.

Motion – A motion was made by Dan Myer, seconded by Betsy Brown if it is determined that there is no other option than to move the Ocean Downs days to Rosecroft. The vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

Ocean Down's Site Visit Committee - President Tom Cooke appointed a committee to verify credibility of conditions of the racetrack. The committee is as follows:

Dan Myer - Chair

Bill Long

Jerry Nock

Gary White

Eli Solomon

President Cooke will call Mr. Fasy to arrange a site visit of Ocean Downs for a walk through with the committee.

Bill Spicer arrived 8:32 pm

Old Business –

MSBA Report – Ralph Hayward reminder everyone to make their yearling and 2 year old payments.

New Business – No new business

President Cooke announced the CSOA June meeting is usually held at Ocean Downs, the date is to be announced.

Motion – A motion was made by Betsy Brown, seconded by Eli Solomon to adjourn the meeting. The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sharon L. Roberts – Executive VP

And

Georgina Maybee – Executive Assistant