

MTA Board Meeting
February 9, 2014
John Crabb's Place, Morrice, Michigan

The board meeting of the Michigan Taxidermist Association was called to order at 10:25 a.m.

Officers Present: Joe Miles-President, Doug Veldhuis- Vice President, Pam Onken-Treasurer, Pat Walker-Secretary.

Board of Directors Present: Doug Aven, John Crabb, Keegan Crabb, Jeremy Kennedy, John Proctor, Les Thomas, Orlando Villarreal and Jonathan Wright.

Absent: Rob Haysmer and Justin Pohl.

Others Present: Kathy Proctor-Membership Coordinator, Ken Onken, Charlie Walker.

Welcome – Joe welcomed everyone.

News – Brenda Sears had knee surgery and faces a long recovery...prayers to you, Brenda.

Steve Devaney had surgery and is on the mend... prayers to you, Steve.

Kelly Veldhuis battling with an issue...prayers to you, Kelly.

Keegan Crabb is in training to be a fire fighter...Way to Go, Keegan!

Board and Membership meeting minutes from January 12, 2014 were reviewed.

ACTION: Motion made by John Proctor to accept the minutes as is. 2nd by Jonathan Wright. Motion voted on and passed.

Treasury Report given and reviewed.

ACTION: Motion made by Jonathan Wright to accept the treasury report as is. 2nd by Jeremy Kennedy. Motion voted on and passed.

Membership report given – currently have 194 members.

Future Meeting Dates -

Convention March 19-23, 2014

DeVos Place

303 Monroe Ave. NW

Grand Rapids, MI

1. Old Business:

- a. 501C3 status – Discussion about still working on – making change to the by-laws stating financials are open to the public – Les Thomas will send updated by-laws to the accountant.
- b. Membership drive-Tanneries/Postcards - Discussion that updated flyers were sent to the Michigan tanneries and they have started to distribute to taxidermists by inserting in shipments.
- c. Website update – Discussion that the website looks nice but the additional pages listed at the bottom is hard to read-try a different color. If anyone wants something added on the website please email Melissa DiVietri and copy in Joe Miles.

- d. Fischer Insurance – Discussion that Kathy Proctor now has an insurance policy to have a comparison made.
- e. Current Trailer Maintenance – Discussion that Doug Veldhuis will connect with Mike Bush-last update was that the trailer was in the shop being worked on.

2. New Business:

- a. Taxidermy Directory Listing – Kathy Proctor will be composing an invitation to our convention on postcards and mail them to Michigan licensed taxidermists.
- b. Awards at Show – Discussion that Les Thomas is pulling together cost information on ordering trophies with name plaques, category and date along with shipping expense as requested by membership. Further discussion led to having Doug Veldhuis to connect with Doug Smith for a mock-up and pricing of a Best of Category sign. Also, Les Thomas will check on pricing of an extra-large Best of Category ribbon.
- c. Award of Excellence points – Discussion that Joe Miles requested Kevin Perry to send the file so can try to save to a newer format.
- d. Election intentions 2014 – Discussion with current officers and board members on their plans for next year.

3. 2014 Convention:

- a. Commercial Division – Discussion on point person is John Proctor.
- b. Judge Writing Auction – Discussion on the auction to be a judge's writer at the convention has started. Bids are to be emailed or called into Pat Walker. Auction ends March 1, 2014 at 9:00 p.m. Updates will be put on MTA Facebook page and an email will be sent out as bids change. Winners of the final bid may direct the funds to a specific MTA use, ie: DreamMakers.
 - Jim Kimball
 - Jody Green
 - Gene Smith
 - Wendy Christensen
 - Bob Berry
 - Kurt Ainsworth
- c. Novice Judges – Discussion that all judges have accepted except still need to contact Jan VanHoesen.
- d. Judges Update – Discussion that all judges need to meet with Doug Veldhuis and Joe Miles before they start judging.
- e. Critiques – Discussion that critiques are ONLY on Friday and Saturday...No Thursday critiques.
- f. Photo board of judges and board – Discussion that Rob Haysmer will do – Doug Veldhuis connecting with Rob to confirm.
- g. Awards-Sponsored – Discussion that Jeremy Kennedy is connecting with the sponsors-no Michigan Steelheaders and Hilton Eppley this year. Pat Walker is getting all McKenzie awards and the Breakthrough award and Charlie Walker is getting the DU award.
- h. Ribbon placing-Meeting – Discussion that Pam Onken is organizing again like last year.
- i. Hands-on Seminars – Discussion that Josh Guge's seminar is changed to one day.
- j. Wednesday Hands-on Seminar – Discussion that volunteers are still needed.
- k. Seminars – Discussion that seminars are set. They will be provided by the judges, Randal Waites, Randy Budzinski, Paul Borkowski, Melissa DiVietri with "Tech" and possibly Commemorative Bucks.
- l. Suppliers – Discussion that 16 suppliers are confirmed coming and still calling others.
- m. Friday Night – Discussion that Brenda Sears is working on food and the special event is being updated.
- n. Banquet – Discussion that Brenda Sears is working on food.

- o. Wildlife Art-2D & 3D – Discussion that Joe Miles is connecting with Kimberly Twiest for updates. Kimberly is not able to attend the convention and Jonathan Wright will be in charge.
- p. Veteran Mounting – Discussion that the Veteran mounting will be held on the main floor along with mounting for Hunt of a Lifetime and DreamMakers. Doug Aven is finding taxidermist to do mounts.
- q. Jobs Review – Joe Miles discussed and reviewed board members jobs.
- r. Dennis Harris seminar – Discussion that it is all set.
- s. Daily Job Walk Through – Discussion on what's happening and needs to be done on each day of the convention. Wednesday morning arrive between 7:30-8:00 a.m.

With there being no other business of the Michigan Taxidermist Association Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

ACTION: Motion made by Keegan Crabb to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Jeremy Kennedyl. Motion voted on and passed.

Respectively Submitted;

Pat Walker, Secretary