

MTA Board Meeting
May 19, 2013
Proctor's Home, Litchfield, Michigan

The board meeting of the Michigan Taxidermist Association was called to order at 10:10 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, Rob Haysmer, Jeremy Kennedy, John Proctor, Les Thomas and Orlando Villarreal.

Absent: Justin Pohl and Jonathan Wright.

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

Welcome – Joe welcomed everyone and asked that we stay on task.

News – Wyatt, son of Tom Jaakkola is doing better.

Elk that was mounted at the show was delivered; they were very pleased with it.

Justin's deer mount was delivered and they were so pleased. They gave a donation to MTA Dream Makers.

Keegan Crabb is graduating from high school and he is attending Baker College this fall -
CONGRATULATIONS KEEGAN!

World Show – multiple Michigan taxidermists attended. Jonathan Wright won Best in the World Game Bird. CONGRATULATIONS JONATHAN!

Board and Membership minutes from March 24, 2013 were reviewed and a few changes were requested and made.

ACTION: Motion made by Rob Haysmer to accept the minutes with changes. 2nd by Jeremy Kennedy. Motion voted on and passed.

Treasury Report handed out. Discussed and reviewed.

- Still have not received the invoice for the room charges from the Riverfront Hotel.
- Year over year, our bank balance is down. Some areas that are down: membership/convention revenue, expenses are up slightly and hands on seminars lost money.
- A 4 year history of revenue and expenses summary was reviewed.

ACTION: Motion made by John Crabb to accept the treasury report. 2nd by Rob Haysmer. Motion voted on and passed.

Membership report given - currently have 174 members. Discussion about membership being down and what can we do to build it up. One idea we are going to try is to have flyers about "Why Join MTA" be distributed to taxidermists by Michigan tanneries inserting in shipments.

Committees – assignments were handed out.

1. Old Business:

- a. Discussion about the 501C3 status – Les Thomas is responding to the accountant.

2. 2013 Convention:

- a. Feedback – Discussion on printing seminar lists in larger print, get voting all on one slip, eliminate “+ & -” so use only 1,2,3 and get competition packages on website earlier.
- b. Seminars – Discussion that feedback was good.
- c. Registration concerns – Discussion that registration went good.
- d. Wrist Bands – Discussion that even though they were a bright color; they were still hard to see.
- e. Set up/Tear down – Discussion that set up went good. Discussed tear down, was nice to do on Sunday night so people didn't have to come back on Monday. One incident happened but otherwise went great.
- f. Friday Night – Discussion that it went well but the auction of the various fish did not cover the cost.
Discussion that music doesn't seem to be used, little participation – Drop music.
Discussion on changing the Friday Night event charge to \$15 per adult and their children, 16 yrs old and under, eat free. **Need to talk to Brenda Sears if this is possible. If yes, need to change in 2014 registration form.
- g. Sign posting-purchasing Suppliers signs – Discussion about putting a large supplier in each room and large signs at the supplier room doors.
- h. Woodcarving – Discussion that it went well.
- i. 2D Wildlife Art – Discussion that it went well, it was well received and good participation for first year.
- j. Sportsmanship – Discussion that another President asked about a specific amount, wondering if it was mounted with a professional.
Discussion about an issue at our show – registration does close at 9:00 p.m. for everyone.
Discussion about an issue at our show – participates are not allowed to come in the mount area to hang/place their own mounts. Also, participants are not allowed to get their score sheets or have their critique with the judge early (on Thursday). Score sheets are available on Friday. Joe Miles and Doug Veldhuis will write a letter about sportsmanship, send to officers and board first to review, then it will be sent to a member.

3. 2014 Convention:

- a. Changes – Discussion about making the seminar signs in larger print.
- b. People in show room during judging – Discussion that we need to keep people out – only authorized people only.
- c. Commercial Division – Point Person – Discussion that we need to have a person with the judges during judging to keep them at the correct distance for scoring. John Proctor said he would be the point person.
- d. Judging writer auction – Discussion to auction off writing spots that are needed to help judges during judging. Possibly auction off at the Winter Membership meeting.
- e. Assign Jobs – Discussed and distributed job lists.
- f. Discuss Judges & Vote –
 1. Masters:
 - Whitetails – Vincent Fleming and Ed Piaskowski, back-up Jody Green.
 - Fish – Bob Berry returning, back-up Terry Weick and Jeff Compton 2nd.
 - Mammals – Ken Walker, back-up Wendy Christensen.
 - Birds – Jim Kimball returning, back-up Danny Owens.
 - Habitat – Kurt Ainsworth returning, back-up Terry Weick.

2. Novice:

Whitetails – ask Justin Pohl and Don Gadille.

Fish – ask Randy Budzynski and Bill Willis.

Mammals – ask Jan VanHoesen and Carolin Brak-Dolny.

Birds – ask Larry Fitch and Charlie Walker.

- g. Discuss Awards & Trophies – Discussion on current style of awards being given out are nice. Les Thomas will get ribbons & trophies for 2014.
- h. Hands On seminars – Discussion on possible seminars, maybe a 2 day carving/air brush seminar.
- i. Banquet – Discussion that Brenda Sears will coordinate.
- j. Award of Excellence – awards list is maintained by Kevin Perry, using Microsoft Works.

4. New Business:

- a. Committees – Discussion on jobs and assignments were handed out.
- b. Name Badges – Discussion on name badges for new board members are being ordered.
- c. MTA Wear & Promotional Items – Discussion that have enough in current stock, possibly add lanyards.
- d. Hands on Seminars around the State – Discussion about have seminars in different places, Jeremy Kennedy will handle.
- e. Dream Makers – Discussion on possible future events, Doug Aven will handle.
- f. Membership Drive-Tanneries/Postcards – Discussion on sending flyers “Why Join the MTA” to tanneries to include in Michigan & surrounding states shipments, Pat Walker will handle. Discussion on sending postcards to other states members, Kathy Proctor will handle.
- g. Inventory – Nothing new.
- h. Youth Account – Discussion that we need to transfer \$500 (annually), Pam Onken will do.
- i. By-Laws Changes – Discussion on the last update of the by-laws. Les Thomas has the latest update dated September 11, 2011. Les will email to Joe Miles and Pat Walker.
- j. 3D Art – Discussion on adding 3D Art to the 2014 show.
- k. 1991 Audit Files – Given to the secretary to be kept in files.
- l. Current Trailer Maintenance – Discussion on asking Mike Bush to take the trailer to be checked over.
- m. Website Person – Discussion on having our website developer/maintenance service provided by an outside source. Joe Miles reviewed a proposal/quote and will connect with new provider. Joe Miles will also send a letter to current website person telling them of our change.

ACTION: Motion made by Rob Haysmer for the MTA to have the website outsourced. Joe Miles is to connect with proposal provider. 2nd by Kathy Proctor. Motion voted on and passed.

- n. Hands-on seminars scheduled for upcoming Membership meetings:
 - Fall meeting – Ice & winter habitat.
 - Winter meeting – Antler repairs.

5. Picnic:

- a. Saturday, June 22, 2013 at Jean Roll’s Farm.
- b. Wedding of Evangeline & Kurt Ainsworth.
- c. Time schedule –

10:00-11:00	Board meeting
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Membership meeting
1:45	Auction
2:00	Horseshoes/Kids fishing & Kids games
3:00	Wedding

- d. Food – Pig Roast provided by Kurt Ainsworth - Burgers, Hot dogs & few Brats – John Proctor getting (cut supply in half).
- e. Activities:
 - 1. Horse Shoes – Justin Pohl
 - 2. Fishing – John Proctor & Keegan Crabb
 - 3. Piñata – Jeremy Kennedy
 - 4. Pie eating contest – Doug Aven & Orlando Villarreal
 - 5. Youth comp – Anything – John Proctor
 - 6. Mini comp – Novelty – John Proctor
 - 7. Cooking – Doug Aven & Charlie Walker – Charlie getting charcoal/lighter fluid
 - 8. 50/50 tickets – John Crabb
 - 9. Ice – John & Keegan Crabb – 25 bags
 - 10. Auction – Charlie Walker

6. Other:

- a. Fischer Insurance – Presented insurance program for taxidermist. They are an independent agency with multiple insurance companies to choose from. Kathy Proctor will connect with them and provide them with a membership list.

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 John Proctor to adjourn the meeting. 2nd by Keegan Crabb. Motion voted on and passed.

Respectively Submitted;

Pat Walker, Secretary