

ANIMAL BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE ANNUAL MEMBER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

May 1, 2009
Providence, Rhode Island

- I. Call to order made by Susie Ekard at 11:10am.
- II. Minutes recorded by Margaret Rousser.
- III. Opening comments (S. Ekard)
- IV. Acceptance of the minutes from the last member's business meeting.
 - a. The 2008 Member business meeting minutes did not get posted on the website due to an oversight therefore the minutes will be posted as soon as possible on the ABMA website and approved at a later date.
- V. Board Reports
 - a. President report (S. Ekard)
 - i. The Board of Directors would like to extend their thoughts and sympathy to Conservation Ambassadors due to the recent fire in which they lost 38 animals. The Board of Directors is sending them a card on behalf ABMA. If anyone in the membership is interested in donating to their cause, please visit their website www.zootoyou.com.
 - b. CFO report (N. Boyd)
 - i. 2007 Financial Report
 1. Nicki Boyd discussed an overview of the financial report for 2007. The board of directors allowed the CD's we had as investments expire due to the low interest rates. Nicki Boyd reminded the membership that the Board of Directors takes the fiscal responsibility of the organization seriously. The ABMA does not pay its board members and the BOD is still expected to pay conference registration and travel costs on their own. Many get funding from their institution, but others pay their own way.
 - ii. 2008 Financial Report
 1. Nicki Boyd discussed an overview of the financial report for 2008. This year the Board of Directors began investing in a Capital One Money Market account due to high interest rate and easy liquidation. Since the decline of the economy, the interest rate on that account has decreased from 2.5% to 1.5%, so we are looking into more opportunities for higher interest earnings that won't tie up too much of our liquid assets. Income was good from membership this year.
 2. Despite the poor economy, we have now been in existence for 10 years and we are becoming more fiscally sound. The Board would like to offer more scholarships, redo the website, and generally put the money back into the organization to provide an excellent conference and experience for the members.
 - iii. MOTION made by Genevieve Warner to approve both the 2007 and 2008 budget actuals as posted. Second made by Chuck Eicholz. No discussion. Approved by unanimous consent.

- c. Past President (S. Rubino)
 - i. Election results:
 - 1. Review of election process.
 - 2. Incoming board members as a result of the 2008-2009 election are Tricia Dees, Rickey Kinley, Penny Krebs, and Heather Leeson
- d. President-Elect (S. Purtell) Get involved with committees, great way to get your feet wet
 - i. Program Council Chair introductions
 - 1. Behavior Management Fund (Michelle Farmerie, Pittsburgh Zoo and PPG Aquarium)
 - 2. Conference (Cathy Schlott, National Aviary)
 - 3. Conference Content Advisory (Emily Insalaco, Denver Zoo)
 - 4. Conference Proceedings (Nicole Dorey, University of Florida – not in attendance)
 - 5. Education (Vacant)
 - 6. Government Affairs (Angi Millwood, Ocean Embassy)
 - 7. Honors and Awards (Jen Hennessy, Roger Williams Park Zoo)
 - 8. Membership (Julie Hartell-DeNardo, Oakland Zoo)
 - 9. Merchandise (Susie Ekard, San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park)
 - 10. Nominations and elections (Susie Ekard, San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park)
 - 11. Public Affairs (Sue Hunter, National Aquarium)
 - 12. Publications (Heidi Hellmuth, Smithsonian's National Zoo)
 - a. Request for submissions
 - 13. Research and Evaluation (Jessica Moody, Wildlife Conservation Society)
 - 14. Site Selection (Rickey Kinley, Cincinnati Zoo)
 - a. 2012 in Bay Area
 - 15. Sponsorship (Penny Krebs, Providence Police Department Mounted Command)
 - 16. Veterinary Advisory (Vint Virga, Veterinary Healing Arts)
 - 17. Website (Sarah Stuve, Coral World Ocean Park)
- e. 1st VP (P. Krebs)
 - i. Conference
 - 1. Conference feedback is very important. This is the first year that we have gone completely paperless so please visit the SurveyMonkey website to complete the conference survey.
 - 2. This year we have 130 full week registrants, which is down slightly from last year. We are still a few nights short on our room block so please check with Penny if you aren't sure whether you are registered under the room code ABM.
 - ii. Thank you to all of our sponsors: Roger Williams Park Zoo, the Rhode Island Zoological Society, the Roger Williams Park Zoo chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers, Mystic

Aquarium Institute for Exploration, Zoo New England, New England Aquarium, Conservation Ambassadors, and Buzzards Bay Brewing. Thank you to Jennifer Hennessy and the rest of the Board and Program Council for helping to organize the conference. A special thank you for the gracious donations of the speakers who donated their time to us Linda Tellington-Jones, Terry Ryan, Rob Young, Margaret Whittaker, Sue Hunter, Lee Nesler, and Jessica Moody.

- iii. Thanks to the volunteers for working the merchandise, silent auction, and raffle.
- f. 2nd VP (N. Begley)
 - i. Announce 2010 conference in Pittsburgh: information will be on the website in the next few weeks. Please let Nicole Begley know if you have trouble registering or getting a hotel reservation.
- g. Secretary (M. Rousser)
 - i. Membership update 370 members total
 - ii. 19 Active, 135 Associate, 5 Lifetime, 181 Professional, 29 Student, 1 emeritus.
- h. BMF travel scholarship (M. Farmerie)
 - i. The committee awarded their first scholarship this year. Information on how to apply for next year's scholarship will be up on the website in a few weeks. Thanks to the committee members Jessica Moody, Julie Hartell-Denardo, and Cinnamon Williams.
- i. Conference Content Advisory committee (E. Insalaco)
 - i. Name change: formerly know as Animal Behavior Management committee (ABM), now officially changed to more accurately reflect the function of the committee which is to review abstract submissions, speaker ideas and workshop content and make recommendations to the Board and Conference Committee. The CCA also creates historical records of the conference content.
 - ii. CEU: We currently offer CEU's only for Certified Pet Dog Trainers (CPDT), but we are hoping to add additional organizations, such as veterinary technicians, in the future. If you belong to any organizations that require CEU's and you would like to see them included, please contact Emily Insalaco.
 - iii. Submissions: This year, we had 30 paper slots available, and 45 submissions.
- j. Sponsorship committee (P. Krebs)
 - i. Sponsorship committee secures sponsors to help offset the conference fee and keep it affordable. Please let Penny Krebs know if you have any suggestions for future sponsors for ABMA conferences.
 - ii. Special thanks to Roger Williams Park Zoo AAZK chapter for writing and securing a grant to sponsor Rob Young for the conference.
- k. Site selection (R. Kinley)
 - i. 2011 in Denver
 - ii. Results of 2012 site survey (76% voted for Bay Area)
- VI. Old Business none
- VII. New Business

- a. Ask-it Basket (P. Krebs) No questions in the basket to answer.
- b. Federal Bill HR669 (S. Hunter, S. Ekard)
 - i. Government Affairs committee looks at bills going through congress to see if any pertain to the mission or core values of the ABMA or are appropriate for the ABMA to comment on. Recently, bill HR669 came through congress which would have prohibited anyone from owning, breeding or transporting any animal that is not indigenous to, or originate, in the US. This bill would have severely restricted the movement or ownership of many pets and exotic animals including parrots, guinea pigs, hamsters and many reptiles and would have severely restricted conservation work with many endangered species within zoos and aquariums. The ABMA wrote a letter to congress to advise them of the problems with the bill as it is currently written. If anyone in the membership becomes aware of other bills that may pertain to ABMA's mission or core values, please advise Government Affairs Chairperson Angi Millwood.
- c. Acknowledgement of outgoing Board Members (S. Ekard) All board members serve on a volunteer basis and we thank them for their time.
 - i. Penny Krebs
 - ii. Linda Stallings
 - iii. Sue Rubino
- d. Acknowledgement of 2009-2010 Board Members (S. Ekard)

President – Susan Purtell	Director – Mike Boos
President-elect –Rickey Kinley	Director – Tricia Dees
Past president –Susie Ekard	Director – Nicole Dorey
CFO – Nicky Boyd	Director – Raquel Gardner
Secretary – Margaret Rousser	Director – Jennifer Hennessey
1 st VP – Nicole Begley	Director – Penny Krebs
2 nd VP – Emily Insalaco	Director – Heather Leeson Director – Angi Millwood

- VIII. Outgoing president comments (S. Ekard)
 - a. Raffle – There was a drawing from the 50-75-50 raffle as a reward for attending the meeting. The winner of this drawing was able to choose an item from the ABMA merchandise.
- IX. Motion to Adjourn
 - a. MOTION made to adjourn at 11:50am by Susie Ekard. Second made by Gary Fortier. Passed by unanimous consent.