



Animal Behavior Management Alliance

Annual Member Business Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2015

Copenhagen, Denmark

- I. Call to order at 12:30pm Denmark time by Margaret Rousser.
- II. Minutes recorded by Heather Samper.
- III. Opening comments (Margaret Rousser)- Thank you to Copenhagen Zoo for such a warm welcome! Steffen Straede, director of Copenhagen Zoo, welcomed attendees and thanked Kirstin and Annette for all their hard work preparing the conference for the past several years. Animal training is high on their priority list and is something they focus on and hope you see that. He is pleased we've also added a conservation link to our conference.
- IV. Acceptance of the minutes from the 2014 member business meeting.
MOTION made by Margaret Rousser to accept the 2014 member business meeting minutes, having been reviewed in advance. Second made by Tim Sullivan. **Motion passed by unanimous consent.**
- V. Board reports
 - A. President report (Margaret Rousser)- We are having a fantastic conference! Thanks to Annette, Kirstin, and Copenhagen Zoo!
 - B. CFO report (Susie Ekard)
 - i. 2014 Financial report – see below.
 - ii. Amazon Smile- We made \$10. Encouraged membership to purchase through Amazon Smile, it's new for us but an easy (free) way for the organization to earn money.
 - C. Past President (H. Samper)
 - i. Election results
 1. Review of election process- We have board nominations in the fall. From the nominations received, the board discusses at midyear what positions need to be filled and creates a slate based on nominations received. If needed, a slate for executive board and a direct election for directors at large can be created.
 2. Incoming board members as a result of the 2014-2015 election: Cathy Schlott, Kelly Elkins, Christa Gaus, Darren Minier, Justin Garner

D. President Elect (Nicki Boyd)

i. Program Council Chair introductions- Reminder of our program council meeting tomorrow from 4-5pm. These are volunteer positions. If you're interested in getting involved in the ABMA more, this is a great place to start. Feel free to contact any of these chairs.

1. Behavior Management Fund- Genevieve Warner, Middleburg Humane Society
2. Conference- Justin Garner, Busch Gardens Tampa and Maura Davis, Lowry Park Zoo
3. Conference Content Advisory- Christine McKnight, Minnesota Zoo
4. Conference Proceedings- Jennifer Hickman, Denver Zoo
5. Education- Missy Lamar, Sea World San Antonio
6. Government Affairs- Justin Garner, Busch Gardens Tampa
7. Honors and Awards- Jennifer Hennessey, Roger Williams Park Zoo and Scott Trauger, Lowry Park Zoo
8. Membership- Amy Schilz, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
9. Merchandise- Susie Ekard, San Diego Safari Park
10. Nominations and Elections- Margaret Rousser, Oakland Zoo
11. Public Affairs- Margaret Rousser, Oakland Zoo
12. Publication- Heidi Hellmuth, St. Louis Zoo
13. Research and Evaluation- Darren Minier, Oakland Zoo; looking for a new chairperson for this committee
14. Site Selection- Kelly Elkins, San Diego Zoo
15. Sponsorship- Cathy Schlott, National Aviary
16. Website- Heather Samper, Mutts With Manners

E. 1st VP (Annette Pedersen)

- i. Thank you to all our sponsors Copenhagen Zoo, Odense Zoo, Blue Planet, Southern Denmark University, MyTrainingStore.com, Zooprofis, Mazuri, Zooply SeaWorld, & Animal Behavior Institute (R&E workshop), Givskud Zoo, Adventura. Steve Martin and Susan Friedman donated proceeds from workshop. Thank you also to our extended talk speakers- Steve Martin, Susan Friedman, Ken Ramirez, Sabrina Brando, Barbara Heidenreich, and Jenifer Zeligs.
- ii. Thank you to our conference hosts- Copenhagen Zoo and Odense Zoo.
- iii. Conservation project support –. Rikkitikki is the organization we're donating to. Elephant on parade figurines are in each bag. Money supports Asian elephants.

F. 2nd VP (Scott Trauger)

- i. Announce 2016 conference in Tampa April 13-18. There will be a presentation at the end of the conference on Saturday. Several same features and some new ones.
- G. Announce 2017 conference in Cincinnati (Kelly Elkins)- We have a hotel and dates. Check the website for details as they become available.
- H. Secretary (Heather Samper on behalf of Cinnamon Williams)
 - i. Membership update - Total Members: 366; Associate- 64, Active- 44, Emeritus- 5, Professional- 240, Lifetime- 13
 - ii. Members by countries: Total Countries: 23; United States- 269, Australia- 4, Austria- 3, Belgium- 2, Canada- 12, China- 3, Czech Republic- 3, Denmark- 10, Finland- 2, France- 4, Hong Kong- 1, Japan- 1, Korea- 1, Mexico- 4, Netherlands- 11, Netherland Ant- 1, Norway- 1, Philippines- 1, Portugal- 1, Singapore- 2, Spain- 1, Sweden- 2, United Kingdom- 28.
- I. BMF Travel Scholarship (Cathy Schlott)- We offer a scholarship to provide support for a presenter who may not otherwise be able to attend. An application and abstract are due before the normal deadline for abstracts. Congratulations to travel scholarship winner for 2015 conference, Anaka Nazareth! 50% of silent auction proceeds to go to the BMF to assist for the next year's winner.
- J. Proceedings Committee (Jennifer Hickman)-If you are presenting please email your papers so we can get the proceedings out as soon as possible. This is a member benefit. We compile a more detailed document on all the presentations for each conference, so it's important to get those to Jen as soon as possible to be included in the Denmark proceedings.
- K. Publications Committee (Heidi Hellmuth)-Please send submissions. They can be pictures, papers, or short blurbs on something you are doing. Heidi is a very relaxed editor.
- L. Conference Content Advisory Committee (Jennifer Hickman on behalf of Christine McKnight)- different levels of certifications for trainers. Continuing education credits for this conference: We were awarded 28.5 CEUs from IAABC, 18.5 CEUs for trainers and 16 for behavior consultants from CCPDT and 30 CEUs from IATBC. A second application was submitted to IATBC for the Martin/Friedman pre-conference workshop and was awarded 8 CEUs. For attendees seeking CEU's, we are pleased to announce that IAABC has awarded 28.5 CEUs; IATCB has awarded 30 CEUs for the conference and 8 for the pre-conference workshop; CCPDT has awarded 18.5 CEUs for trainers and 16 CEUs for behavior consultants.
- M. Site Selection (Kelly Elkins)
 - i. Call for host cities 2018, 2019- Let's think ahead and if you are interested in hosting a conference please see Kelly. We

would like to continue our presence in Europe and again if you're interested see Kelly.

VI. Old Business

- A. CollaborNation (Christa Gaus)- This is a free member benefit. It's an online E Learning tool with a variety of resources including webinars.
- B. Trademark Update (Heather Samper) – We submitted an application last year. We received an office action late 2014, which was submitted in March 2015. Current status by USPTO is “Approved by the examining attorney for publication but has not yet been published for opposition. Although rare, withdrawal of approval prior to publication may occur after final review. The opposition period begins on the date of publication.”
- C. Website Update (Heather Samper) – Please send feedback as to what you do and do not like on the website. This is your website and I will do all I can to accommodate your requests. There's been a bit of a learning curve since switching over to the new website last May but I feel fairly confident updating the site as needed. New- conference and registration was a new system, changed servers for faster connection speeds especially for our international members, auto renewal for membership, in memoriam, job postings, and front page pictures by you- send us more and get featured on the front page. Looking into member directory, making the calendar of events more user friendly, meshing CollaborNation into our site, and adding a Wellspring annual subscription membership.
- D. AAZK Updates (Heather Samper) – Joint membership is something both organizations are interested in but we are waiting for technology to catch up to make it easier for administrators of both organizations. A joint raptor workshop is in the works for the near future. Looking into doing paper swaps again for the second year in both organizations' publications.

VII. New Business

- A. Acknowledgement of outgoing board members (Margaret Rousser)- All board members serve on a volunteer basis and we thank them for their time.
 - i. Heather Samper*
 - ii. Christa Gaus*
 - iii. Jennifer Hickman*

B. Acknowledgement of 2014-2015 board members (Margaret Rousser)

President- Nicki Boyd	CIO- Darren Minier
President Elect- Cathy Schlott	Director- Missy Lamar
Past President- Margaret Rousser	Director- Jay Tacey
Secretary- Cinnamon Williams	Director- Annette Pedersen
CFO- Susie Ekard	Director- Justin Garner
1 st Vice President- Scott Trauger	
2 nd Vice President- Kelly Elkins	

C. Outgoing president comments (Margaret Rousser)- Thank you again to all our sponsors and attendees for making this Denmark conference a success!

VIII. Motion to adjourn

MOTION made to adjourn 2015 member business meeting at 1:04pm Denmark time by Margaret Rousser. Second by Heidi Hellmuth. **Motion passed by unanimous consent.**



ABMA Business Meeting Financial Summary for 2014

Income		Expenses	
Interest	\$125.23	Bank/CC	
Merchandise	\$3,143.74	fees/Authorize	\$6,124.19
Conference (incl sponsors)	\$88,112.86	Accounting/Admin	\$2,113.20
Amazon Smile Donation	\$10.00	Merchandise	\$2,096.88
Membership Dues	\$15,945.00	Taxes (sales/prep)	\$768.37
BMF Proceeds	\$1,409.75	2014 Conference	\$70,864.71
Total	\$108,746.58	2015 Conference	\$2,000.00
		Insurance	\$817.00
		Legal Fees	\$494.00
		Website (design/host)	\$4,122.00
		BMF	
		Expenses	\$1,515.00
		Donations	\$600.00
		Sponsor (Twycross)	\$1,852.00
		Cypherworx licensing	\$6,000.00
		Total	\$99,367.35
2014 Fiscal Summary			
Income	\$108,746.58		
Expenses	(\$99,367.35)		
Total Income	\$9,379.23		

Account Balances as of 12/31/14

Business Checking	\$51,746.25
Capital One Investment	\$41,804.91
Business Savings (Beh Mgmt Fund)	\$10,763.81
Conference Checking	\$21,619.73
Ending Balance	\$125,934.70