The National PHA Director's meeting was called to order by President Naomi Blumenthal at 11:05 am in Bedford NY. There were 21 directors in attendance

The minutes from the December 16, 2016 meeting were read by Naomi Gauruder and accepted.

The treasurer's report was read by Naomi Blumenthal and accepted.

Correspondence – none

Aid to Members – Kathy Pinera reported that NJ PHA member Alma Simpkins passed away.

Charitable Donations – Christine Nastasi will now be the contact person

National PHA Scholarship – Ann Grenci reported that 17 applications were received this year. The committee will divide up the names and conduct phone interviews with the applicants.

Education Committee – no report

National PHA Horse Show – the dates this year will be October 27-29 at Centenary College. Sue Ashe and Sarah Booker will be the judges

National PHA Medal — Naomi Gauruder reported that to date all shows have been posted online. However, Gary is experiencing difficulty with secretaries not properly labeling the National Medal class when it is combined with other local classes. Some secretaries are still sending results to Scott Tarter.

Finance Committee – no report

PR Committee – Lynn will work with Ann about a press release/article once the Scholarship winners are chosen. They will also stay in touch with Kathy regarding the National Finals show.

Hawkins Award – no report

USEF/USHJA: Peter Cashman reported that Robin Rost (Fairclough) is the new Equitation Committee Chair and she is interested in working with the PHA to promote the National Medal.

Old Business:

Lynn Peters reported that a copy of the proposed by-laws has been sent out, please review them and contact her with any questions/concerns/clarifications. They will be voted on at the September meeting.

Ann Grenci reminded the floor that it does state that each chapter MUST send a representative to a meeting at least once a year, and we should remind our chapters about this rule.

Peter Cashman had some questions regarding the expenses of the Attorney that has been working on the by-laws. The questions will be referred to Fred Schauder for clarification.

National PHA Tri-fold needs some updating with current chapter contacts etc. Naomi Gauruder & Lynn Peters will work on updating.

Website – Kathy Pinera had a marketing company do an analysis for us. She will be working with a web designer who did the NJPHA site to help update our site and will speak with Barbara Messina about smoothly transitioning. We will look to purchase NationalPHA.org & NationalPHA.net as web domain names.

Peter Cashman will look at the cost of a "Traveling PHA Booth" that will be a set up to take to shows & events. This will include table cloth, banners, promotional materials etc. in an easy "grab and go" set up.

National Horse Show – Jody Moraski will need help with advertising for the program. Naomi Blumenthal strongly suggested that each chapter should have a person to help contribute.

## **New Business:**

The Raymond Molony Horsemen's Award has been formed! This will be awarded to a Professional member who is nominated by their Chapter for outstanding Horsemanship. A \$500 award will be given by the National, and strongly suggested that the recipient's chapter match the award. Lynn and Carol have picked out a nice trophy as well. The award will be presented in the fall, likely at the recipient's chapter banquet.

Ann Grenci & Judy Richter will brainstorm an idea for an award in memory of Artie Hawkins. Likely it will be judging based.

Naomi Blumenthal presented an idea for fundraising for the National PHA scholarship. We need to reach out to past recipients and also look for a 3-year commitment for contributors.

## **Chapter News:**

Brandywine – Judy Armstrong reported their Paperchase fundraiser was successful, even though it was held on their rain date

Dutchess – They are holding schooling show series and looking to form an actual Chapter Horse Show for 2018.

Western New England – Donations in memory of Marie Raucher are designated for the National Scholarship Fund. Their Finals horse show was very healthy.

Fairfield-Westchester – Their June fundraising show is coming up.

Long Island – Next weekend, May 12-14 is their A rated show at the Wolffer Estate. LI is experiencing difficulty with loosing properties at which to hold shows. State owned facilities that have been utilized in the past are becoming increasingly more expensive and now are asking for a portion of the profit as well. Any ideas on how to help or who to approach, please contact Karin Immerman.

Syracuse – The chapter held their big show a few weeks ago and it was very successful.

IHSA – Chapter is still steadily growing. Congratulations to Bob Cacchione and IHSA on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!

The next meeting will be held on September 11, at Lucia's.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Naomi Gauruder