OAEP AGM – Feb. 26th 2013

Attendance

Members: Only 45 members stayed for the AGM portion of the meeting.

Executive:

- President: Dr. Robin Reid-Burke
- Vice President: Dr. Colleen Best
- Secretary: Dr. Marisa Giliberto
- Treasurer : Dr. Jessica Peatling
- CVO Liaison: Dr. Alison Moore
- Administrative Assistant: Julie Wright
- Past President: Dr. Melanie Barham
- OVMA Liaison: Dr. Mike Corradini

1. Overview of past years activities (2012) – Robin Reid-Burke

- OAEP participated in the Ontario Zoonotic Influenza Working Group - strengthening coordination among groups involved in managing diseases in both birds and animals.
- Attended Ontario Livestock & Poultry Council Meetings as OAEP representative
- OEAP student scholarship of $500 to attend the AAEP conference
- Liaising with the OSPCA to help improve resources for equine cases
- In our ongoing efforts to protest the termination of the Slots at Racetracks Program:
    - Drs. Alison Moore and Robin traveled to Queen's Park to appear as legislative committee witnesses before the committee reviewing Bill 55 (Budget Measures)
    - Drs. Alison Moore, Ken Armstrong and Robin Reid-Burke met with OMAFRA's Horse Racing Industry Transition Panel. The OAEP also made a written submission to the panel.
    - The OAEP and the OVMA placed a full page ad in the Ottawa Life magazine
    - Facilitated a meeting where Dr. Branton presented his report to both members and non-members
    - Met and collaborated with Racing Future - over $6500 donated by OAEP members
    - Co-Founded OVMA/OAEP Task Force on the Future of Horse Racing
- CE opportunities - Lameness conference, Dr. Slovis webinars – neonatology, Clinical Pathology, Neurology & Dr. Clark spoke on Surviving in Recession
- Complete overhaul of the website adding online membership and CE portal
- In order to better meet your needs and clarify the OAEP's direction in future the executive spent this past Saturday in a Strategic Planning Session with Doug Raven from OVMA. It is important to acknowledge and thank those that completed the member survey. We heard you and are working to improve the OAEP. Colleen will provide the details.

2. Financial Report – Jessica Peatling

- See financial report – will be emailed to the membership
- ~9000 deficit, however, ~9000 was contributed last year in sponsorship that makes it approximately -$250 loss

3 a.) OAEP and the Racing Industry – Alison Moore

"A tumultuous year has been had by all equine veterinarians involved in both the racing sector and peripheral equine disciplines. Throughout it all, the OAEP has become a more adhesive group and members have demonstrated their passion for the industry many times over. Throughout this process, the OAEP has continued to forge some important relationships with players within the industry such as the Ontario Horse Racing Industry Association, the Ontario Harness Horse Association and the Ontario Racing Commission. New acquaintances have been made such as those with Senator Bob Runciman, and Dennis Mills of Racing Future – relationships that may prove fruitful in the time to come. Along the way, the OAEP Executive and Racing Committee have advocated for the membership on many fronts. Important events during the year include;

- An OAEP letter of support for the Ontario Horse Racing Industry was crafted and sent to the membership, horse peoples associations, Equestrian associations, Standardbred Canada and Racing Future
- The OAEP met with Ted McMeekin along with the Ontario Farmers Association and the Ontario Farm Builders Association at Queen's Park (Drs Moore and Armstrong)
- The OAEP made a presentation before the Legislative Committee for Bill 55 (Drs. Reid-Burke and Moore) and a formal written submission was entered
- The OAEP met with OMAFRAs Horse Racing Transition Panel (Dr. Reid-Burke, Moore and Armstrong) to provide the panel with the equine veterinarian's perspective on ending the SARP
- The OAEP Exec and members met with Dr. Paul Branton regarding a proposed economic report on the Racing Industry authored by Dr. Kuburski . The Executive and Racing Committee supported the idea in principal, however, given the length of time it took to develop and the lack of novel data, it was decided not to offer financial support
- The OAEP and OVMA partnered on an advertisement in the Ottawa Life Magazine article entitled "Horse Sense and Government Nonsense : Public-Private Partnerships are not Subsidies".
- The OAEP sent material to voters of the Kitchener-Waterloo and Vaughan bi-elections through small animal veterinarians regarding the ending of SARP with background information on the program, the truth behind its end and the consequence of thousands of horses potentially euthanized
- The OAEP supported Racing Future's initiatives to educate urban Ontario
- The OAEP and OVMA developed a joint Horse Racing Industry Task Force with a focus on horse welfare related to the ending of the SARP (OAEP members are Drs. Ruth Barbour, James Crawford, Pam Chesterfield, Colleen Best, Alison Moore and the OVMA members are Drs. Dan

McMaster, Darryl Bondar, Garth Henry, Mike Pownall, Stan Henderson and Chair Mike Corradini)

- The OAEP/OVMA Task Force members met with OMAFRA's Animal Welfare Task Force to discuss options for the jobless horses and the prospect of large-scale euthanasia (Drs. Moore and Pownall)
- The OAEP/OVMA Task Force members met with the OMAFRA Horse Racing Transition Panel to discuss the prospect of thousands of horses being euthanized and the impact on veterinarians (Drs. Henderson, Moore and Corradini)

In less formal but emotional settings, members of the OAEP attended multiple rallies at Queen's Park and outside of various Liberal MPP offices. Speeches were given by many (including Drs Levman, Blackburn, Branton and Moore) and members such as Dr. Chris Robson and Melissa McKee have been interviewed on TV. Many members have been working tirelessly on social media and within their local community to educate the public about the devastation caused by the ending of the SARP. I applaud of all you who have and continue to fight and encourage you to maintain this focus through the next month. In a moment of reflection I feel that the OAEP has been successful at becoming a prominent voice within the industry but we require a presence at the provincial table to have a strong voice within the province."

3 b). OAEP Racing Committee – Alison Moore

- "Members of the Racing Committee (Drs. Julie Ballinger, Chris Robson, Melissa Mckee, Brian VanArem, Mike Zajak, Ken Armstrong, Alison Moore) worked diligently on formulating and editing letters and promoting the message as already mentioned. The committee met on an as-needed basis to deal with ORC issues and met twice with ORC investigators to discuss labeling concerns, use of therapeutic medications and investigative procedure. These meetings are held throughout the year as issues arise. Last year was a lean meeting year as a result of the industry turmoil. As Chair, I was involved in topic selection for the ORC Vet Night dinner speaker and sat on the task force addressing the memorandum of understanding between the ORC, Racetracks and Vets held earlier in the year (pre-SARP). Also as Chair, I usually attend the ORC Industry Consultation Meetings held quarterly at the ORC building. Only one was held last year due to the state of the industry. It was in December and was concerned with the topic of horse welfare due to an anticipated large number of jobless horses, presence of a down-economy and the reality of record high hay prices. The ORC encouraged the entire industry to develop a position on the horse welfare issue. As of today, WEG has developed their Horse Welfare Policy. Should the OAEP do similarly?"

- WEG - Owner or trainers sending horses to slaughter will be denied stalls at the woodbine
    - Response?
    - Craft position statement on animal welfare and slaughter, send out to OAEP listserve for review

- Horse racing Ontario – proposed group
    - Needs to be a united group – with members from all associations
    - Elected members of each group
    - Would have an executive director and chair
    - Would also be 3 members of government
    - **Motion**- have OAEP spearhead the formation of Horse Racing Ontario

4. OAEP/OVMA – Mike Corradini

- In response to the transition panel – created task force
    - Issue to get the most impact – welfare concerns
    - No research available on this….came up with Euthanasia multiplier….how many could be euthanized
    - Transition panel did take issues seriously
    - Task force will stay together to deal with upcoming meetings
- CE in January – OVMA conference
    - Viel –respiratory
    - Scott Palmer – industry in transition
    - BA Rucker on dentistry
- Trying to lobby government to stop import of pharmaceuticals from the US

5. Equine Canada Prepurchase committee – Melanie Barham

- Equine Canada has asked OAEP to participate on this committee
- Dr. Mel Barham, Dr. Bell, Dr. Koenig,
- We will submit "best practices" for buyers and sellers – this will be reviewed by OAEP members before releasing
- Exploring CE of owners and veterinarians
- CE event last year shows equine Canada we are continually improving
- Survey sent out through equine Canada showed most people were satisfied with their prepurchase exams, most people were unsatisfied with communication errors
- This is NOT to recommend veterinary practices, just guidelines on how to approach a prepurchase
- *Motion* to have OAEP disconnect from this committee – motion not passed.
    - Most members, except for 3, felt it was important to stay on the committee to have input on the prepurchase committee

6. Website – up and running with a members only section, please check it out

7. Strategic Planning Session – Colleen Best

- How to better the needs of the membership
- Revitalizing committee's

    - Leadership committee – to help advise the executive and recruit members for executive and committees. Dr. Barham will chair, members interested?
    - CE committee – improving CE, we will survey the group on topics and methods of presentation in the next month
    - Issues Committee – past pres, pres, and vice pres will sit on and organize
- Website – new and improved, will help OAEP stay better connected with it's members, news update, etc.

8. Continuing Education Topics for 2013

- Equine Guelph holding their own colic CE in a couple weeks
- Dr. Frisbee will come for lameness CE in the Fall - date TBD

9. Recognition of president and past president

10. Elections

- Vice president – 3 year term - Dr. Robin Ferguson
- Secretary – Dr Ashley Farberman
- Head of CE committee – 2 year position – no nomination
- District representatives – attend occasional exec meetings, report on any issues in district
    - 1. – Bernd
    - 2. – Steph
    - 3. – angie bulgar
    - 4. – Memo Arroyo
    - 5. – Melissa Mackinnon
    - 6.
    - 7. Vicky

11. Thank you to outgoing executive members and welcome to new executive members

12. Other business

- Will send out minutes from last AGM and financial report for approval