

## MINUTES

Agriculture and NYS Horse Breeding Development Fund  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame, Goshen, NY  
June 30, 2011

Present: NYSR&WB Chairman & ANYSHBDF Chairman John Sabini, NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets Deputy Commissioner Matt Morgan representing Commissioner Darrel Aubertine, Trustee Joe Angiolillo, Trustee Keith Hamilton, ANYSHBDF (Fund) Executive Director Tim Gordon, Audience included: Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame Director Gail Cunnard, NYSR&WB Acting Secretary Kristen Buckley, NYSR&WB Attorney Robert Feuerstein, Mr. Paul Miller, others whose names were not given.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 PM.

Chairman Sabini paused to note that former NYS Dept. of Agriculture and Markets Deputy Commissioner Jackie Moody-Czub has been appointed by Governor Andrew Cuomo to serve as the Governor's Deputy Secretary for Agriculture and Markets. Chairman Sabini acknowledged Ms. Czub's contributions to the Ag Fund and to the thoroughbred fund over the years. Chairman Sabini also recognized and thanked Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame Director Gail Cunnard for allowing the Ag Fund to meet at the museum. Chairman Sabini also commented on the calendar of events taking place at in Goshen over the next several days during the Great American Weekend including racing at Historic Track and the Hall of Fame inductions which he enumerated and offered well deserved congratulations.

Agenda Item # 1. Public Comment - Chairman Sabini called for Public Comment:  
None was offered.

Agenda Item # 2. Minutes of Last Meeting of March 21, 2011:  
Comment by Acting Trustee Morgan to correct the title of Jackie Moody Czub from Assistant Commissioner as stated in the minutes to that of Deputy Commissioner. Motion to approve minutes of March 21, 2011 as corrected made by Trustee Hamilton. Seconded by Trustee Angiolillo. All in favor.

Agenda Item #3. Financial Statement and Investments:

Chairman Sabini asked Executive Director Gordon to comment on the Fund's current financial standing. Executive Director Gordon noted that the Fund continues to have a solid financial footing and that revenue is up and is exceeding expectations in 2011. Some of the lost revenue from the demise of New York City OTB is being made up from increased handle at NYRA. Executive Director Gordon further noted that NY Sire Stakes purses continue to be strong and though many tracks saw a single digit percent decrease, the purses are still competitive and are the envy of the sire stakes programs around the country. Chairman Sabina reiterated that the NY Sire Stakes program is indeed the envy of every sire stakes program in the

country, then asked if there were any questions or comments on finances from the Trustees. Hearing none the Chairman moved onto Agenda Item 4#.

Agenda Item # 4. 2011 NY Sire Stakes' Conditions and Schedule:  
Chairman Sabini read the resolution as follows:

WHEREAS the Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund approves on an annual basis the schedule for New York Sire Stakes races and races supported by the Fund; and

WHEREAS although planning for the 2011 schedule and the prospective schedule was known to the Fund Board prior to implementation, it was inadvertently not approved by the Fund Board by formal action prior to this date; and

WHEREAS, the Fund Board wishes to approve and ratify the 2011 schedule on a retroactive basis to January 1, 2011,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the 2011 racing schedule and related support is approved retroactively to January 1, 2011 with the same force and effect as if this resolution had been duly adopted on or before January 1, 2011.

After reading the resolution Chairman Sabini asked Executive Director Gordon to talk about the 2011 schedule. Executive Director Gordon mentioned that there was excitement about the Sire Stakes Night of Champions returning to Saratoga Raceway and in keeping with a practice established at Yonkers Fall Harvest Festival, products grown in New York will be showcased. Gordon further stated that there will be Fund racing at 22 county fairs, the Late Closer series and the Sire Stakes Series, with approximately 750 three year old and 900 two year old horses eligible.

Chairman Sabini asked the Board for any questions or comments on the schedule and recognized Acting Trustee Morgan who noted that in years past the fund had provided funding to not only the 22 county fairs that conduct racing but also to other county fairs in the support of youth equine activities and asked if such support had been revisited as premium funding for fairs from the Department of Agriculture and Markets has been reduced. Executive Director Gordon acknowledged that there had been some inquiries of late to consider such assistance again and the item could be examined by the Board. Chairman Sabini supported looking for creative gap filling measures to assist Ag and Markets and made a motion to adopt the resolution he had read. Motion seconded by Acting Trustee Matt Morgan. All in favor.

Agenda Item # 5. Report on Information Technology improvement opportunities at the Fund:

Executive Director Gordon advised the Board that there may be an opportunity to improve the Fund's daily operations and to promote New York bred horses by modernizing the fund's IT programing and by collaborating with the US Trotting Association. Chairman Sabini asked the Board for any questions or comments on the IT item and recognized Acting Trustee Morgan who inquired if there would be any issue with working with the USTA as a single source vendor as it related to procurement being compliant with the Office of the State Comptroller and the State Attorney General's Office. Chairman Sabini also noted that the Fund also must meet the standards of the Public Authorities Accountability Act. Executive Director Gordon stated that the Fund would indeed need to conform. Trustee Hamilton stated that the USTA is probably the only source (of information) in the country and is the recordkeeping repository of the standardbred industry. Trustee Angiolillo stated,"all this can only help, not hurt."

Chairman Sabini asked for a motion for the board to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters and contractual matters. Motion made by Acting Trustee Morgan. Seconded by Trustee Hamilton. All in favor.

After executive session Chairman Sabini asked for a motion for the board to return to regular session. Motion made by Trustee Angiolillo. Seconded by Acting Trustee Morgan. All in favor. Chairman Sabini stated no votes were taken in executive session.

Chairman Sabini asked the Board for any other business before the board today. Trustee Angiolillo made a motion that the Fund make a \$15,000. contribution to the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame in Goshen, NY as part of the next Fund budget. Seconded by Trustee Hamilton. Motion passed with three affirmative votes and an abstention by Chairman Sabini.

Chairman Sabini asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Trustee Hamilton. Seconded by Trustee Angiolillo. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:54 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Gordon, Executive Director