



**Delaware Jockey's Health & Welfare Benefit Board  
Minutes of Special Meeting Held On  
August 13, 2014**

The Delaware Jockey's Health & Welfare Benefit Board held a Special meeting on Wednesday, August 13, 2014, at 9:45 a.m., in the first floor of the Horsemen's Office, located on the grounds of Delaware Park, 777 Delaware Park Boulevard, Wilmington, Delaware 19804.

**The following Board members were present:**

Edward J. Stegemeier, Chairman
W. Duncan Patterson, Jr., DTRC Chair, Ex-Officio Member
Bessie Gruwell, DTHA Executive Director
John E. Mooney, Delaware Park, Executive Director of Racing
Pete Lizarzaburu, Retired Jockey

**The following Board members were absent**

Heriberto Rivera, Jr., Jockey's Guild Regional Manager
Delaware Jockey Board Member – Active Rider – Position Currently Vacant

**The following individuals also were present:**

Peter Jamison, Esq., Deputy Attorney General, Commission Counsel
John F. Wayne, DTRC Executive Director
Robert E. Colton, Delaware Jockey's Association, Director
Adrianna "Nan" Bernardo-Freeman, NCC, LACMH, Counselor
Pam Rash, DTRC (recording minutes)

**1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER**

At 10:00 a.m., Chairman Stegemeier called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon a motion duly made (Gruwell) and seconded (Mooney), the minutes from June 12, 2014 were approved.

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Counseling Service Agreement**

Peter Jamison forwarded a copy of the contract to Family Counseling Center's attorney, Ciro Poppiti, who looked at it yesterday and has told his client he is ok with it. Waiting to hear from Sister Teresa at the Family Counseling Center to make sure she is also ok with it. Do not expect any issues since their attorney has approved it.

It is almost identical to the previous contract. Mr. Jamison recommended the following changes:

1. Page 1, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph – “independent FCCSP” change to “independent contractor”
2. Page 3, 7.2 No employee benefits – “... services rendered under this agreement, FCCSP is not entitled ...”; change to “... services rendered under this agreement, neither FCCSP nor its agents and employees shall be entitled ...”
3. Page 3, 9.0 Access to Records – “because of the possible application of section 1861(v)(1)(4)” change to “section 1861(v)(1)(i)” and “If that section should be found inapplicable, then this ~~paragraph 10~~ shall be null and void” change to “...paragraph 9...”

Mr. Jamison emailed copy of corrected contract to Bessie Gruwell to print out and have ready for signature. Chairman Stegemeier conferred that the Commission was comfortable with the budget and the contract and after meeting with Ms. Bernardo-Freeman she will sign the contract today.

Ms. Bernardo-Freeman joined the meeting and was welcomed by Chairman Stegemeier and introduced to each Board member. Ms. Bernardo-Freeman reviewed her background. She is a nationally certified community counselor, associate license in licensing. She graduated in 2011 from Wilmington University with a Masters in Community Counseling. She currently runs a nonprofit pregnancy center. She does counseling in Spanish and English at St Paul's and is about to be hired by Ministry of Caring to do counseling with the homeless. She specializes in depression, anxiety, grief and adjustment disorders. She has worked with children as young as 4, couples, families, adolescences, individuals. She has done post abortion counseling. She will be doing domestic violence counseling at a shelter in Elkton, MD and sees a few clients privately. Chairman Stegemeier questioned the difference between associate and full certified counselor. Ms. Bernardo-Freeman indicated she is a Board certified counselor working toward full licensure; she currently has an associate license. Based on the accumulation of her hours, she expects to have full licensure in approximately two years.

Chairman Stegemeier asked Ms. Bernardo-Freeman if based on her full schedule she felt that she would have the time to come to Delaware Park as he questions the willingness of the jockeys to travel in town. Ms. Bernardo-Freeman had the understanding counseling would be done at Delaware Park. She is already under Linda Furlong and has not had much success so far. She had a few individual come forward once but has not seen them again. She has time allotted Wednesday nights and Thursday afternoons to see clients here but there has not been a need here. Chairman Stegemeier asked if the allotted times are by appointment or walk-ins. Ms. Bernardo-Freeman hopes that it will become by appointment so there is something regular set-up. She has been making herself available during that time, but if after an hour nobody shows, it is not profitable to have her stay if no one is going to be there. She is hoping that as she sees some more come, there can be regularly scheduled meetings. Chairman Stegemeier indicated it will be difficult. John Mooney stated that unless someone is told they will lose their license or be suspended without counseling it will be difficult. Not many volunteer, most have to be forced. Ms. Bernardo-Freeman understands this especially with substance abuse issues. She stated she would ask the person what they would like to change, what is important enough for them, what are they motivated about making a change in their life. Bessie Gruwell asked about AA meetings, group meetings or one-on-one sessions. Ms. Bernardo-Freeman indicated she has done group sessions but prefers to work one-on-one. It will depend on the interest. There is an AA group led by Rob McCreary that meets at St. Paul's, up the road and she highly recommends this and the 12 step program.

Chairman Stegemeier stated to Ms. Bernardo-Freeman that the Board had a contract ready for her to sign. Mr. Jamison reviewed the changes with Ms. Bernardo-Freeman and they excused themselves to take care of the contract signing.

## **B. State of the Fund**

Robert Colton gave the following report:

The Year-to-Date Revenue Less Expenses as of July 31 is a surplus of \$22,764.00. Projected 2014 End-of-Year Revenue Less Expenses is a cost of \$10,398.00. The deposit into the Jockey Fund account for FY2015 was in the amount of \$441,764.00 according to Mr. Wayne. The current participation is 29 Jockeys (15 Active; 14 Retired) as of July 31 and with 3 active members added and 2 active members dropped. There are 9 active jockeys who rode the qualifying number of races for 2013 and 2014, but have either elected not to enroll in the health benefit program or have been dropped for non-payment.

Chairman Stegemeier pointed out that Mr. Colton reported the 2014 estimated revenues less expenses with all eligible members is a cost of \$126,093.00 and there are jockeys turning down health coverage. If everyone who is eligible accepted, there would be a deficit of \$126,000.00. Something the Board should be aware of, right now running a surplus of \$10,000.00 and projecting that will be \$15,000.00 deficit. If we do gain greater participation, the Board will have to review coverage, contribution, etc, which Mr. Mooney indicated has been done in the past.

Mr. Colton will communicate via email or conference call on the status of the change over from MOC to Bolton.

Mr. Wayne asked if a date has set for the lunch with Christiana Health Care. Chairman Stegemeier reminded the Board of the luncheon and tour to be scheduled with Christiana Health Care who are actively involved in the Emergency Room in treating our Jockeys when there is a serious injury.

Mr. Colton thanked Mr. Mooney and Ms. Gruwell for the effort put into the Permanently Disabled Jockey's Fund Day. The outriders and EMTs were honored. They were brought out to the winner's circle and had pictures taken with the riders and were given hats and t-shirts. They enjoyed it.

Chairman Stegemeier asked Mr. Colton about the Brag sheet with the University of Delaware. Mr. Colton indicated Dr. Snyder was short on help this year.

## **4. ADJOURNMENT**

At approximately 10:23 a.m., a motion was made (Mooney) to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by (Gruwell). The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 2014 at 9:15 a.m.