

Annual Meeting Minutes
Hilton Minneapolis
February 9th 2013 1pm
Lunch provided by MAVT

President Missy Greer called the meeting to order at 1:01pm. She thanked all the members who were in attendance for coming and started with handing out flowers to the Area representatives as a big thank you for all their hard work.

Officer reports:

- Missy Greer (President): Discussed how much MAVT is trying to help bring more CE options to members and how much member feedback is important for us to move forward.
- Michelle Krasicki-Aune (Vice President): Not present, no report
- Kristi Gorton (Secretary): No report, minutes from last annual meeting were not available.
- Debi Dames(Treasurer): Gave statement on how much money we had in savings, checking. Also how much last convention cost. She then gave a brief statement on being treasurer as her term is up.
- Julie Hemen (State Representative): Gave reports on national Veterinary Technician Week and positions that are currently open.

Missy then announced Tech of the Year: Jenny Langness (not present) Missy will present her with flowers and a necklace donated by Living-Art-N-Life later in the month at her clinic.

Committee Reports:

- Kim Horne (Practice Act): The committee has been inactive since the task force was established and it is currently a joint commission of MVMA and MAVT. The draft language is in place and they are just waiting for the right time to submit it to legislation. Some hang ups are the some Veterinary groups that are not onboard they are currently working to bring them to the table. Also this year the main concern is the Breeder Bill so it looks like 2014 will most likely be our year. She also wanted to acknowledge Dr. Sharon Hurley who co-chairs the task force and has been a huge advocate and support in this endeavor.
- Beth Husman (Membership): Our numbers are finally correct online as far as membership goes. Unfortunately it is not as high as previously thought. Current Membership 841, active 705. Convention total 653. Need to make sure that when renewing membership online to use a personal e-mail. Everything is tied to your name by e-mail so you get updates same goes for convention. This is important for you to share with your clinics so that there is no confusion.

- Perin Bullers-Schwartz (Website): Our webmaster host is Stylefish. We had 8,400 visits last year which is a 20% increase from previous years. Also there has been an increase in new visitors to the website with some being international. The Newsletter is now online for members only. Several pages that previously were under construction are now finished and available. The Member Forum page has been used by many for posting job ads.
- Debi Yitalo (Newsletter): The newsletter is now posted online. We have mailed out 2 issues. A printed copy was provided in all the convention bags this year. Debi is currently working on putting the newsletter on Mailchimp for later in 2013. Goal this year is to get a monthly format available to all members.
- Jackie White (Convention): Glad to be back at the Hilton, feedback is very important to help get the talks that members want to attend.
- Kristi Gorton (Volunteers): Thanked the many people who helped with proctoring and registration desk. We did a drawing for target gift cards. Winners were: Karen Kiecker, Robin Winscher, Morgan Jaenisch, Mandy Longhemny and Judy Ogston. She discussed the need for volunteers to help with convention next year. Several people stated that placing proctor list online for people to sign up for talks, and any spots needed for registration desk and bag stuffing. We will look into doing that for next year.
- Kim Horne (Certification): MVMA currently has 2045 certified veterinary technicians in good standing. 1000 certification renewals were made in 2012. Special thanks to Yvonne Appenzellar for volunteering a morning to help with the review. The full committee met recently to review VTNE pass/fail rates. Of the 377 individuals that had their test scores sent to MN, 266 passed/about 71% pass rate. The continuing Education guidelines were revised to be in effect 2014. The change will better clarify what are acceptable credits for continuing education; this was modeled after the DVM CE requirements. This will help in the event that the board of veterinary medicine takes over our licensing if we are successful with the practice act.
- Constitution/Bylaws- no report
- Sponsorship – no report
- Darcy Mattson (Public Relations): Thanks to everyone who stopped by the booth, which was our big project this year to bring to different events and help promote Veterinary Technicians. It also will help us look more professional.
- Darcy Mattson (Scholarship): We had no interest in the scholarship this year and had no one win last year. If you work in a Veterinary Technician program please inform the students about this opportunity for them to get help with tuition. We will post something more about it in the upcoming year.

~Announced the winner of the CE Challenge Theresa English, who was present and accepted her gift from Living-Art-N-Life.

~Announced the winner of the MAVT booth sponsor scavenger hunt: Dianna Newell.

~Announced the winner of the Keurig for the clinic: Countryside Veterinary clinic –Annie Smith, not present at the meeting, Kristi will deliver it to the clinic later this month.

Nominations: Kristi announced the open positions for State Representative and MAVT Board. She also introduced the new position President-Elect.

- President-Elect will be a 3 year term that will involve learning the ropes from the current president in there last year of office to help with a smoother transition. The first year is following and learning from the president and then the following 2 years they are president with them training in a new president in their final term. We would vote every other year for this position and they would be a board member with voting rights. Hence they would need to be at the meetings.
- Voting: All positions received nominations, no one ran apposed so there was no voting this year.
- New Representatives are:
 - Southeast: Linda Bruner and Diane Whipple
 - Northwest: Rose Hegerle
- New Board Members are:
 - President Elect: Darcy Mattson
 - Vice President: Kevin Bergstrom
 - Treasurer: Deb Stratvoldst

We handed out all the door prizes and adjourned the meeting.