

**AGENDA**  
**MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD**  
**Tuesday, February 18th, 10am 2025**  
**Meeting held by Teleconference: Google Meets**

**Meeting Start:** Call to Order: Sheila Curry, Chair ~ Call Moderator: Anne Litz

**Introductions:** Roll call of attendees by Anne Litz

**Introduction of New Executive Director by Kevin Atticks:** Anne Litz, New Executive Director of the Horse Industry Board as of Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Secretary of Agriculture Kevin Atticks:** Address the MHIB

**Thank you of retiring Board Members:** Jay Griswold (General Public), Neil Agate (Horse Council), Dr. Justin Sobota (Equine Veterinarians)

**Introduction of New Board Members:** Appointed by Gov. Moore: Dr. Kathleen Anderson (Equine Veterinarians), Genevieve Macfarlane (General Public), Carolyn Mackintosh (Horse Council)

**Approval of Minutes:** Approval of Minutes from the Nov. 12, 2024, Closed Session Nov 18th, and January. 21, 2025 meetings

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**Introduction of New Industry Leaders—Chris Merz**, Director of Maryland Racing Commission, **Robert Croteau**, New Fair Hill Training Center General Manager, **Marci Ross**, Acting Managing Director, Department of Commerce Office of Tourism and Film, **Bristol Craft** has been named Director of Equestrian Programs McDonogh School, **Zach Parks** Interim Director of Riding at McDonogh School.

**Avian Flu Update:** Deputy Secretary Steve Connelly & State Veterinarian Dr. Jennifer Trout

**COMMITTEE UPDATES & DISCUSSION – Executive Director Reports –**

1. **Stable Licensing Update:** FY25 Renewals
  - a. Report of New Stables
  - b. Any Issues with current inspections
  - c. Question or concerns to our inspectors
2. **New Hire Process:** Contractor Position
3. **Upcoming Meeting Schedule:** **March:** Board Training Meeting, **April:** Virtual. **May:** Pimlico- Site Visit Backstretch Tour
4. **FY25 Grants—**Committee met Nov 18<sup>th</sup>. 37 Awards
5. **HB 162/SB380--** Breeding Stables and Horse Establishments Bill – Withdrawn
6. **2024 MD Horse Forum—** Task Force
7. **Career Program:** Partnership with MTCP
8. **Leadership Group:** Reconvene at Laurel or Pimlico April 2025
9. **2025 Maryland Tourism Day**
10. **MD Horse Park System:** Marriner Update – Updates from Pillars – anything of note
  - a. Prince Georges Equestrian Center—Sheila Curry
  - b. **FAIR HILL-** Robert Croteau, Maryland 5 Star, Fair Hill Labor Day Racing, Maryland 5 Star
  - c. **Maryland Horse Library Education Center –** February hosts the traveling exhibit, The Heart of the Turf: Racing's Black Pioneers! March is Women's History Month to include a Women in Racing Meet and Greet

- d. **Pimlico Race Course**—MHIB and MTROA plan to work together for 150<sup>th</sup> Preakness; Preakness Festival. MHIB & MDA working with MTROA, MRC, MHBA, & MSA

**11. Trails Brochure**

12. **Committee Updates:** Health Advisory Committee to meet TBD, All Committees to be revisited for 2025

**13. Upcoming Outreach**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**Introductions from Industry Sector Board Members:**

MD Dept. of Agriculture _____	Cassie Shirk
Licensed Veterinarians _____	Dr. Kathleen Anderson
At Large _____	Genevieve H.R. Macfarlane
MD Horse Council _____	Carolyn Mackintosh
Organized Shows & Events _____	Sheila Curry
Equine Academic Community _____	Dr. Amy Burk
Humane Societies _____	Erin Ochoa
Licensed Stables _____	Adrian Ford III
Standardbred Sector _____	Lisa Watts
Thoroughbred Sector _____	Jenile Tapscott
Trade & Support Industries _____	Connie Sawyer
Trails & Recreational Riding _____	Jennifer Sulin

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**ADJOURNMENT**