



ABOUT THE MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD

The Maryland Horse Industry Board (MHIB) is a program which is part of the Maryland Department of Agriculture. The MHIB, originally the State Board of Inspection of Horse Riding Stables, was established by Maryland statute in 1968. It was made part of the Department of Licensing and Regulation in 1970. The board transferred to the Department of Agriculture in 1980. In October 1998 the duties and the name of the name of the Maryland Horse Industry Board were established. The change resulted from a statutory change lobbied for by the Maryland Horse Council, a member of the organization of the American Horse Council.

The duties of the Maryland Horse Industry Board expanded beyond stable licensing to include:- promoting the use and development of horses in Maryland; - support research related to equine health and related issues; - creating public awareness of the value of equine activities as they relate to the green space preservation; - developing and disseminating information concerning the equine industry; and – advising the Department of Agriculture regarding matters affecting the horse industry in the State.

There are 12 members of the MHIB appointed by the Governor, including an appointee made by the Secretary of Agriculture representing the Department.

Since 1998 there have been two chairmen:

Gregory Gingery (1998-2004) – James B. Steele (2004- present).

The MHIB employs a staff at its discretion. The Executive Director position is currently staffed by Ross Peddicord; it was previously staffed from 2003-2010 by J. Robert “Rob” Burk, the Stable Inspectors are Pegeen Morgan and Ellen James; the part time marketing and social media specialist is Anne M. Litz; and the part-time Administrative Assistant who serves as the stable license registrar is Tonya Kendrick.

The MHIB has overseen several high profile projects for the horse industry in Maryland including the Maryland Equine Census (2005 and 2010), the Maryland Horse Park and Maryland Horse Park System project, the Maryland Horse Forum (started 2004), the Horse Discovery Center program and Horse School Curriculum (in conjunction with the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation), the Touch of Class Awards program and many projects in collaboration with various equine industry partners.

MEMBERS

MARYLAND HORSE INDUSTRY BOARD

(Appointed by the Governor)

James B. Steele, Thoroughbred Sector, Chair
Karen Fulton, Licensed Stables, Vice Chair
Neil Agate, Maryland Horse Council
Dr. Amy Burk, Equine Academic Community
Steve Connelly, MD Department of Agriculture
Karin DeFrancis, Organized Shows & Events
Jay Griswold, At Large
Erin Ochoa, Humane Societies
Dr. Michael Odian, Licensed Veterinarians
Beverly Raymond, Trails & Recreational Riding
Eli Slomon, Standardbred Sector
Kathleen Tabor, Trade & Support Industries

ADVISORY BOARD

(Appointed by the Board)

Hope Birsh, Central Maryland
Terry Hasseltine, Marketing, Maryland Sports Commission
Susan McQuilkin, Southern Maryland
Crystal Kimball Pickett, Historian
Bruce Quade, Eastern Shore
Laura Unsworth, Western Maryland
Keith Wills, Finance

STAFF

Ross Peddicord, Executive Director
Ellen James, Inspector
Pegeen Morgan, Inspector
Anne M. Litz, Marketing & Social Media Specialist
Tonya Kendrick, Stable License Registrar

