

The TGA held its annual Membership Meeting, followed by an Executive Committee meeting on March 24 at the TGA offices. Guest speaker for the meeting was Tommy Azopardi of the Texas Horsemen's Partnership. Tommy has taken a leave of absence from his position to head up a racing coalition formerly headed by Ricky Knox. The coalition will be made up of all the current racetracks, applied licenses, breed registries and possibly some game manufacturers. The sole goal of the coalition is to pass VLT legislation in 2007.

Tommy is estimating a budget of \$1.5 million to carry the group through to January, 2007. He is preparing a detailed budget to present, which would include public relations, contributions and polling. Depending upon the number of members, the TGA's share is estimated to be between \$75,000 to \$150,000.

Following Tommy's presentation, President Hays gave an overview of the wins and losses in 2005 for the greyhound industry, the economic plight of the industry and the future of greyhound racing.

Following adjournment, the Executive Committee meeting was opened, starting with the approval of past minutes. The Elections Committee then reported the election results for 2006:

Vice President	Harlyn Goebel
Sec/Treasurer	Tuddy Dietz
District I Representative	Joy Martin
District II Representative	James Parker
District IV Representative	David Peck
District V Representative	Gayle McElhinny

All of the above officers and representatives will serve a 2 year term. There were no candidates for District III Representative; President Hays subsequently appointed Charlie Pevehouse to represent this District.

The main topic discussed was funding the TGA share of the coalition. Several different ideas were discussed, including bank or member loans, land sales, rental of TGA grounds, etc. The Executive Director was assigned the duty of evaluating alternative ways of financing TGA's participation and reporting the recommendations to the Board.

A committee was appointed to review and make recommendations on the current districts, taking into consideration the changes in membership. Billy Galbreath is the Chairman, with Joy Martin and David Peck participating. Billy welcomes membership input.

It was determined by the By-Laws Committee that the by-laws need revisions to reflect the growth and maturity of the organization, and to correct conflicting sections. Our current by-laws have served us well in the past, but changes in the industry need to be reflected in our rules. The TGA will have new by-laws drafted by an attorney, subject to

recommendations by the Executive Committee and TGA membership. We will circulate these new by-laws when they are drafted for approval by the membership.

Dates were set for 2006 Executive Committee meetings as follows: June 14, September 13 and December 13. These dates are on Wednesdays, and will start at 11:30.

In the upcoming newsletter, more information will be forthcoming on the legislative coalition and 2006 activities.