

Vermont Horse Council Board of Directors' Meeting  
at Abbey Restaurant in Enosburg Falls, VT  
January 23, 2016

**Attended:**

Heidi Krantz, President  
Carmel Stone  
Terry Rose, Secretary  
Morris Lasell  
Doug Smith  
Vickie Smith, guest  
Martha Benoit, acting accountant  
Phyllis Civitello  
Belinda Brown  
Karen Rosemark

Meeting called to order by President, Heidi Krantz at 10:55 am

Heidi brought before the Board the idea of a competitive trail ride. Doug and Vickie Smith would like to organize this with the help of Missy Abbot and Patricia Branon.

Vickie expressed a desire to get a ride in Vermont other than in the Woodstock area. We will need 15 volunteers including a ride manager/ride secretary (Vickie has volunteered to be both). This will be an Eastern Competitive Trail Ride Association (ECTRA) sanctioned ride, 25 miles long, lasting one day.

The first year's goal will be to get established and get people interested in the sport at this location (NEKET). VHC hopes to make it a yearly fundraising event.

This committee needs:

money (about \$80) for sanctioning fees.  
Volunteers (15 +/-)  
Prizes – ribbons, etc.  
Food: breakfast, lunch, dinner, coffee  
Advertising  
Insurance (\$1 Million policy; listing ECTRA as additional insured)

We'll also need a vet judge, a lay judge (sometimes the vet judge brings their own), and a scribe.

August 20th is the tentative date. Doug and Vickie will attend an early ECTRA event in Pennsylvania to present VHC's idea to them and get on their calendar.

All riders will be members as part of their entry fee. This should help NEKET sell itself by using these grounds.

Kirby Mountain loop has some private property so we'd have to ask those landowners if it's ok if 20-30 horses go on their land in one day.

Vickie would like to host a clinic 3 months in advance to see if these riders want to compete. She is hoping some local people will participate in both the clinic and the ride.

Side Bar: When will the Willoughby ride be? Would a 2 hour clinic at Morris' St. Jude ride work for the competitive trail ride clinic? But, Vickie decided it won't work because we would need more time and need an earlier clinic than the month of June.

Board should work on overall budget by the next meeting (Beginning of May)

Heidi mentioned there will be a First Aid Clinic at Water Tower Farm and LATR will be there.

Carmel requested that \$420 from the sale of vests to CHAMP be put into the scholarship fund. After some discussion, it was decided that \$180, the profit from the sale of said vests, would go into the Leg-Up scholarship fund. Motion made by Carmel, seconded by Doug. All agreed.

Discussion ensued about the name on the scholarship funds. Morris suggested we change the name of the scholarship funds to:

Clif Murray – College

Floyd Fuller – 4-H/Leg-Up/Adult Clinics

Jane Thompson

Phyllis reported that there will be a 50/50 raffle at the annual meeting to help raise money for the panel fund at Groton. There is a Go Fund Me account on Facebook which would help with all of our fund raising needs. It was suggested that our Treasurer reach out to Stephanie Lockheart as she was successful with her water campaign for her farm. The Grant VHC applied for to use at Groton was a matching grant and we were denied as we did not have matching funds at that time.

Martha currently owns the software system VHC uses. She is no longer treasurer and a motion was made by Martha to vote to spend under \$300 a year for a new accounting system. SAGE is \$20 Per month on line program. Gloria Bruce, our new treasurer, is familiar with Quickbooks. VHC having its own on-line system would allow anyone with the user name and password to view current balances in the accounts. Motion seconded by Carmel. Vickie remarked that she didn't think we needed a dollar amount. All in favor

Meeting adjourned 11:45 am