

Vermont Horse Council
Board of Directors Meeting
November 19, 2016
Held at Waterbury Public Library, Waterbury, VT

Meeting called to order by President, Heidi Krantz

Comments from membership were allowed:

Karen Blow noted Agenda for Board of Directors meetings should be more readily available. Getting information on the website will be looked at further.

A decision was made to put a preliminary agenda on the website with a disclaimer saying that items due to change. Jeannette offered to get a draft agenda on the website 2 weeks in advance of a meeting.

Secretary minutes were approved as read, motion made by Phyllis, seconded by Jean. All approved, so moved.

Financials: Heidi reported in Gloria's absence. A statement of financial position was handed out.

Discussion regarding the transfer of information from Sage to QuickBooks took place.

Heidi stated that Gloria does balance the checkbooks monthly and knows how much the Tunbridge ride made, how much the quilt brought in and how much the Equine Summit cost, but the report under cash does not properly allocate it while printing the report. VHC is getting help from Barb Candor from QuickBooks which is a free service to Northeast Kingdom residents.

Once the final amount from Tunbridge is determined, we will transfer 10% to Clif/Floyd account and 20% to the trail maintenance fund.

Motion was made to approve treasurer's report made by Karen Rosemark, seconded by Doug. All approved. So moved

Membership: Doug Smith reported that the membership form will have changes for 2017 including an increase in individual and family fees. Each going up \$5.00.

Lucinda asked that Morris and Brenda write stories about Clif Murray and Floyd Fuller to put on the website so their legacy can remain with VHC but we will be allowed to market the college scholarship under a different name.

Karen Rosemark made the motion to increase VHC dues by \$5.00, seconded by Morris. All approved. So moved.

Lucinda and Gloria will work on Business Sponsorship Plan levels and collaborate with Karen Rosemark and Doug Smith as they are on the scholarship and membership committees. The committees of membership and scholarship will work together to have similar language for farm/club members and scholarship names. Changes are going back to the committees and changes will be distributed to the newsletter, Facebook, website, blog, etc.

Motion made by Jean, seconded by Karen Rosemark

Equine Summit: Heidi reported for Jessy Riley

An Equine Directory is a near term goal of VHC's. Notes of thank you will go out from VHC to participants. Karen Rosemark mentioned that no one was there to clarify equine laws or regulations and another participant just didn't get the point of being there. Heidi said that it was to solicit information from business owners. Lucinda will have her notes on the summit to Heidi next week.

Bev McMullin offered to help organize the annual meeting. She is considering the Steak House on the Barre/Montpelier road for the location. The Steak House would need us to commit to at least 25 people at \$15 per person. Karen Blow will ask the Canadian Club if they are available at a more reasonable and will report back to Bev and Heidi.

Horse Person of the year deadline is beginning of December.

Nominations committee consists of Lucinda, Jessy and Jim. They will give the secretary names to be put on the voting ballot. Names should be submitted by December 10th.

Ballots should be back to the secretary before the meeting.

Lucinda will submit a 'here's how it works' article with the voting ballot.

Budget Preparation: Heidi reported

Committees should send amounts of income and expenses to her by December 2nd.

Coalition of State Horse Councils: Jeannette Cole reported

Heidi and Jeannette attended the October 28th meeting

43 horse councils were represented

Heidi and Jeannette came away with a lot of educational material.

Information from the meeting will be used at Board retreat in 2017 to orientate new board members.

They learned about equine insurance and liability issues. Heidi is trying to get more information from the top equine lawyer that was at the symposium.

Jeannette thanked the board for fees paid for her registration and the Board thanked her for attending.

Jeannette is going to write a piece for the December Mane Stream and have a full report for the newsletter.

Next year it will be held in Lexington KY

The American Youth Horse Council is April 2017 and Jeannette is hoping to attend

Operation Gelding is a program where Unwanted Horse Coalition pays for gelding horses.

National Equine Economic Impact Study through the American Horse Council. The states would sign a pledge and raise money for their state (between \$15,000 and \$20,000) to have the American Horse Council do their state economic impact study. Benefits include grant writing information and legislative issue data. Chittenden County Farm Bureau, Vermont Farm Bureau, Karen Clark and GMHA may be interested in helping us raise funds. Motion was made by Jean Audet to continue to pursue this. Seconded by Morris. All approved, so moved.

Scholarship Committee: Karen Rosemark spoke. Discussion ensued regarding wording at the business committee, scholarship committee and membership committee levels. There are 2 new members willing to help with scholarship (Cheryl Manning of Clever Clover 4-H group and June Banks another 4-H leader). It was decided Karen would remain as chair of the scholarship committee. Lucinda will be involved and June and Cheryl will be contacted.

VHC Rides: Heidi reported there are some challenges with the Willoughby ride. The landowner where we park expected more money. Lou Bushy offered other pieces of property that will need work in order to park. Karen feels it would be better if parking were within the State Park and not at the retreat. Karen will work with Lou on permits and parking and the trail system.

Motion made by Jeannette, seconded by Doug that VHC will not have an organized ride at Willoughby anymore.

Jeannette wanted to know if VHC will replace that ride. Suggested Ascutney would be a good replacement

Heidi handed out a calendar. Suggested committees help fill it.

Jeannette is working on a film festival idea. She will have more details at the next meeting.

Possible clinic idea was Sharon Wilsey who wrote the book "Language of the Horse".

There is a farm in Cambridge VT willing to host a clinic

People from the state of Maine are interested in coming to the Matt Rose lameness clinic.

Karen Rosemark is storing parade group riding pads. It was suggested some be put in the silent auction at Tunbridge. And the rest get donated as VHC no longer uses them.

Robinson Integrated Resource Project; Jean and Doug attended a meeting with Robin Severy Vicki Smith and Holly Knox from Green Mountain National Forest regarding camp sites. It was their opinion that sites #2 and #6 might work. These are pack in/pack out, including manure and is located off Route 73. CCC Camp could accommodate trucks and trailers and currently has 2 horse trails. Holly will propose ideas to the next level (biologists, etc.). It was highly encouraged that we use existing trails instead of making new trails. All trails are multi-use.

Jean and Doug are working on getting this information on to the VHC website.

Subscription renewal notices were discussed:

Vermont Trails and Greenways for \$85 per year

Motion made by Jean, seconded by Karen Rosemark to renew

Doug questioned the advantages of the membership. Jean remarked networking with Jessica Savage from Parks & Recreation.

Vermont Farm Bureau; Orange County for \$75 per year

Jeannette made the motion, seconded by Doug; all approved. So moved.

Meeting adjourned at 12:29 pm motion made by Jean, seconded by Morris

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Rose, Secretary

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Attendance:

Heidi Krantz, President
Jeannette Cole, Board member
Karen Rosemark, Board member
Morris Lasell, Vice President
Phyllis Civitello, Board member
Jean Audet, Board member
Doug Smith, Board member
Lucinda Newman, Board member
Karen Blow, public

Missing:

Gloria Bruce, Treasurer
Jessica Riley, Board member