VERMONT HORSE COUNCIL BOD AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2020
(PHONE CONFERENCE CALL MEETING)

Meeting was called to order at 7 pm by president, Heidi Krantz. Heidi, Jane, Jean, Robin and Jeannette were present on the call. Sue, Sue, Amy, Gloria and Jim were missing.

Heidi read the recently received resignation letter from Gloria Bruce. **Motion was made and 2nd to accept Gloria's resignation.** Unanimously approved.

Heidi reported she had received an email this week from Amy Bedell resigning her BOD position. She will continue to stay active as District 5 FPR leader. Board regretfully, **motioned to accept Amy's resignation.** 2nd and unanimously approved.

Secretary's report for 12-12-19 approved pending removal of missing dollar figure and correction of Jean Audet's title. Minutes corrected and submitted to the web page for posting.
Secretary's report from the VHC Annual Meeting Jan 2020 were reviewed. The minutes cannot be formally approved until the 2021 Annual Meeting. Added results of the paper ballot election and clarified statement made about trail collaboration by one of the members. The minutes have been corrected and sent to post on the web page as "unofficial".

Heidi reviewed the Statement of Activity and Financial Position effective 2-18-2020. The Statement of Activity has been revised to reflect committed dollars to the Equine Impact Study. The organization ended 2-18-2020 with $18,333.50 in their accounts. Treasurer reports were unanimously accepted as read. **Motion was made to approve and additional $50 for membership dues to the American Horse Council, because dues increased from the original $300 approved to $350.** Motion was 2nd and approved unanimously.
Heidi review proposed 2020 budget. She will send the budget in the monthly packet for March for approval at the March meeting.
The Board discussed financial meeting held on Feb 16, 2020. The following action items resulted from that meeting:

1. Reimbursement receipts need to be received by Jeannette within 7 days of purchase by filling out the official VHC reimbursement form.
2. If person wants to donate funds from reimbursement, it should be so noted on the reimbursement form. All individuals are highly encouraged to submit forms for reimbursement so that the organization has a good grasp on what it costs to operate annually.
3. Jeannette will visit Northfield Savings Bank to update forms for newly elected officers.
4. Jeannette will also ask about debit vs. credit card. There are concerns regarding security voiced from BOD members.
    a. Some discussion ensued regarding boosting of FB posts and who has authority to do that. Jane is going to research and report back to the BOD at the March meeting.
5. Nancy has updated the statement of activity to reflect restricted funds and also any funds that are committed (i.e. Equine Impact Study Funds)
6. Nancy will work with Jeannette so that income and expenses associated with individual events can be tracked within QuickBooks.
7. **Motion made to allocate all scholarship donations equally within the three scholarship funds (youth, adult, college) unless the donor specifies otherwise.** Motion 2nd and unanimously approved.

Heidi lead a discussion about utilizing Front Porch Forum to advertise the VHC and the Equine Impact Study throughout the state where horse owners reside. The cost is $770 for 2 a two-week period. The group decided to table the decision on whether or not to spend this money until the March BOD/membership meeting. A $200 donation to the Study by the Vermont Economic Development Authority, Vermont Agricultural Credit Corporation was received. There is approximately $1800 left to raise before the Study is entirely funded.

Sue Etsy is having difficulty connecting to phone meetings. Some solutions were discussed. The March meeting will be held by phone, but the April meeting will be held face to face.

Newsletter deadlines and publication dates were discussed. The newsletter will be published on April 01 (submission deadline is March 25), June 01 (submission deadline is May 25), Sept 01 (submission deadline Aug 25), and Dec 01 (submission deadline Nov 25).

Heidi gave an overview of the State Coalition of Horse Council's annual meeting and encouraged board and members to consider attending. The 2020 annual meeting will be held in Columbus, Ohio in conjunction with AQHA Congress. A tour of a well know Standardbred breeding farm is also planned. The meeting will be held October 23 – 25, 2020. In the past, VHC has paid for registration to this event for two members.

Jeannette brought the following suggestion to the BOD: Morris Lasell, asked that we consider making the college scholarship the Cliff Murray College Scholarship and making the youth scholarship the Floyd Fuller Youth Scholarship. He spoke to me at the Farm show and said that he had asked the VHC at the time of inception to consider this request, but he missed the meeting when they voted on the name and the suggestion wasn't enacted. The reason that this was originally proposed is because Cliff Murray focused on continuing education with young adults (and had originally started a fund with his own money) and Floyd Fuller focused on providing equine experiences for every youth that desired participation through he and his wife's ranch called "Room for One More Ranch".
A **motion was made to name the college scholarship fund, the Cliff Murray College Scholarship and the youth scholarship fund to be named, the Floyd Fuller Youth Scholarship.** The motion was 2nd and approve unanimously.

A brief discussion on Gravel Roads initiative in the Northeast Kingdom was held. Hopes is that Amy will join us to update at the March meeting.

A discussion regarding two equine relief needs was held. One for Hillcrest Farms (barn roof collapse) and one for a hate crime aimed at an equine. **Motion was made to donate $50 towards the equine vet bill fund for the injured equine and to offer for VHC volunteer time as needed to Hillcrest Farms.** Motion was 2nd and unanimously approved. Robin will follow up on the equine vet fund and Heidi will follow up with Hillcrest Farms.

Heidi gave a report out on committee chair solicitation. Jane has agreed to chair the Promotions Committee, Sue Miller has agreed to chair the Scholarship Committee, but we are still looking for chairs for the other committees. Jim will continue to oversee the FPR work, Jeannette will continue to oversee membership and educational events. Re: Committees:
Jane has agreed to chair Promotions
Jeannette will continue with Programs
Jean - the newsletter
Jim FPR with
DIstrict 2 Jean
District 3 Monica and Kerrie
District 4 Jeannette
District 5 Amy
Robin will work on Safety - having more time in April and may chair the Services Committee
Bev McMullin will continue with Farm Bureau
Sue Miller scholarships
Sue Miller Ride and Drive
We need help with legislative, American Horse Council and the Nominating Committee, In addition to recruiting new members for all committee work.

Jean brought up question about the US Equestrian Trust check; did we receive the grant check. Yes, the check did arrive, and the obligatory 45 day report out to the foundation has occurred.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm. Next meeting will be held via phone conference (712-770-4849; 885891#) on MARCH 19, 2020.
The April meeting will be held on **APRIL 18, 2020 IN PERSON,** at the Morgan Horse Farm in Weybridge, VT. A business meeting and tour of the facility will be conducted. The "by phone" meeting originally schedule for April 16th will be canceled.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeannette Cole, VHC Secretary/Treasurer