



# VHC BOD/MEMBERSHIP MEETING

VIRTUAL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President, Mikayla Pick at 7 pm. In attendance Mikayla Pick (president), Robin Severy (BOD), Michelle Brewster (member), Laurie Baird (member), Jean Audet (BOD), Jennifer Kennett (member), Lisa LaFont (BOD), Monica Raymond (BOD) and Jeannette Cole (BOD). Kerrie Garvey attended the meeting briefly but was not able to stay for the entire meeting due to personal injury.

Treasurer Report – Checking account = \$9980.39; Saving account = \$8295.30. A generous donation was received from Roberta Haskins with a note enclosed to use wherever the money was needed. Thank you note to Roberta was sent by Secretary Jeannette Cole. Major expense for the month was the final payment for the website development of \$1500. Report unanimously accepted.

Secretary Report – no meeting minutes since November retreat.

The group began orientation for potential new BOD members, but we decided to suspend this exercise until the time that the slate of candidates is elected.

Membership – Robin reported out that the membership list is up to date. Robin is working with Paul to get the “Risk and Release” policy updated and attached automatically when a new member signs up online. Robin is working to create labels for USPS mailing associated with Equine Industry Summit.

Annual Meeting - Jean reviewed her plans for the PowerPoint presentation. She reported out that Unicorn Travel Agency will be awarding \$25 to VHC for every person that books with them due to hearing Jean’s presentation. The caterer for the event (Queen Bee) is booked. The tickets are for sale online listed on the VHC Event Webpage.

Summit Update – Heidi Krantz has obtained a \$2000 grant from Farm Credit Northeast AgEnhancement for marketing and communication of the event. Pam Knights will be assisting Heidi in creating the market content and plan. Denny Emerson will be the keynote speaker for the event. Focus will be: equine business as agriculture, equine business’ role in Vermont agritourism and tools for building community trail access.

Website Update – Mikayla will be organizing a western saddle fit clinic. We are in the process of identifying businesses who have not paid their membership and they will be removed from our directory in March. Mikayla is investigating a Troxel helmet discount and Weaver leather discount for the members only page. Mikayla is also investigating a proper equine fencing clinic. Jeannette is working on developing a hay analysis webinar with UVM.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on April 27, 2024, at the Monkton Community Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannette Cole, VHC Secretary/Treasurer