

SC Horsemen's Council Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Dan Ramage Center

March 9, 2009

Present: Carol Deacon, Donna Patterson, Tim Sigmon, Hayward Simmons, Jim Edwards, David Grant, Debbie Garris, Betty Rankin, Cecil Watkins, Jenny Ward, Mary Roddy, Susan Sander, Terry Boger, Mary Quarles, Mary Ellen Tobias

Absent: Bill Steele, Dee Cross, William Bell, Mark Kennedy, Anne Kennedy, Kaye Watkins, BB Weavil, Sylvia Roper.

Guests: Anne Edwards, Ken Beasley

Meeting called to order by President Carol and opened with prayer by Jim Edwards.

Meeting roles: Timekeeper - Tim; Gatekeeper – Susan; Scribe – Cecil; Coach - Debbie

Minutes and Action Items: Due to our Secretary's illness, Cecil reviewed the minutes from the December meeting. A motion was made by Cecil Watkins and 2nd by Tim Sigmon to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Report given by Donna Patterson.

Scholarship Fund: \$5,637.96

General Fund: \$ 8,998.80

SETC Fund: \$ 15,670.00

Farm Bureau Update:

Carol and Mary Ellen recently attended a meeting of the Farm Bureau Equine committee. One of the topics was the loss of funding for the Clemson Equine Program. Chris Mortensen has sold half of the horse herd to bring costs of the program down. If something does not change, the remainder of the herd may have to be sold. Carol urged us to speak out to help save this program at Clemson. She will ask Chris to write a letter for us to use.

Ken Beasley, an area Farm Bureau representative, attended our meeting. He has two daughters who ride horses. He spoke on the establishment of equine programs in schools that are being classified as sports, enabling the students to earn a sports letter. He will write an article for us.

Legislative:

- **Transport and Processing of Horses:** Mary Ellen updated us on the concurrent resolution on Transport and Processing of Horses which is being introduced to give the authority to the states rather than the federal government to regulate this activity.
- **Economic Stimulus Bill:** Mary Ellen presented the latest information from the American Horse Council on the Economic Stimulus Bill & Tax Bulletin with regards to its impact on the Equine Industry. Debbie will scan this document and send to Cecil and Sylvia for publication in the newsletter.
- **Equine Promotional Bill:** Carol Deacon and Sterling Sadler (President of Farm Bureau Equine committee) will prepare a summary of the Promotional Bill to re-explain it to equine owners and others. Carol plans to develop a brochure that can be handed out at equine functions. Jim suggested getting county farm bureau advisory boards and extension offices to endorse the bill. Debbie and Carol will develop a plan for getting the word out. Cecil asked for everyone to send any equine addresses to him so he can compile a master list.

- **Taste of SC:** Mary Ellen reported on this event which will be held at the State Capitol with a lot of groups participating and inviting the legislators to taste their specialties. It will be on April 29 from 11:30am – 2:00pm. The SCHC can put up a booth. **David Grant offered to donate Yogi Bear fried chicken for the booth.** He will also plan to attend on behalf of the Council. We need others to help work the booth and make contact with the legislators.

Recent and Current Events:

- **Equine Economic Summit in Camden** – Mary Ellen & Mary Quarles reported on the summit that was held in January in Camden. They said it was an excellent program and well attended. They considered it a huge success. Mary Ellen reported that Sue Gray, Executive Director of the NC Horse Council suggested a meeting of representatives from GA, SC, and NC councils to see what we can learn from each other.
- **2009 SCHC Annual Meeting & Expo:** Terry Boger reported that she thought it went very well and was pleased with all of the participation. We generated \$2,912.26 for the General fund and \$2,988.15 for the Scholarship fund.
- **Camden Equestrian Center:** Debbie Garris updated the group on progress. The Westfall Arena has been purchased and Phase I has begun. Debbie will provide an update for the newsletter.
- **Equine Management Program in Lexington:** Mary Quarles will attend a couple of sessions to represent the Council. Jenny Ward thinks she and William may be able to attend a couple. We need as many others as possible to coordinate with them so that each session has at least one SCHC representative. Please let them know when you can attend.
- **Marsh Tacky Beach Races:** David Grant (the big winner) reported on the races held in February. He said it was an overwhelming success, far exceeding their expectations. He estimated 4000 people turned out for the event. The bill H-3044 to make the Marsh Tacky the State Horse is still in committee and facing some strong opposition. The Association would like for everyone who will to write the committee members in support of this legislation.

Future Activities-

- **Tax Exempt status:** Betty Rankin is filling out the application for our 501-C-3 status. She hopes to have it completed in April. She needs financial statements for 2005 and 2006. Donna can give her 2007 & 2008.
- **“Brainstorming” or Strategic Planning Session:** It was decided to hold this session at the Dan Ramage Center April 20 from 3:00pm until 7:00pm. We need everyone’s attendance at this meeting. Carol encouraged Directors from each district to talk before this meeting and come in with their joint recommendations representing their areas.
- **2010 Expo:** Debbie Garris extended an invitation to hold the 2010 Expo at the Camden Equestrian Center. They have some grant money to assist with some of the expenses. Jenny has been working with the Hippodrome and reported that it would cost us at least \$1200 per day to use it and there may be additional charges for stables. Kaye has been in communications with a lady in Bluffton, recommended by the Kennedy’s, who is eager to host it. Jim Edwards made the motion that Debbie proceed with developing plans for the Camden location. Donna seconded the motion.

Cecil suggested we develop more awards for the next Expo to recognize people who do something special to promote or support the equine industry.

Trails:

- **Trails Organizations:** Jim Edwards recommended giving \$100 to join the Equestrian Land Conservation Resource organization since they are one of the main groups leading the effort to keep public lands available for equestrian use. He also recommended we join the Back Country

Horsemen's Association for \$45 since they are also heavily involved in trails maintenance. Betty Rankin asked that we contribute \$100 to the Carolina Thread Trail. Betty also recommended we contribute \$25 to the Kings Mountain State Park trails fund.

- **SCHC Trail ride:** Hayward Simmons has offered his place (Lakeview Plantation) for a SCHC sponsored trail ride the weekend prior to Thanksgiving (Nov 20-22). Jim made the motion to have the ride there. Tim seconded the motion. Lakeview has the capacity for at least 350 riders. They have 167 campsites. Thanks to Hayward for this generous support of the Council.

Membership:

Mary Quarles reported that we added 30 new members at the Expo and renewed 64. We need to push for renewals from 2008 members as quickly as possible. Each District Director has a list of 2008 members in their notebook and needs to contact them about renewing their memberships. Mary has 75 addresses of non-members who signed up for the door prizes at the Expo. She will send them applications and encourage them to join.

Betty Rankin asked that we provide an honorary membership to Emily Ravenel Farrow. Mary will contact her.

New Board Members: New board members were welcomed. The Secretary had prepared notebooks with current SCHC information and one was given to each Board member. Each board member must keep their individual notebooks up to date with current information as it is received. The purpose of this notebook is to get educated on SCHC activities and be able to communicate with others about the benefits of joining our organization. An SETC notebook was also given to everyone who had not previously received one at the Conference. A supply of applications and bumper stickers was given to each member present along with instructions to go forth and multiply our membership.

Coach's Comments: *The meeting followed the agenda closely. We stayed pretty close to the schedule. Good participation by all. We have a lot of excitement around the table and should be able to get a lot accomplished over the coming year.*

Respectfully Submitted March 10, 2009

Cecil Watkins - SCHC Substitute Secretary

New Action Items	Assigned To	Date Assigned	Target	Status
Ask Dr. Breed for a newsletter article on a regular basis	Carol Deacon	03-09-09	03-12-09	
Send Cecil & Sylvia update on Camden Equestrian Center	Debbie Garris	03-09-09	03-16-09	
Attend as many sessions as possible of the Equine Management Program in Lexington Mar 10 thru Apr 9. Let other Board members know when you will attend.	All Board Members	03-09-09	04-09-09	
Send Sylvia & Cecil report on Economic Summit	Debbie & Mary	03-09-09	03-16-09	
Contact CCDR on remaining bus fee from SETC	Jim Edwards	03-09-09	03-16-09	
Information on Stimulus Bill to Cecil & Sylvia for Newsletter	Debbie	03-09-09	03-12-09	
Ask Chris Mortensen to write letter supporting equine program	Carol	03-09-09	03-12-09	
Write article on Equestrian school programs	Ken Beasley	03-09-09	03-16-09	
Develop bulletin for Promotional bill & plan for communications	Carol & Debbie	03-09-09	03-30-09	
Send equine people addresses to Cecil for consolidation	Everyone	03-09-09	03-25-09	
Attend Taste of SC April 29, 11:30-2:00pm	Everyone	03-09-09	04-29-09	
Complete application for 501 C 3	Betty Rankin	03-09-09	04-15-09	
Develop proposal for 2010 Expo in Camden	Debbie Garris	03-09-09	04-20-09	
Send checks to organizations as outlined in minutes	Donna Patterson	03-09-09	03-16-09	
Look for 2005 & 2006 financial statements to send to Betty	Tim, Jim, Cecil, Mary	03-09-09	03-16-09	
Write Report on Croft State Park	Jim Edwards	03-09-09	03-16-09	

Previous Action Items Carried Forward	Assigned To	Date Assigned	Target	Status
Letter for each organization's Pres being on the advisory council-Dee Cross	ALL- get info of contacts on Breed Assoc. & others	9/9/08	11/11/08	Draft completed
More Tag Info	C. Deacon & MET	11/9/08	1/2009	In Process
Committee for Tag gather info	Committee – Mary Quarles	11/9/08	1/2009	In Process
Micro-chipping clinic across state	Carol Deacon	11/09/08	12/08/08	In Process
Read Dee Cross' draft and give him suggestions for final letter & addresses	Dee Cross & BOD	11-09/08	11/30/08	In Process

Previous Action Items Completed	Assigned To	Date Assigned	Target	Status
Checks & notes to FI & Ga, SETC	Jim Edwards	9/9/08	10/13/08	Done
Jim suggested ALL BODs come and work on Friday before expo for the fellowship!	ALL	9/9/08	2/7/09	Done
Nominations for BOD-get to Cecil for Holiday Newsletter—Nov 30deadline	ALL	9/9/08	11/30/08	Done
Each BOD to sell 2 ads for Expo program	ALL to Kaye	9/9/08	1/05/09	Done
State publications to receive info on scholarship winner at State Fair-Carol to write- MET to get publicized	Carol Deacon & Mary Ellen Tobias	10/13/08	10/22/08	Done
Write Articles send to Sylvia Roper for newsletter	ALL	10/13/08	11/30/08	Done
See if Sylvia will take charge of designing & printing the Expo Program	Kaye	10/13/08	10/20/08	Done
Have all donors of silent Auction & tack sale listed in the program/need info from Betty Rankin & Carol Bale	Kaye	10/13/08	12/2008	Done
Draft letter, what Reginald Hall needs to be asked, 4-H contact at Clemson- for Kaye	Carol Deacon	10/13/08	10/21/08	Done
New copy of 501c3 report and additional info to the BODs for final	Betty Rankin	11/10/08	11/20/08	Done
By-laws to correspond w/articles of Incorporation for SCHC	Betty Rankin	11/10/08	10/20/08	Done
Final approval and signature to Carol Deacon	Betty Rankin	10/13/08		Done
Finalize Article and By law change and send email to BOD for approval	Betty Rankin	11/09/08	11/23/08	Done
Gather names of other organizations that SCHC should be a member of	BOD	11/09/08	12/08/08	Done
Stick horse items to the Kennedy's	BOD	11/09/08	11/28/08	Done
Donna to get copy of certificate to Betty	Donna Patterson	11/09/08	1/23/08	Not avail