

Lisa Zappolo, Pres, called the meeting to order @ 7:00pm.

Lisa welcomed the board members present : Merry Roberson, Wanda Wood (VP Admin), Dr. Julia Fisher (Sec), Gary Bickerstaff, Guy Hannah (Treas). Quorum was met.

Prior Meeting Minutes

Previous minutes were approved. (Motion: Gary, Second: Marry. All votes in favor).

Treasurer's Report

Report was addressed. Guy explained the current format being presented as indeed meeting past format expectations if 'sheets' are accessed properly through Excel. Although Alexandria Burnett was awarded this year's \$1,500 scholarship, it has been recommended that the Council withhold the funds until Alexandria enrolls in school – not likely until next academic year.

Updates

State Fair Report provided by Lisa. As Guy was unable to conduct interviews for the scholarship award, Ivory Johnson attended the fair and conducted the interviews – resulting in the award referenced above. It was recommended that the Education Committee should address the question as to why no one (only 2 actual applicants) is applying for this scholarship. The Farm Bureau did also award their committed scholarship. Discussion regarding this issue should be directed to the Education Committee.

USDA/NRCS is still regarding SCHC as eligible to re-apply for the grant to help support their activities in collaboration with the SCHC. Julia made a motion to pursue the grant with modification of commitment from 3 years to 2 and an expectation of 10 individual events during the course of the grant period. Wanda seconded the motion. The motion passed: 3 votes in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention.

EPA changes have been opposed via a letter from SCHC. The issue is relevant to the banning of chemicals that are currently widely used in equine husbandry. As of the date of our meeting, there was no response from the EPA.

TIP Mustang Challenge to be held at Mullet Hall Equestrian Center on November 19-21 will be attended by Wanda. It was confirmed that the \$50 expense is forwarded to Mullet Hall and does not benefit the Challenge directly.

Coalition of State Horse Councils Report was provided by Wanda, with enthusiastic support for the value of engaging with the Coalition. Information from both the Regulatory and Industry Legal committees is useful to SCHC in making decisions regarding future efforts within the state. Regular meetings and newsletters help us keep apprised of what is happening throughout the country.

American Horse Council Updates include notice that the SAFE Act is still undergoing work. L.A. County is working to ban rodeos. It was noted that \$50 Billion is the current acknowledged economic impact for national equine activities. News included a presentation by Randy Savvy, founder of the Compton Cowboys in Compton, CA. This group has made a significant impact in the county and between 2017 and 2021 brought in large numbers kids at risk for supporting gangs. Randy S. has managed to earn support from sponsors like Ariat, creating movies and commercials. They are looking to franchise throughout the country in their efforts to employ new, fresh approaches to attracting kids.

District Reports

None

Committee Updates

Expo committee reported that the work toward organization of and Expo for February 2022 has been halted and redirected toward organization of an Annual Day event. The current plan seeks to bring in any and all equine oriented organizations from all over the state. The current efforts are seeking to secure the Sand Hills Facility (under Clemson's auspices) in the Columbia area for the event. Lisa proposed moving the \$10,500 currently allocated for the Expo back into the operating budget and requesting authorization for \$2000 for activities on the Annual Day Event. Guy offered the motion which Merry seconded. All votes were in favor.

Education committee – No Report

Media committee – Wanda acknowledged problems with posting on our Facebook page and reported that the page will be converted into a 'Group' page which should facilitate posts from members.

Nominating committee – Wanda announced that Lisa had agreed to run for president again for next year. While Board members don't actively recruit candidates for Director positions, Lisa urged the committee to be pro-active in soliciting applications.

Horse Person of the Year committee (District 2) is accepting applications.

Membership committee reported that as members join from this point to the end of the year, their memberships will be rolled over into 2022.

Finance committee is currently preparing the 2022 budget. It was suggested that the Obstacle Course expenses not be maintained in the budget for next year as we fell short in this area for 2021.

New Business

Lisa proposed a change from the current organization motto " SC Horses Mean SC Business" to "Connect, Communicate, Educate", The motivation for the original motto was the Equine Economic Impact Study which made it clear that horses certainly generate significant revenue in and for the state. But as that is now clear, perhaps it is time that we pivot our efforts as an organization towards other ways of actively supporting the equine industry. The proposed new motto capitalizes on the idea of networking organizations and keeping them apprised of activities that affect them, as well as offering information to support their efforts. This seems to be more in keeping with our current efforts. Those not immediately in favor of the suggested new motto are encouraged to offer alternatives.

Suggestion was made of post a picture of our scholarship award winner on the website.

Guy requested and received support for encouraging the Connie Maxwell Children's Home to notify SCHC when they are engaged in equine events.

Gary made a motion to Adjourn the meeting at 8:10 which was seconded by Wanda. All votes being in favor, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Julia Fisher, Sec.