

**SC Horsemen's Council  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
June 9, 2008  
Dan Ramage Center**

**Present:** Donna Patterson, Mary Quarles, Bill Steele, Cecil Watkins, Ivory Johnson, Betty Rankin, Carol Deacon

**Absent:** Ellen Hutto, Anthony Dyches, Jamie Roberts, Dee Cross, Jim Edwards, Heyward Simmons, John Conner, Terry Boger, Deanna Bass, Natasha Vitkovic, Kaye Watkins, Tim Sigmon

**Guest:** Mary Ellen Tobias, SC Dept. of Ag,

Carol Deacon presided over the meeting. Bill Steele opened with prayer.

May meeting minutes were submitted prior to the meeting. Motion made by Cecil Watkins to accept as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Bill Steele, motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** given by Donna Patterson.

Scholarship Fund: \$3840.83

General Fund: \$7973.10

SETC Fund: \$9764.14

**Build an Effective Board:** The newsletter was printed and mailed by Clemson Print Shop. They will be closing down at the end of this month, so we must locate a new printer. Cecil has extras and will mail to anyone the Board members recommend (i.e. Clubs, Organizations, Potential sponsors, etc). Terry was unavailable to update on the status of business cards and stationery. Carol reviewed a draft letter to Bobby Anderson recognizing him for prior service. The Board approved the letter. Carol will send it to him. We will also plan to recognize him at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Carol shared some of her thinking and asked for more input on year end youth equestrian awards to be given out at Annual Meeting.

**SETC:** Jim Edwards has spent the day in Charleston today with several members of the Planning Comm dry running field trips and working with the hotel on details. A preliminary work plan for conference workers has been developed and will be finalized soon. We are only 7 weeks away from the conference. Please everyone try to attend the conference and help where you can. We are committed to 230 room nights with the hotel, which equates to about 80-100 rooms occupied for the conference. All Board members are encouraged to continue to get the word out to as many SC horse people as we can. This is going to be an excellent event given the activities, speakers, sponsors, and vendors that we have lined up. It is an excellent opportunity to sign up members to the SCHC. All workers who arrive by Wednesday evening will be treated to a special dinner by the Charleston County Recreational group (Phil Macchia & Wendy Jackson).

**Annual Meeting 2009:** Ellen Hutto has resigned from the Board due to personal issues she needs to address. We regret her resignation, but understand and hope she will be able to rejoin the Board in the future. Ellen has made significant contributions especially in the planning and execution of our Annual Meeting and Expo for the last two years. Kaye Watkins has agreed to chair the 2009 Meeting unless someone else volunteers. She will be contacting committee members as soon as the SETC is behind us. After some discussion, Cecil made the motion that we again hold our annual meeting at Pelzer until we can find a reasonable alternative in another part of the state. Motion was seconded by Betty Rankin and was approved by the Board.

**Double membership for 2009:** Betty Rankin reviewed the information concerning the 501 (c) 3 status. She needs a copy of the original Articles of Incorporation in order to make the application. Kaye will look in her archives to see if she has it. Cecil passed out & reviewed some information regarding political activity restrictions on a 501 c 3 organization versus no restrictions on our current 501 c 5 status. We will need to educate the full Board and our members on the political ramifications in order not to put our tax exempt status at risk. Betty will continue to push forward with the process once she receives the Articles of Incorporation.

A couple of people said they had recruited a commercial member as Carol had suggested at the last meeting.

Mary Quarles has been studying other state horse council websites and gleaning ideas from them on how we might improve our service to our members. She believes that the best way to win new members is to service the ones we have in the manner they expect. One issue still pending is the Insurance that some states are providing that we have yet to obtain an acceptable arrangement with an insurance company.

Cecil reported that our webmaster, Mike Winburn, is in Sweden and will update the website when he returns. Mary has volunteered to assist with this if we can get some training on website maintenance from Mike. Cecil will work on this.

**Trails:** Carol Deacon answered the survey about Kings Mountain for the SCHC. Betty reported on recent activity regarding King’s Mountain Equestrian Trails. She has learned that the connector trail from Crowders Mountain will not be open to equestrians. She will continue to encourage them to find a way to allow equestrians to make this connection.

**Old Business:** There was a lot of discussion on the cost of fuel and getting to quarterly board meetings versus monthly meetings. The cost of fuel is putting a strain on everyone’s budgets and may be deterring some people from participating on the Board. In order to get to quarterly meetings, our Vice Presidents and Committee Chairpersons must assume more leadership responsibility and move forward with their respective assignments and only involve the Board when approvals are needed. We must communicate more with email and telephone to keep everyone abreast of what we are doing. We talked about conducting our meetings as a part of *mini-events* in different parts of the state on a quarterly basis. We talked about the fact that the Board members cannot continue to do all of the projects personally; we must have more of our membership engaged. Board members will burn out and cease to enjoy what they are doing. We must enlarge the base of active horse council members in order to get more things accomplished.

Next meeting will be July 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm at the Dan Ramage Center.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cecil Watkins (substituting for our Secretary who is reclining at the beach)

<u>June Action Items</u>	<u>Assigned To</u>	<u>Date Assigned</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Status</u>
Send newsletter via email to Mary Ellen	Cecil	06/09/08	06/10/08	Done
Print copies of newsletter for distribution at SETC	Mary Ellen	06/09/08	07/14/08	
Contact Terry about status of business cards and stationery	Cecil	06/09/08	06/10/08	Done
Board members send additional addresses for extra newsletters to Cecil for mailing	All Board Members	06/09/08	07/14/08	
Check for SETC registrations on horse council email	Kaye	06/09/08	06/21/08	
Contact Pelzer about hosting 2009 Annual meeting	Kaye	06/09/08	06/21/08	Done
Check archives for original Articles of Incorporation	Kaye	06/09/08	06/26/08	
Review information on political restrictions for 501 C 3 organizations for familiarization	All board members	06/09/08	07/14/08	
Make contact with Reginald about regional equine workshop	Carol	06/09/08	07/14/08	
Make proposal for future quarterly Board meetings	Ivory	06/09/08	07/14/08	
Continue to move forward on 501 C 3 application	Betty	06/09/08	07/14/08	

<u>May Action Items</u>	<u>Assigned To</u>	<u>Date Assigned</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Status</u>
Draft letter to Bobby Anderson	Carol Deacon	05/12/08	06/10/08	Done
Assume Show Comm. Chair	Carol Deacon	05/12/08	06/10/08	Done
Email SETC Flyer to all SCHC Board members	Kaye Watkins	05/12/08	05/13/08	Done
Respond to Kings Mountain Survey for SCHC	Carol Deacon	05/12/08	05/13/08	Done
Develop plan for 2009 Legis reception for Promo. Bill	Tim Sigmon	05/12/08	06/10/08	<b>In process</b>
Finalize 501 (c) 3 proposal & plans	Betty Rankin	05/12/08	06/10/08	<b>In process</b>
Each board member sign up 5 business to membership in SCHC, waive \$25 web link fee	ALL	05/12/08	06/10/08	<b>Carry forward</b>
Draft Show sponsorship for SCHC	Carol Deacon	05/12/08	06/10/08	<b>In process</b>
Work on obtaining web program & training from Mike	Cecil Watkins	05/12/08	07/01/08	<b>In process</b>
Obtain Business Cards, Letter heads, envelopes	Terry Boger	05/12/08	05/20/08	<b>Carry Forward</b>

<u>April Action Items</u>	<u>Assigned To</u>	<u>Date Assigned</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Status</u>
Attend Subcommittee meeting at House	ALL	4-14-08	4-15-08	Done
Committee Chairpersons get a plan of action on what should be done with your committee	ALL Chairpersons	4-14-08	5-12-08	Continue
Recognition of past president – provide more insight	Carol Deacon	4-14-08	5-12-08	Done
Plans for 2009 Expo	Ellen Hutto	4-14-08	5-12-08	Continue
SETC attend planning meeting & plan on attending conference	All	4-14-08	7-31-08	Done
Develop ideas as to entice new members	M. Quarles	4-14-08	5-12-08	Continue
Look over Insurance and try to get better terms	Natasha Vitkovic	4-14-08	5-12-08	Continue
501 C 3 status up and going	Betty Rankin	4-14-08	5-12-08	Continue
Recommend someone to take over web site as webmaster	ALL	4-14-08	5-12-08	Done
Obtain web site info from York Tech & Winthrop Univ.	Bill Steele	4-14-08	5-12-08	Done
Mail hard copy of membership to Betty Rankin	Mary Quarles	4-14-08	5-12-08	Done

<u>March Action Items</u>	<u>Assigned To</u>	<u>Date Assigned</u>	<u>Target Date</u>	<u>Status</u>
Review Committee Assignments & notify Cecil of changes	ALL	3/10/08	3/19/08	<b>Done</b>
Newsletter – send info to Debbie	All	3/10/08	03/21/08	<b>Done</b>
Look over Tax Exempt Status Proposal	All	3/10/08	4/8/08	<b>Done</b>
Insurance – send Cecil anyone he should contact	All	3/10/08	4/8/08	<b>Done</b>
Order Cards, Letterhead and envelopes	Terry Boger	3/10/08	4/8/08	<b>Done</b>
Expo 2009 - apply for county tax grant for whichever county we host Expo in	Ellen Hutto	3/10/08	Prior to Expo	<b>Carry forward</b>
Update everyone on Strategic Planning Meeting results	Carol Deacon	3/10/08	Next Meeting	<b>Done</b>