

South Carolina Horsemen's Council

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2015

Meeting was called to order by Tommy Doyle, President.

Bill Steele conducted the opening prayer.

Present: Tommy Doyle, Wanda Wood, Donna Patterson, Bill Steele, David Grant, Lellie Ward, Gary Biggerstaff, Kenny Mullis, Merry Roberson, Carl Cartwright, Kathy Fisher, Wendy Manos, Ben Doyle, Lisa Zappolo, and Marsha Hewitt, SCDA.

Absent: Adam Eichelberg, Jackie Twigg, Mike Kinsey, Kerrie Jane Taylor, Billie Joe Williamson, Pamela Worthy, Ed Scanlon, and Elizabeth Steed.

Handouts: Treasurer's Report, 2015 Proposed Budget, Committee chart, Board of Directors.

Tommy Doyle went over the rules of conduct. Changes to the agenda: no roles and no guests.

Wanda Wood conducted an exercise to remind everyone of their reason for being with the SCHC; Love of horses and to help horses. Wanda read a few of them.

Donna Patterson presented the Treasurer's Report.

Available operating funds at this time are \$22,317.24. There are \$1573.07 in restricted funds (Trails, STEP Grant, Horse Welfare).NETC account contains \$12,372.07. There was a discussion to move this over to the operating fund and ear marking \$3500 NETC. The Scholarship account contains, \$4,242.58.

Merry Roberson addressed the financial portion of the Horse Welfare. Big Oaks rescue has been our biggest recent expense. An additional \$600 has been added to the Horse Welfare account to help with the added costs. She clarified that this was a law enforcement seizure, and that the stallions are not adoptable until gelded.

Donna Patterson presented the proposed budget for 2015. Donna reports that we lost money on the 2015 Expo. Discussions followed regarding the proposed amounts. Donna pointed out that we were starting out with a negative budget of expenses \$13,520 and income \$10,500. However it reflected the bills we had paid and the ones that we are used to spending. Donna has allotted \$1000 for Horse Welfare, last year we spent \$2500 so we may need to come back and ask for more money. Lisa brought up that we are only showing \$350 for education which is what our 501©3 is based on. Donna explained that youth scholarship, 4-H, FFA, LNA and other programs also are educational. Donna said nobody has sent in any request other than Horse Health Welfare Chairman Betty Rankin said she would like to see \$2000 allotted for the Horse Welfare. Donna said she only put \$1000 due to our income. Discussion followed regarding this request. Kenny Mullis questioned as to whether the Kershaw grant for billboard

would be a one-time increase. This was confirmed. Donna did mention that there is a check that was sent but lost for the billboard. A stop payment has been processed on this check and it is being reissued and sent to the correct address.

Merry Roberson questioned whether \$350 was the amount for each District Event or total for all districts. Donna clarified that she kept the same amount as last year it is total for all. Donna said all we needed was a budget request. A motion was made by Merry Roberson to increase the amount to \$100 per district, totaling \$500. Gary Biggerstaff seconded. Motion was passed; no votes against.

Tommy stated that now would be the time to discuss increasing the Horse Welfare Budget. There was discussion about it by Gary, Merry and Lisa. It was decided in the end that they would try to operate within their budget. If there were additional funds needed then it would be decided on a case by case basis. At this point in time, there is a \$121.00 deficit to the Horse Welfare fund due to the Big Oaks rescue. Merry made a motion to increase the Horse Welfare Budget to \$1,500 for now. Gary Biggerstaff seconded it. Motion passed. Ben Doyle said that if you set a budget of \$1500 you are going to spend \$1500, but if you set \$1000 then you can always come back and ask for more but you are already thinking of spending a larger amount. The committee will still need to review each case presented to the Horse Welfare Committee. Donna said that will bring our budget to \$14,520.

Gary made a motion to accept the 2015 Budget. Wanda Wood seconded it. Motion passed; no votes against.

Wanda Wood informed the board that Taste of South Carolina would be on May 13, at the State House. Set up will be at 9 a.m. with event starting at 11 a.m. David Grant will be providing the chicken. Merry talked about the opportunity that is available to talk to others about the census. Wanda talked about the bookmarks that were used last year. Merry said that when she used her cards last year, she said that she got positive response on those. Merry Robeson offered copies of the 2004 census to anyone that is interested. Wanda Wood stated it was on the SCHC website. Volunteers were requested. The following volunteered to attend: Wanda Wood, David Grant, Ben Doyle, Ed Scanlon, Gary Biggerstaff, Donna Patterson, Wendy Manos, and Lisa Zappolo.

Wanda Wood informed the board that South Carolina Upstate Equine Council (SCUEC) will be holding an event at Clemson, on May 16 and 17, at 9 a.m. and SCHC will have a booth. Volunteers were requested. Wanda Wood, Carl Cartwright, and Lisa Zappolo volunteered. It was stated that Mike Kinsey might also be attending. Donna stated that it might not be necessary to stay for Sunday.

Wanda Wood stated that the committee lists have been updated on the website.

Wanda Wood stated that there would be an Expo Committee meeting on April 21 and invited all interested in joining the committee to attend.

Lisa Zappolo reintroduced topic from March 10, 2015 of Equine 4H, Youth Scholarship Committee being combined with Education Committee. Meeting minutes from Strategic Planning meeting of March 1, 2014 confirmed that a vote was taken to move the Youth Committee to the Education Committee. Since it was worded as Youth Committee not Equine 4H, Youth Scholarship Committee a **motion** was made by Lisa Zappolo to move the Equine 4H, Youth Scholarship Committee under the Education Committee. Members of the Equine 4H, Youth Scholarship Committee will be moved to the Education Committee. Ben Doyle seconded the motion. **Motion passed;** no votes against.

A discussion followed questioning the similarity between the Finance Committee and the Financial Review Committee. Donna Patterson explained that the Financial Review is conducted by an independent CPA. **A motion** was made by Gary Biggerstaff to eliminate the Financial Review Committee. Kathy Fisher seconded. **Motion passed**; none against.

Wanda Wood reported on Membership for Jackie Twigg. She reports close to 200 members. Wanda said we have one man join just to get a discount for a tractor. That members perks are working! Merry Roberson mentioned free admissions for members. Wanda Wood recommended that everyone look at the "Why to Join" page on the website to familiarize yourself with the discounts available to members.

Lisa Zappolo reported that the Education Committee is working on securing a location to have a 3 day clinic. Mike Kinsey has offered his services. The clinic would consist of: Day 1: behavioral analysis, Day 2: Round penning and groundwork, Day 3: Mounted control. A request was made for anyone with knowledge of a facility that is centrally located and can provide a covered arena, round pen, and parking for trailers, please notify the committee. Lellie Ward offered use of her facility.

The education committee is still requesting health care, training, pasture management, and general facts to be included on a "Did You Know" page to be added to the website. This page will continuously add new facts, once established. Please forward any information to the education committee.

Gary Biggerstaff reported for the Trails Committee. There is a list of seven locations that are being looked into. Tentative date for the second weekend in Oct. Projected to have a confirmation by July. There was a suggestion to possibly partner with The Manchester Trail Riders. Cost of the event is to be determined.

Tommy Doyle introduced the subject of the Policies, Procedures, and By-Laws Committee. Gary thanked the people who had already attended a meeting for the committee on March 24. There was discussion as to whether the committee had actually been voted upon. A review of previous meeting's recordings showed that there had not been a vote to form the committee. **A motion** was made by Gary Biggerstaff to form the committee. Carl Cartwright seconded. A discussion ensued regarding the purpose of the committee, and its goals. It was determined that it should recommend clear definitions for board positions, and committees, utilizing the by-laws and old meeting minutes in which votes were taken. **Motion passed**; none against. Gary stated that nothing from the Committee meeting on the 24th was to be released until a recommendation is approved to go before the board by the committee. Gary stated that information was sent out. Wanda Wood said that she had sent the meeting minutes to the members that were on the committee that all activities of the SCHC are transparent. We cannot have secret meetings. Gary also stated that nothing had been voted on at the March 24th meeting. Wanda said that votes had been taken but that it was understood anything voted on in that meeting would have to be brought before the board. Wanda had concerns that positions were being voted on to be changed. Merry informed the board that Adams Eichelberg position had been clarified.

Wanda Wood made **a motion** for all committee chairs to be on the above approved committee. Bill Steele seconded. Discussion ensued in which Gary Biggerstaff recommended that it be composed of volunteers, and not mandated to committee chairs. Donna Patterson said that due diligence should be exercised to contact committee chairs for input. Wanda retracted the **Motion**. Gary Biggerstaff will chair the committee, and Merry Roberson, Lisa Zappolo, Carl Cartwright, volunteered. Gary Biggerstaff invited Marsha Hewitt to join.

Tommy Doyle clarified that operations will continue based upon the current operating policies and by-laws. Nothing from the Policies and Procedures Committee would be in effect until brought before the board.

Wanda Wood reported that she is working on getting all minutes from 2007 forward onto the website.

Wanda Wood reported for Betty Rankin on the Horse Welfare Committee. 20 stallions have been gelded. There were no welfare calls from 1/1 – 4/14. She reminded everyone that the hotline is merely a conduit to the authorities.

Marsha Hewitt, SCDA Equine Specialist, reported that over the last month she has attended The Carolina Cup, Aiken Trails, a fundraiser for The Congaree Trust on private land, Gulf Coast charity event at Mullet Hall, and Manchester Trail Riders event with 125 people attending. She relayed that they had offered assistance for SCHC. The Congaree Trails in Cayce, is an on-going endeavor. Phil Tuten of Edisto wants to partner with SCHC to conduct a trail ride. He has 1600 acres with three sets of trails. She reports that the second covered arena at SCEP is complete. She will be attending the Ward Trail Ride, and attending the trials at Southern Eighths on May 2 & 3.

Carl Cartwright informed the board that he knows of a marketing specialist, who resides in Greenville, who would like to volunteer. She is a Strategic Leadership Coach.

Wendy Manos reports that the Murray Town Arena in Gilbert, SC will be reopening. She is also working with the Cook's Mountain Trails Development.

Tommy Doyle said that this is a period of growing pains for the organization, and that we need to push forward.

Merry Roberson stated that the 2015 Terms of Office are incorrect.

Donna Patterson suggested that the previous president remain on the board for guidance.

Gary Biggerstaff made a motion to adjourn; Carl Cartwright seconded.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Wanda Wood