

**SCHC Minutes – Board Meeting : August 18, 2022**

Agenda distributed by email prior to the meeting

7:00 Welcome  
7:05 Minutes  
7:10 Treasurer's Report  
7:15 Mongolian Report  
7:25 Promotion  
7:35 Removal of Shannon Hawkins - District 5  
7:40 Administrative  
7:55 Saddle Raffles  
8:05 Annual Meeting 2023  
8:15 Membership proposal  
8:25 New Business  
8:30 Adjourn

Lisa Zappolo called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Board members present physically: Sean Eastman, Dennis Moss, Tommy Doyle, Wanda Wood, M.J. Aylesworth, and Julia Fisher (Sec). Present via Go-To-Meeting: Guy Hannah (Treas), Merry Roberson, Sharon Dillard, Gary Bickerstaff, Vance Stine. Quorum was met.

Lisa reported communication with Ned Towell absent due to a family emergency, Kelly Cannon managing lessons and family issues, Tom Stearns undergoing medical procedures.

**Motions:** Lisa requested consideration of whether it was appropriate for the president to be putting forth issues and motions for a vote as Roberts' Rules of Order is ambiguous in deference to questions of the size of the organization. Vance made a motion to approve Lisa making motions. Wanda seconded. All votes in favor the motion passed.

Lisa made a motion to award Senator Katrina Shealy and Representative Russell Ott lifetime membership in the SCHC for their efforts to promote the equine industry in South Carolina. Guy seconded. All votes in favor, the motion passed. Merry questioned and was advised to add them to the current membership list as lifetime members. Lisa suggested that we might want to prepare plaques for them to display in their offices. Dennis Moss pointed out that both congresspersons have regularly opposed the feed bill which the Council has had on the table and been promoting for 15 years. This issue was tabled as time was not available to continue discussion during this meeting.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the July meeting are undergoing revisions and will be addressed by email when ready. Tommy offered a motion to that affect. Sean seconded. All votes in favor the motion passed.

**Treasurer's report :** Current balance = \$16,489. Guy will forward the excel file to Julia for attachment to the minutes.

**Mongolian Report :** Julia provided a synopsis of the Blue Wolf Totem Charity Ride experience from this summer. The 84-day trek concluded after traversing the entire

country from eastern borders with China, north to the Tsaatan reindeer herders on the Russian borders and finishing with the eagle hunters on the western border with Kazakhstan. The 3640 km / 2235 miles were ridden by 16 expeditionists selected from applications received from all over the world. The returning riders were awarded the Mongolian Medal of Honor by government dignitaries for their efforts on behalf of the Mongolian children. The group was able to raise close to \$120k to support the day care and school provided by the Children of the Peak Sanctuary.

**Promotion:** It as been suggested that the Council promote the Mongolian information via a 3-part interview with Julia conducted by Marsha Hewitt. The 3 approximately 10-minute interview segments will be uploaded onto YouTube. Everyone on the Board was requested to submit questions for the interview by September 1.

**Removal of Shannon Hawkins from District 5 :** On the basis of Shannon’s failure to pay membership dues and failure to attend two consecutive meetings, Shannon was asked for a response to removal. The written response from Shannon confirmed that he was not able to participate as he would like at this point. Wanda moved that we forego removal procedures and accept this email as a letter of resignation from the Board. Merry seconded. All votes in favor, the motion passed.

Guy voiced his concern that the above action was unnecessary as the ByLaws specify the conditions under which a Board member may be removed. Julia noted that the ByLaws provide the mechanism for a removal, but there is still a necessity of a formal action to effect the removal.

**Administrative:**

- 1) Please ‘Reply’ to the appropriate email not just ‘Reply All’.
- 2) Reminder that formal Minutes from a Board meeting should be sent out within 1 week of the meeting.
- 3) In spite of a call for volunteers at the last meeting, the ByLaws state that the President should select Directors for the Nominating Committee (for new Board Director elections). Lisa’s selections: Wanda Committee Chair for Nominating Committee, Kelly Cannon for Dist 1, Ned Towell for Dist 2, Dayle Eldridge for Dist 3, MJ Aylesworth for Dist 4, Tom Stearns for District 5. Gary cautioned against ignoring volunteers for work, when a number of Directors are spread very thin in their time, as the hope would be to accomplish our goals.
- 4) When postage increases are accounted for (for mailings – specifically the trails booklet), we’re losing significant funds through these mailings. Guy noted that we are also paying a significant fee to PayPal. As it is costing us \$3.00 for this mailing, we will raise the fee required on the website to \$3.00. It was suggested that we should be considering sending people a .pdf file for the trails information rather than mailing a booklet. Wanda agreed that this option will be posted on the website as an alternative to people looking for the booklet.

**Saddle Raffles:**

1) At a cost to SCHC of \$1200 Custom Saddlery of Aiken will provide a saddle for our raffle. This will include a custom fitter sent to the winner to measure the horse for the custom saddle – their website is: mysaddle.com We are getting the same deal on a western saddle from Leaning Oak Leather Craft. The Board previously voted to print only 100 tickets (in order to increase odds of ticket holders winning the prize) – to be sold for \$25 each. Julia moved to increase numbers of tickets printed to 150 and to reduce the price per ticket to \$20. This will result in greater revenue. Wanda and Guy both seconded the motion. All votes in favor the motion passed. For clarification: as there are 2 saddles there will be 2 separate drawings, 2 separate sets of different tickets and sales. There was discussion for discounts for multiple tickets purchased which was not well supported.

2) There was discussion regarding whether we print the tickets ourselves or have them professionally done. Professional printing was offered by Dennis Moss. Thank you, Dennis.

3) Dates and format for the Drawings was discussed. Lisa suggested November and simultaneous drawings for both saddles. Wanda moved to have a FaceBook Live drawing on Black Friday. Tommy seconded. All votes in favor, the motion passed. This means each director will be responsible for selling 8 tickets per saddle for a total of 16 tickets. It was clarified that members can buy tickets but Directors cannot. ALL relevant information will be sent to Directors as soon as available in order to facilitate sales and begin the promotion.

**Annual meeting 2023:** This will be the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Horse Council. The annual meeting planning is assigned to volunteers Kelly, Sharon, MJ, Julia, and Guy.

**Membership proposal:** Various suggestions were made previously regarding membership policies. They included raising dues and include liability sign with membership? The proposals need to be address with notes or comments sent by 8/29.

**State Fair:** (10/12-23) The weekend for the Scholarship competition is 10/14-16. Deadline for scholarship entries is 8/26. We need to share that information with any and all media to maximize entries. 10/14 is the scheduled interview with the entrants. Sharon Dillard volunteered to conduct the interviews (time to be advised). Saturday afternoon is the award of the scholarship itself. We need to have someone there to make the award. MJ, Guy, and Wanda agreed to attend. It was proposed that we set up a table for SCHC promotion for both Saturday and Sunday? Saturday has been the historical effort. We can sell raffle tickets on that Saturday. MJ, Guy, Merry, and Wanda volunteered to cover the table.

**New Business:** Lisa moved that all Directors should get a T-shirt for their service to the Council. MJ seconded. All votes in favor, the motion passed. Directors collected their T-shirt before leaving.

Liability signs present were distributed by directors. We will be holding them at our homes pending sale.

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**Adjourn:** Julia moved to adjourn. Guy seconded. All in favor, the motion passed and 8:35 pm the meeting was adjourned.