

SCHC Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, June, 2014 ~ 6.30 pm
Clemson Diagnostic Lab
500 Clemson Road
Columbia, SC

Members Present: William Bell, Carl Cartwright, Tommy Doyle, Dr. Adam Eichelberger, Kathy Fisher, David Grant, Sherri Hess, Marsha Hewitt, Mike Kinsey, Wendy Manos, Betty Rankin, Merry Roberson, Susan Sanders, Bill Steele, Kerrie Jane Taylor, Lellie Ward, Wanda Wood and Lisa Zappolo

Guests: Larry McKenzie, South Carolina Farm Bureau; Nance Bigford Jordan, Big Oaks Rescue Farm

Meeting was called to order by Bill Steele. Timekeeper: Susan Sanders; Gatekeeper: Lellie Ward; and Scribe: Wendy Manos.

Larry McKenzie, with **South Carolina Farm Bureau** presented information on the **SC Admissions Tax**. Mr. McKenzie advised that the best way to approach this tax was to comply with the law, pay any admission taxes due, develop a legislative agenda (time table) to present how SCHC feels about this tax and then present it to our legislators. We should be well organized, united in our feelings and have strong “bullet points” ready. We would need strong legislative “champions” in the Senate Finance and House Ways and Means Committees. Support could be garnered from other horse communities in the state as well as farming groups. An equine census indicating the economic impact of equine in South Carolina is a good idea, but if we wish to act against the Admissions Tax, we need to begin now and not wait on a census to be completed. It is effective to approach candidates while they are campaigning and securing a written statement of their feelings on the tax. It would be beneficial to develop a relationship with those who understand our feelings on the tax and support their campaigns. We would need good alliances with past records that reflect the person’s agreement with our goals. Our focus needs to be as narrow as possible. We should be aware of all costs and benefits to asking for a change in the Admissions Tax. To interest a campaigner or legislator, you must be able to show them the economic impact to their district.

For an item to be sponsored by SC Farm Bureau, it must originate with the individual county boards. Becoming a member of your county Farm Bureau and then contacting your county board is a good way to have your views known. SCFB offers a weekly email of pending legislation that could affect the agricultural community to members who request them. They are also available on their web site at: <http://www.scfb.org/policy-legislation/legislative-update>.

William Bell requested a review and clarification of the January 2014 minutes regarding the SC Admissions Tax. Carl Cartwright pointed out that we have to decide if we have the resource to either ask for an exemption of this tax for the equine events or let our feelings be known. Tommy Doyle, who is a Charleston County Farm Bureau Board Member, will follow up on this topic and report back at a future SCHC meeting.

Betty Rankin: A sign-up for committee members/chairs was circulated. An **ATAX** grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 has been received from Kershaw County. A grant in the amount of \$1,500.00 has also been received from the PRT. These grants will be used on a digital bill board on I77 in Charlotte, NC and a non-digital billboard between Aiken and North Augusta from January 15 through February 14, 2015. These bill boards will advertise our EXPO. A current **Guide for Committee Chairs and Members** and a **Presentation Procedure** were distributed.

Membership ~ Wanda Wood: Motion made, passed and approved to offer a One Million Dollar Liability insurance policy to our members at \$20.00 for an individual and \$40.00 for a family (SCHC costs, \$18.00 and \$39.00 respectively). This would be in addition to membership fees and is optional. Lifetime members will be contacted with this information. A link with Frequently Asked Questions will be distributed when the insurance is offered. Wanda is working on a membership packet for new members. We currently have over 200 memberships.

Trails ~ William Bell: The Trails Committee is working to determine when, where and during what season to host a SCHC ride.

Financial Report and Review: **Bill Steele** will email the treasurer's report. A CPA in Fort Mill will be performing a financial review of our records.

Electronic Media/Publications Advisory ~ Wanda Wood: Motion made, passed and approved that we do not charge for a member's link on our website for the remainder of 2014 and the entire year of 2015. Each member is allowed one link with a reciprocal requirement. Wanda will verify active memberships in January 2015 to insure all links belong to paid members. Motion made, passed and approved to give Taggert V Studios a Silver Sponsorship in exchange for the work performed for our web site design. Wanda does have an accounting for the hours provided by Taggert V Studios.

SCDA ~ Marsha Hewitt: Motion made, passed and approved to have Marsha register the SCHC as a group for a discount on the Annual American Heart Association Beach Ride. Marsha recently

submitted an article for SCBIZ. SCBIZ is the quarterly magazine serving senior level decision-makers across the entire state of South Carolina. Once the article is published in the July/August issue, copies will be made available to the SCHC.

<http://www.scbizmag.com/> An update was given on the Congaree Trails in Cayce, SC. Marsha reviewed the many activities she has been involved in on behalf of equine in South Carolina.

Guest **Nance Bickford Jordan** with **Big Oaks Rescue Farm**, Greenwood, asked that we allow a list of rescue links on our web site. The goal is to strengthen animal cruelty laws and enforcement in South Carolina. Motion made, passed and approved to review the links and make a decision at our next meeting. Wanda Wood will distribute the links to all Board Members. <http://www.bigoaksrescuefarm.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/BigOaksRescueFarm>

Merry Roberson requested to be on the agenda of the next SCHC meeting for EXPO.

ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	Assigned	Date Assigned	Target	Status
Admissions Tax	Tommy Doyle	6/10/2014		
SCHC Annual Trail Ride		6/10/2014		
Animal Abuse Links		6/10/2014		
Pursue a booth at "Gallop n' Grits"		4/8/2014	6/19/2014	
Publicity post card	Lisa Zappolo	4/8/2014		
Liability insurance for members	Wanda Wood	4/8/2014		
Partnership with SC Thoroughbred Association	Betty Rankin	4/8/2014		
Article for Carolina Trail Riders				

Respectfully Submitted,
 Wendy Manos - SCHC Secretary

Handouts: Presentation to Board procedures; SCHC Board of Directors Guide for Committee Chairs and Members; Gallop on Over postcard; South Carolina Farmer, Summer 2014 issue; Goal: Protect Equine and Other Animals in SC; SCHC Board of Directors Meeting Agenda; Guidelines for EXPO Venues and Frequently Asked Questions and Law Summaries.