

**SC Horsemen's Council
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2007
Dan Ramage Conference Center
Bluff Road, Columbia, SC**

Meeting Information

President Bobby Anderson called the monthly meeting to order. We were glad he was back after his brief illness.

Meeting began with Pres. Anderson welcoming everyone and making introductions. Jim Edwards led us in prayer.

Guests attending this meeting were Monica Fortin, the new SCHC administrative assistant, and former Treasurer and long time Board member, Wheeler Buff.

Members Present: Jim Edwards, Ellen Hutto, Cecil Watkins, Mary Quarles, Carol Deacon, Anthony Dyches, Linda Klein, Tim Sigmon, Rebecca Housley, Donna Patterson, Kaye Watkins, Bobby Anderson

Members absent: Chris Tyler, Ray Bishop, Ivory Johnson, John Conner, Lloyd Baxley, Nicole Cunningham

Minutes were mailed in advance of the meeting for everyone to review. President Anderson asked for any corrections and noted that the April 3 date on minutes was incorrect, and that it should be April 2. A motion was made by Jim Edwards to accept minutes with correction to the date. Donna Patterson seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as corrected.

Committee Reports

Financial:

A booklet that had been assembled by Monica Fortin and Bobby Anderson was given to board members of expenses and deposit amounts dating from December 2005 to present, including a copy of the SCHC Scholarship fund balance. Several questions were asked about the Scholarship Fund. Bobby will send out information to include qualifications to each member. Our checking account shows a balance of \$3263.29 and the scholarship fund balance is at \$2659.69. Monica indicates she has been working about 20 hours a week getting the records in order.

President Anderson informed us that the *Rowdy Girls* made a donation of \$450.00 to the SCHC several years ago to be earmarked for work on the Manchester State Forest Trails. They have requested this money be paid out for labor or equipment for a connector trail that is currently being worked on. Jim Edwards suggested that we get good documentation of expenditures for the SCHC records, as well as some publicity for the SCHC. Donna Patterson made the motion to pay out the \$450.00 that the *Rowdy Girls*

earmarked for the Manchester Trail upkeep. Jim Edwards seconded the motion. President Anderson agreed to coordinate the disbursement of these funds. There was no other discussion. Motion carried.

Legislation:

The Promotion Bill is still sitting in subcommittee, being held there by Marion Frye. Tim Sigmon has had conversations with David Branaham and Mary Ellen Tobias, who have expressed they are upset that members of the SCHC have been talking to legislature members about our desire to have free elections for the Promotional Board members vs the Agriculture Commissioner appointing them. Tim also talked with Laurie Funderburk, who requested a copy of the original bill that was agreed to by Farm Bureau, Dept of Ag and the SCHC that was supposed to have been submitted to the committee. Tim will get a copy to her. Marion Frye says that he will not bring up the Promotion Bill for consideration unless forced to. It is essentially dead for this year given the timing of legislative activity.

Bobby asked if anyone had heard anything about the bill submitted by Allan Clemmons concerning the DNR and Heritage Preservation land. No one had.

Membership:

Mary Quarles asked for more definition around how to perform her function as chairperson. Bobby said he would meet with her separately to review this with her and help her set up membership info, i.e., getting the applications, receiving applications and sending out membership cards.

Trails and Recreation:

Bobby Anderson gave Ray Bishop's report. Ray has met twice with *Friends of the Park* at Kings Mtn. He has been elected Vice President of this committee. He also met with the Park Director at Croft State Park. They have discussed the trails there and possibly getting a *Friends of the Park* committee for Croft.

Pres. Anderson brought up the idea of moving the annual SCHC ride to another location, due to the fall off of attendance recently by having it at Manchester and the corresponding lack of revenue generated from it. Cecil Watkins said he had been approached by Patsy Gowen, who leads an Endurance Riding group, about considering using Cooper Black as a site for a future Council ride. She said she will talk with her club and Kaye Watkins will talk with her club to see what the level of interest is in supporting the Council in this effort. Rebecca Housley suggested the Charleston area. Wheeler Buff suggested a possible date change. Currently it is the weekend before Thanksgiving. Cecil made a motion to seek out other locations and change from Manchester, Ellen Hutto seconded the motion. There was no other discussion and the motion carried. Anyone having any suggestions for ride location should gather more info and bring it to the next meeting.

Education: no report

Youth: no report

Show: Linda Klein said the barrel show would be May 26th. Kaye turned in \$400 in sponsorship money that she and Juanita Ardis had sold in the Hartsville area.

Annual Meeting: Ellen Hutto will be looking as to where to hold the meeting. She will be getting a subcommittee together to work on this.

Public Relations:

Bobby said he had not contacted Marsha Hewitt who was appointed to head this committee. Cecil has attempted to contact her, but she has not responded.

SETC:

Jim Edwards updated the Board on the conference plans to date. He gave a hand out on the meetings being held by this committee. Jim has been invited to attend and speak at a PRT Advisory committee meeting. Chris Prindle has worked and is working hard to help out with the conference. She has attended most of these meetings in the past and seems passionate about working on the 2008 conference. Jim made a motion that the SCHC pay her registration fees and hotel room for the conference in July 2007. A 2nd to the motion was made by Cecil. There was no discussion and the motion carried. It has been advised that as many as can, should attend the 2007 SETC in Knoxville, Tenn. July 19-21. Registration cost is \$125. Registration forms were passed out and need to be submitted by June 30, 2007. The Host hotel is the Crown Plaza and reservations must be made by June 18 in order to get a room guaranteed (1-800-4CROWNE). The more horse people that attend from South Carolina, the better prepared we will be to host the 2008 conference.

Old Business

Cecil is updating the web site on the Board names and addresses. He asked that everyone check what he sends out for accuracy and contact him with any changes. He also requested that anyone contact him with any info you want to be placed on the site. He is working to get SCHC Board member profiles on the web site, with a photo and some personal information about each member. A good many members have completed their profiles, but some are still pending. Cecil needs these in order for them to make it onto the Website.

New Business

Board Member Resignation - Bobby read a letter of resignation from Dr. Nicole Cunningham, Director at Large from Camden, stating that she feels she is unable to serve due to time constraints with other activities and also she thinks there is too much dissention on the board. Motion made by Pres. Anderson to accept this letter of resignation, 2nd was made by Kaye Watkins, there was no discussion and the motion carried.

SCHC Office Rent - President Bobby Anderson said that the Horse Council owes him back rent for the office he has supplied as a headquarters building that is located next to his business in Wedgefield. He said that since the SCHC office was moved from its

former location to his location, only a couple of rent payments have been made. No one on the current Board had ever been informed that we were supposed to be paying rent to him and there is nothing in the minutes from the past year. Donna Patterson asked if this was included in prior minutes. Wheeler Buff commented that he felt sure, although he could not confirm it, that the Board had agreed to this when the office was moved. Bobby stated that due to the financial problems the SCHC has been in he has not pursued the issue. However, now that things are going to be done by the letter, he wants it all done by the letter and get what is due him on past rent and electrical expenses. He said the council owed him \$160.00 per month. He said he would accept this beginning in December 2005, which amounted to \$2560.00. After much discussion and some concern expressed over the legitimacy of this request, Linda Klein made a motion to give Pres. Anderson the money. The motion was seconded by Ellen Hutto. There was a lot more discussion. With \$3263.29 balance in the bank and a \$450 payment due on behalf of the *Rowdy Girls*, the SCHC cannot afford to pay all at one time. Cecil amended the motion to pay $\frac{1}{2}$ within the next 30 days and in 3 months review our financial situation to see if we could make an additional $\frac{1}{4}$ payment and do the same in another 3 months to make the final $\frac{1}{4}$ payment. Donna Paterson 2nd the amendment. The amendment was voted on and passed. The original motion then passed as amended.

Youth Event - Linda Klein gave some information on a *Saturday for Kids* at the Carolina Cup Track, in Nov. from 10:00am – 3:30pm. More information will come. Hope Cooper is heading this up.

There was no further business so the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye Watkins
Secretary