

April 26, 2008 NYSHC Meeting

Meeting called to order by George King at 10:18 am.

Motion made by Sara Chevako to accept minutes with one spelling correction. Motion seconded by Bob Pfohl. Motion passed.

Steve Ropel presented Treasurer's report. Suggested we remove the account at Tompkins Trust for the NY 100 from our records since we do not have any control over it. This is a function we provide insurance coverage for but do not provide any financial support.

Motion made by Lynndee Kemmett to remove the account from our record keeping, seconded by Karen Lassell. Motion passed.

Steve reported that we are set with 2007 budget totals and he anticipates no big changes for this year's budget.

He suggested that an audit review be done, particularly when we change treasurers. He looked into an outside contractor and the cost would be ~\$3000.00 for an audit review.

The idea of having board members conduct the audit was proposed. Judy Dalton moved that the board review the treasurer's books for 2007 by the annual meeting. Seconded by Lynndee Kemmett. Motion passed.

Steve said that membership is down from last year at this time and there was discussion on methods for increasing membership.

Lynndee Kemmett moved to accept treasurer's report and Bob Pfohl seconded the motion. Motion passed.

George King discussed some financial requests. He reported that he had received and activated the newsletter software but due to some questions about addresses etc the bill had not yet been paid.

Fiona Farrell is putting together the American Horse conference in mid-June and would like to get a year's membership, T-shirt, and hat from the NYSHC to use in the silent auction. Steve Ropel moved to donate these items. Seconded by Sharon Slate. Motion passed.

Karin Bump has been asked to speak with the American Horse Council and USDA in Washington on unwanted horses. The cost to send her would be around \$1400.00 and she is asking NYSHC, among others, for assistance.

Bob Pfohl made a motion to give \$500.00 towards the cost. Lynndee Kemmett seconded the motion. Motion passed. Further discussion decided that if more money was needed we would hold an E-vote for further funding. The funds will come equally from the education account and the general (savings) account.

Chip Watson spoke to us about the possibility of providing some financial support for the Equine Rescue. Lynndee Kemmett moved we donate \$500.00 to Equine Rescue Resources, seconded by Shannon Budnik. Motion passed. Additional discussion was held to suggest ideas for fund raising.

Horse park news: There is a Wine Party with the Saratoga council members scheduled for April 29th. They are also looking at areas outside of Saratoga.

Horse show program report: Discussed need for results from NYSHC classes in ongoing shows. Also discussed several show offerings coming up. The Syracuse Sporthorse Tournament would like to have NYSHC represented with a full page ad and booth-\$1600 for both, \$650 for booth alone and \$1200 for just the ad. George suggested they send a packet to Bob Pfohl.

Bob Pfohl discussed the Empire Farm Days-August 5-7. We need a new display case preferably a trifold one that can be shipped. Discussion as to buying new, getting an old one donated, or perhaps borrowing one. Bob and Shannon will look into what is available, give the information to George and we will have an E-vote if needed.

Broke for lunch at 11:40 am.

Reconvened at 12:28 pm.

Sara Chevako gave an update on the Trail Report. All the first round grants are close to completion and the second round grants are starting work.

She also reported on the Parks meeting. The parks council has had a series of meetings to update progress on "GPSing" all trails. She also talked about the importance of being involved in the open space meetings.

Leah Leising spoke about the Ride and Drive program, including the proposed fees, tracking method (hours not miles), rewards and other aspects. Our hope is that this will increase awareness and activity among members and their horses. It will follow on a calendar year. She also discussed trying to find out about trail rides, hunter paces, etc in NYS and post the information on our website.

Legislative report: Hoping to get the Boarding facility and Farrier tax relief through this year. Other prospective legislation was discussed.

George reported results of the 2 e-votes held since last meeting- both passed. There will be at least one more e-vote in the coming months.

Shannon Budnik discussed having signs made like the NY Farm Bureau has. Bob and Janet Pfohl will work with her on this project.

Lynndee Kemmett passed out a draft of our brochure for members to look at. George will send out a copy via email so they can email Lynndee with comments and suggestions.

He is sending Lynndee the emergency responders document so she can adapt it for our use.

Sara brought up an equine emergency preparedness book done by Sharon and Gary Slate called "Hold Your Horses". Sharon will put together pricing information for a one time purchase for distribution to all our chapters.

Leah presented an update on the Wagon Train mentioning a grant they had received and the publicity they had generated.

Next meeting is annual meeting on September 27th in Chazy, NY.

No date set for Nov/Dec meeting yet.

Motion to adjourn by Janet Pfohl, seconded by Jim Leising.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Members in attendance: George King, Deb Morano, Teresa Passaretti, Steve Ropel, Charles Sawicki, Bob Pfohl, Karin Bump, Lelie Personell, Janet Pfohl, Jim Leising, Leah Leising, Judy Dalton, Karen Lassell, Sara Chevako, Sharon Young Slate, Gary Slate, Shannon Budnik, Chip Watson, Lynndee Kemmett, Heidi King, Jean Rhuda, Jean Arledge.