

DELAWARE EQUINE COUNCIL
MINUTES
August 20, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by President Stan Vonasek

Board Members

Present: Stan Vonasek, Ken Horeis, Tami Stevens, Pam Nebel, Kate Bowski, George Parris
Absent: Cyndi Vollmer, Julie Warrington

Secretary's Report (Pam Nebel) Minutes on the table and also available on the website at www.delawareequinecouncil.org

Treasurer's Report: (Tami Stevens)

Starting balance as of 7/16/18: \$30,617.92

Deposits: \$857.75 (License Plates, Newsletter Ads, Apparel Sales)

Deductions: \$816.49 (web software, inforailway web hosting, Corrections for Apparel, REACT Fundraiser booth fee, seed money for REACT fundraiser, HLU-Standardbred Makeover event)

Ending balance as of 8/20/18: \$30,659.18

Motion to accept Treasurer's report – George Parris first, Wayne Nebel second. Motion passed.

Dr. Amy Biddle, University of Delaware, joined the group tonight to discuss the USDA Higher Education Grant. This grant would assist students to help solve problems that need to be resolved within communities and organizations. Examples could be equine problems, drainage issues, fundraising for special projects and more. The grant pays for planning and each team would have a \$1k budget. Stan mentioned that DEC publishes an annual directory and would like to reach out to the northern population of the state. Dr. Biddle agrees that this could be a great project for the 2020 edition of the Directory. She is not sure when USDS will give an answer on the grant. DEC will hopefully be able to use the students' support even if the grant is not approved. We can handle mileage expenses for their travel, as they could reach out to the community to solicit advertisements.. Mary Bashtarz stated that it would be a good way to show their marketing skills. Stan mentioned that our goal is to have the Directory published and out for distribution in January. Dr. Biddle's classes begin on February 1, hence detailed assistance with this project would be for the 2020 edition, if, in fact, the grant is approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Redners Save a Tape Program (Tami) – We have met the \$5k mark for receipts. Tami has prepared the paperwork and will take to Redner's for processing.

Triple Crown/Legends POP Program – Bring in your POPs to Marie Johnson. DEC receives 25 cents for Legends and 30 cents for Triple Crown POPs.

Newsletter (Stan for Julie) – August/Sept edition is full of great articles. Julie included a note in each of the "mailed" newsletters asking if they would provide an email because the on-line version is NOW IN FULL COLOR and has bonus articles. This is great because it will save our volunteers the time spent in folding, tabbing, labeling and stamping some of the approximately 70 newsletters that are currently mailed through the post office.

Pam mentioned that volunteers are needed to distribute future newsletters. Locations include: TSC in Milford, Camden and Seaford, Southern States in Milford, Hudson's Southern States in Harrington, Millers Feed Store, T.G. Adams, Dover Saddlery and Maryland Consignment. Any tack store, feed store, veterinary office, and even to your farrier to give to his customers are all good places to distribute. Please be thinking about what areas you would like to make distributions and let Julie know at the September meeting.

Julie wants to thank Meredith Smith our first on-line member, who recently moved from Long Island, New York. Current members Dawn and Donna Mullins gave Meredith a copy of our newsletter so Meredith contacted Julie to see how she could get future copies.....hence a new member was born.

Stan mentioned that he has the State Fair results for the 4H competitions, along with four pictures provided by Susan Garey, and he will include that with an article about the event. He will also provide a comprehensive deer hunting on Sunday article for the Oct/Nov edition.

License Plates for Trailers (Stan) – Update as of 8/21/18 – The Governor is scheduled to sign the bill for approval of the trailer tags on Tuesday, August 28. Great news! One-time fee of \$50 for DEC's new license plate. \$35 goes to DEC and \$15 goes to DMV. Great program!

New Horse Owner Clinic (Ken) – Waiting to hear back from Susan Garey regarding use of the Extension Office near the DMV to hold this seminar. Tentative agenda is as follows:

Registration – 8:30am – 9:00am

Farrier discussion

Dr. Paul Hanebutt or Dr. Michele Egli – horse health

Susan Garey – Pasture Management

Brook Walls – Nutrient management (manure)

Nutrition – Ken or someone else

Ann Ogletree – Legal issues

Ronny Lloyd – Trailer maintenance and safety

Cost to be determined. Lunch will be provided. Date will be on a Saturday in October.

OLD BUSINESS

Sunday Hunting (Stan) – Sunday hunting was approved by overwhelming votes. DNREC has the authority now to determine use of private and public land for hunting. During the past two years, there have been five (5) Sundays designated for hunting. This has now increased to twenty-three (23) Sundays between September 1 and February 15. This increase is due to extensive crop damage by the deer population. Bow and cross-bow hunting will be allowed on all of the 23 Sundays. During the month of September, there is no other Sunday hunting allowed aside from archery. Pistol caliber rifles are now allowed during shotgun season. (Sun 10/1, Sun 11/2 and Sun Jan 1). Stan, Wayne and Pam attending the Sunday hunting hearing in Dover a few weeks ago. There was also a recent meeting in Gumboro.

The Tunnel Tract and the Long Tract are the only two tracts in Redden State Forest allowing Sunday hunting. There is no Sunday hunting at Blackbird State Forest.

Stan mentioned that during "rut season" in November, the highest harvest of deer occurs. He cautions everyone to just stay out of the woods. More detailed information will be in Stan's article in the Oct/Nov newsletter.

Autumn on the Brandywine Ride (Pam for Julie) – Date is Sept 15. Cost \$30 p/p.

Registration at 9am, Ride out at 10am. We have already received five (5) paid registrations and these people have been added to the membership database. Three new members from New Jersey and two from Milford.

Live entertainment has been secured with Kegan Nuss – a keyboard player and singer who has been blind since birth. He plays at area restaurants like 33 West in Dover where Julie has seen him in person and gave him a rave review. He will be accepting donations at the event. Any donations that do not add up to \$200 will be supplemented by DEC.

Working on getting donations to help offset the cost of food.

Ken received donations from Pepsi and will divide between the Brandywine event and Member Appreciation Day.

Each ride will be 1-1/2 to 2 hours long. Mary Everhart, Nancy Botella and Bev Barnett are mapping the routes to adjust to the different paces. The hunt pace will be walk/trot/canter and the leisure pace will be mostly walking. Each route will have picturesque views of the DuPont Estate “Granoque,” river crossings on the Brandywine through the National and State Park land. Wayne has created an Event Page on Facebook that has all the information regarding the event. There is no limit on riders. There are enough trail guides lined up for more than two trails with guides being in the front and rear.

Ice cream will be donated by the UD Agriculture Department from the University of Delaware Creamery! 1st State Cobbler, Delaware River Mud Pie and more!!

Member Appreciation Day Ride or Drive (Stan) – Date is Sunday, September 30 at Redden Forest Headquarters. Members are free but can renew their membership for \$15. \$15 for all non-members which gives them a one year membership. Catering by Shorty. This will be our sixth (6) event, all of which have been super successful. There are two loops, one is approx. 2 hours (at a walk) and the other is approx. 1-1/2 hours (at a walk). Registration starts at 9:00. Ride out at 10:00 (or following registration) and lunch at noon. This is not a guided trail ride. Ride at your own pace and enjoy the scenery.

AHC Convention in Arizona (Stan) – Stan had previously asked if anyone was interested in attending the upcoming AHC convention in Arizona. There were no takers, so Stan and Laurie will be attending the convention. Cost for two registration fees is \$250 (\$125 each). Stan asked if anyone was opposed to DEC paying for the registration fees. George made a motion to pay for the registration fees. Wayne seconded. Motion approved. Wayne mentioned that one of the best parts of attending these conferences is to network with other horse councils. He and Stan attended a conference in Wisconsin a few years ago and were very impressed with the program.

Directory Coordinator (Stan) – Ken has agreed to handle the Directory again this year. A committee including Stan, Elrita, Rose and George has been formed to assist him.

NEW BUSINESS

Killen’s Pond Healthy Kids Day (Stan) – October 17 from 10am – 1:30pm This event was previously held at Trap Pond for many years. It has relocated to Killen’s Pond . Approximately 500 4th and 5th graders come to the park for a day of outdoor activity and education. There are approximately 15 stations (booths) whereby 20 minute presentations are given by various organizations at the stations. DEC participated in this for several years, but stopped a few years ago due to it being very time consuming for volunteers. If you are interested in setting up the DEC booth please let Stan know asap.

State 4H Awards (Stan) – Stan remarked that the director chairs donated by DEC for the awards program were of outstanding quality. He was really impressed. He also mentioned that the event had record attendance this year. He feels that DEC should get more involved with 4H this year. Elrita Annett is the contact person. Stan also asked members if he could be

reimbursed \$18 for the admission to the Fair in order to participate in the awards ceremony. Ken made a motion to reimburse Stan. Pam seconded. Motion passed.

Website Upgrade (Mark Stevens) – Awesome job, Mark! I'm speechless!. Mark made a presentation on the new and improved website (still in progress) for DEC. Webmaster ownership has been transferred to him from Doug Kerr, our former webmaster. Many thanks to Doug for taking care of us for the past several years. Too much detail to go into, but keep your eye on the new website. You are in for some nice surprises. On-line memberships are upgraded, programming is complete for forwarding email and data retrieval, and much, much more. Thanks so much Mark for agreeing to revamp our website and be our webmaster. We'll have the best website of all the horse councils!

BEMER System (Jerry Daub, Rose Lawson) – Jerry and Rose did a presentation of the BEMER System, which is a German system FDA approved both for horse and rider. The BEMER vet horse blanket is the solution for large-area applications. The blanket generates the BEMER signal field that encompasses and permeates your animal. The small, yet extremely efficient, signal control module is optimally placed for simple usage and contains a high quality battery for applications. The BEMER chair is the same concept. Treatments are 8 minutes. Jerry and Rose will come to your home for a free treatment and consultation. Demos can be watched on YouTube. See advertisement on page 4 of the Delaware Equine News Aug/Sept edition..

Motion to adjourn made by Kay. Seconded by Connie.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next meeting September 17, 2018

Minutes submitted by Secretary Pam Nebel.