

**DELAWARE EQUINE COUNCIL
MINUTES
February 20, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by President Stan Vonasek.

Board Members

Present: Stan Vonasek, Ken Horeis, Tami Stevens, Pam Nebel, Julie Warrington, George Parris, Cyndi Vollmer, Wendy Lippincott

Absent: Dr. Christina Dayton

Secretary's Report: (Pam Nebel) January 2017 minutes are available on the back table and also on the DEC website at www.delawareequinecouncil.org.

Treasurer's Report: (Tami Stevens)

Starting balance as of 1/16/17: **\$31,244.82**

Deposits: \$3,320.00 (dues, directory ads, reimbursement from DECF for fire house rental)

Deductions: \$873.67 (Kathy for ink, liability insurance, franchise tax, Equisure, American Lung Assoc donation for Peter Schwartz, PayPal fees)

Ending balance as of 2/20/17: **\$33,691.15.**

George Parris motioned to pay all bills. It was seconded by Connie Lundquist and passed.

Stan confirmed that we split the fire house donation between DEC and DECF.

There were a couple new faces in the group tonight so we went around the room and introduced ourselves. Thank you to the new folks attending the meeting. We hope you enjoyed it and will come back to join us again.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Directory (Ken): The 2017 Directories are here and they look great. Front cover picture is from Jennifer Wilson, winner of the Directory Photo Contest. Please pick up Directories from the back table and distribute accordingly. People have been asking about them and are anxious to receive them.

Ken reported that this year's net income from the Directory was \$3,899 compared to last year's net income of \$4,484. We received 8 new ads, but lost 21 previous ads. He feels that perhaps some advertisers may feel that they are not receiving any new business from the ads and have decided not to continue with them. It is important that the businesses know that their ads are being seen and are helping to direct business to them. Ken said to be sure to tell any businesses that you use for services that you saw their ad in the Directory.

Julie Warrington reported that she recently received an estimate for services from Ready Building (Back Cover ad) whereby she told them she heard about them from their ad in the Directory. They gave her special pricing,

We saved money with printing this year. Economy Printing gave a quote of \$4,296 compared to Associates International's quote of \$5,500 for printing the Directories.

Southern State Proof of Purchase (Marie): Lots of proof of purchases came in tonight. Marie has approximately 400 at home which would bring a cash total of \$100 so far.

Scholarship Applications (Stan): We received 12 applicants this year. The scholarship selection committee selected five students to be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship at the awards dinner on March 4. Those five people are: Katherine Babiarz, University of Delaware; Kacie Minner, University of Georgia College of Veterinary Medicine; Anthony Holowka, University of Delaware; Rebecca Daisey-Justice, Delaware Tech & Community College; and Kimberly Hildreth, University of Delaware. Congratulations to all!

Scholarship Awards Dinner (Wendy): Wendy reported that we have currently received \$1,624 in committed sponsorships. She informed us of the many great items to be auctioned off at the silent and live auctions at the ceremony. Chick's Saddlery is once again supplying all the door prizes. Many thanks to Chick's for their continued support. Also, please keep in mind that tickets to the dinner can be purchased thru PayPal on the DEC website at www.delawareequinecouncil.org.

OLD BUSINESS

License Plate Design Contest (Stan): We received eight submittals which are still in the review stage. Wayne will contact DMV to get specifics of what the requirements are for plates i.e., coloring, sizing, display of state name, etc. Following that, a decision on design can be made.

Equisure Excess Liability Renewal (Stan): Insurance renewals are as follows: Individual \$25 Family \$40 Stan collects checks from participating members and forwards a DEC check to the insurance company. Participating members will receive insurance certificates via email.

Clinic with Sonny Garguilo (Pam): Pam briefed members on Sonny's bio and on his clinic presentation. Also, as requested at the previous meeting, Pam contacted Sonny regarding whether or not there are auditing fees for the clinic and can DEC collect them. Sonny's auditing fees are usually \$30 per person and those fees go to the hosting facility unless something else is worked out. Joan Siler mentioned that the \$30 is a going rate for auditing fees and that they, in fact, are normally given to the hosting facility. Discussion continued regarding a host farm for the clinic. Ken has an idea, but if that does not come to fruition we will need suggestions. Wendy mentioned Heartland Equestrian Center and Joan mentioned Gamblers Choice. Both of which will require a fee. This topic is tabled until a location is found.

TEC/DEC Poker Run (Julie): Julie reported that the committee has bumped up the obstacles to approximately 18-20 for this year's event. Cost for TEC/DEC members is Adults \$25, Children 18 and under \$15, Family up to four \$50. Cost for non-members is Adults \$30, Youth 18 and under \$20 and Family up to four \$60. PRE-REGISTRATION BONUS – PAY BY APRIL 16 AND DEDUCT \$5 FROM THE ABOVE NOTED PRICES. A hot lunch, dessert and

drinks is included in cost. There will also be a Chinese auction and a 50/50 raffle. Come join us at Tuckahoe Equestrian Center on Sunday, April 23. Registration begins at 9:00. Last rider out at 11:00. Poker hand must be turned in by noon. Poker hands can be collected regardless of completing obstacles but you must ride the course to receive one. You can register via PayPal on the DEC website at www.delawareequinecouncil.org. See the welcome page to click link to Poker Run on the News/Events page.

NEW BUSINESS

4H Horse Bowl (Wendy): Date is March 11. Location is Lakeforest North Elementary School. Do we want to set up a DEC table like last year. Ken noted that there were no new members gained at the event from setting up the table last year. Very little interest. If you are interested in setting up a table, please contact Wendy at info@dustychapsfarm.com or 632-9733.

Delaware Quarter Horse Association Donation Request (Ken): DQHA shows will be starting soon. They are requested a sponsorship from DEC. Discussion included the fact that they are not members of DEC nor do they advertise in the Directory. Stan reiterated that DEC is here to promote protect and enhance the keeping of equine in the state and it is not limited to members only. George Parris made a motion to sponsor with a \$100 donation. It was seconded by Wendy and passed, albeit with one against and one abstained. Wayne is drafting a letter to DQHA to include with our sponsorship in order to encourage them to become a member of our organization.

Redden Forest Jester Tract Closure (Stan): Stan mentioned that the State has closed the parking lot and pavilion at the Jester Tract indefinitely due to suspicious activity taking place in the area. You can still ride in the park, but cannot park in that lot nor be anywhere near the pavilion. That area is completely off-limits. The actual article is posted on DEC's Facebook page. Stan will contact Junior at Redden Headquarters to see if there is any possibility that horse trailers could be parked in the Jester lot during the day. May riders use this lot to park for trail riding in the park.

Kentucky Horse Council (Stan): Amanda Woodall (former DEC Board Member who moved to Kentucky) recently sent a Kentucky Horse Council newsletter to Julie showing some great programs and activities they are involved in. They have organized a geld program and a euthanasia assistance program. The KHC has approximately 20-40 directors and at least 2 paid employees. Stan and Ken agreed that more research on both these efforts could be done to see if either one would be something that DEC could possibly offer.

MISCELLANEOUS

Joan Siler will set up a DEC table at the upcoming Hearts for Tiffany Horse Show fundraiser being held at Gambler's Choice Equestrian Center on Sunday, February 26.

Pam reported that Karen Kershaw passed away on January 30. A card was passed around for signature and will be sent to Karen's family. Karen was a long-time member and supporter of

DEC and will be missed by many. A Karen Kershaw Memorial Scholarship will be awarded at the upcoming DECF Scholarship Awards Dinner/Fundraiser on March 4.

DEC received a thank you letter from the American Lung Association for the \$100 donation made in memory of Peter Schwartz who recently passed away. Peter was the husband of Kim Schwartz, previous long-time Treasurer of DEC.

Tami reported that Compassionate Hearts Inc. , a 501(c) (3) organization offering hope and healing through horses, is having a quarter auction on March 31 at 6pm at the Lincoln Community Hall, 18869 Washington Street, Lincoln, DE. All proceeds will provide equine assisted programs for our local military and their families. Happy Horses 4H will provide refreshments. Peruse the silent auction from 7pm to 9pm and see Carhartt jackets, decorative cutting boards, gym membership, wood duck box, SPA items, local art, jewelry, designer purse and more. www.compassionatehearts.us

First paddle \$5.00, additional paddles \$3.00.

Contact Tami if you are interested.....815-252-8367 or imahorse1@gmail.com

Motion to adjourn was made by Kay Mildon and seconded by Connie Lundquist.

Next Meeting: March 20, 2017 at the Harrington Fire Hall

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Pam Nebel