

Delaware Equine Council Meeting
Monday, August 21, 2023 7pm
Houston Fire Hall
143 Broad St., Houston, DE 19954

Call to Order- Ken Horeis

Pledge of Allegiance-Stan Vonasek

Treasurer's Report- Kaitie Spencer

Beginning Balance-	<u>\$39,156.42</u>
Deposits-	<u>\$ 3,558.00</u>
Expenses-	<u>\$ 467.30</u>
Ending Balance-	<u>\$42,247.12</u>

The treasurer's report was approved and seconded by Wayne and Pam Nebel.

I. Introductions -Ken Horeis

II. Speaker: Sgt. Alison Meadows and Cpl. Andrew Jones of the Delaware State Police Mounted Patrol Unit

- A. The Mounted Patrol is utilized for patrol, crowd management, search and rescue and parades and community awareness. They have transitioned from thoroughbreds and quarter horses to draft and draft cross horses. The horses have to pass extensive tests and assessments to be brought into training for the police. The sheer size of their horses, between 16 and 18 hands, are an immediate intimidation to someone. They choose horses that are 3 to 10 years old, because it takes two to three years to get these horses reliably trained for their job. There are many considerations that go into bringing a horse into training. These horses have to be able to work 8 to 12 hour shifts just like their trooper riders. Sgt. Meadows discussed all the different jobs their unit covers. Some of the more memorable situations was the crowd management during the riots of 2020-2021. Standing the line, moving people, marching, noise, and projectiles are all things that the horses must be able to tolerate. The horses are all given badges and afforded all the respect that any trooper is given. If you hit one of their horses, you can be arrested for striking a police officer.
- B. The DEC Board asked if there was any equipment that DEC could donate toward to help their unit be safer or more effective at their job. Sgt. Meadows said they really appreciated that and she would be in touch with Ken.
- C. Stan also invited them to attend Annual Member Appreciation Day on September 24th.

III. Old Business

A. Personal Liability Insurance-Stan Vonasek

- 1. Excess insurance of 1 million for an individual for \$25 or family for \$50 for calendar year

B. Rescue Equipment Fundraiser update-Ken Horeis

- 1. Donation from Taylor Messick John Deere for \$200
- 2. Donation from Delaware Horseman's Association for \$250
- 3. Donation from Bridgeville Mustangs Club for \$337.00 after selling hotdogs at Tractor Supply

C. 2023 Horse Show Series update-Joan Greenberg

- 1. **SHOW LOCATION-Paradice Equestrian LLC., 26632 Equistar Dr., Milton DE 19968**

2. Joan asked for approval to give volunteers a voucher for \$6 for lunch-all agreed that was a good idea
3. **Post meeting update**
 - a. The September 9th show was well attended
 - b. Next shows are **October 8th** with double points and **October 15th** for the rescheduled July show. Year-end awards will be distributed then.

D. DEC Youth Update-Amy Dietz

1. Amy wondered if the group could make donations to needy/aged people for veterinary needs
 - a. Concern that the Youth group would not have the ability to assess true financial need. The DEC has the EEAP program in place to receive applications for need assistance
 - b. Tabled for next meeting

IV. New Business

A. Member Appreciation Day Ride, drive and luncheon-Stan Vonasek

1. **Sunday, September 24, 2023**
2. Edit flyer and post on Facebook and website
 - a. Dave Hobday will do that
 - b. RSVP's made to Stan via email or phone and Pam Nebel via email or text

B. Quarter Auction-Ken for Kate Bowski

1. October 1, 2023 at the Moose Lodge in Harrington
2. Donations are being accepted for \$5 and up
3. Proceeds goes toward the Purchase of Large Animal Rescue Equipment

C. SDTR request-Ken Horeis

1. DEC received a donation request via mail for SDTR's annual Barn Dance
 - a. Stan noted that he had promised not to bring this event to the Council after the Derby Day donation request was granted
 - b. The membership agreed that one donation per year was a good guideline to establish.
 - c. The request for donation to the Barn Dance was declined

Move to Adjourn-next meeting is Monday, September 18th at 7pm at The Houston Fire Hall