

Delaware Equine Council Minutes
Monday, January 15, 2024 7pm
Houston Fire Hall
143 Broad St., Houston, DE 19954

Call to Order- Ken Horeis

Pledge of Allegiance-Stan Vonasek

Minutes of Previous Meeting-Available on the website

- A. Motion by Jill Borowski and 2nd by Neal Greenberg to accept the minutes from the November meeting-vote: all voted yes, passed

Treasurer's Report- Kaitie Spencer

Beginning Balance-\$33,197.24

Deposits- \$ 705.00

Expenses- \$ 897.06

Ending Balance- \$33,005.18 as of Dec. 31st

Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Kate Bowski and 2nd by Wayne Nebel, all agreed to the motion, passed.

I. Introductions -Ken Horeis

- A. New attendee-Heather Glinski welcomed and Kelly Sault was welcomed back
B. Ken reviewed the special Board Meeting held in December
1. A special Bylaws Committee was formed with: Stan Vonasek, Kaitie Spencer, Kate Bowski, Dave and Gwen Hobday-they met in the beginning of January
2. Pam Nebel took minutes of the Board meeting

II. Old Business

A. 2024 Directory Update-Julie Warrington

1. Thank you to all who helped secure ads for the directory
a. Stan who got SDTR, Dave Wilson's Royal Acres and Coastal Equine & Livestock Supply
b. Ken who got Curry Farms, Delaware Certified and Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association, Diamond State Pole Builders, Cokesbury Veterinary Service and Delridge Farms
c. Dave and Gwen who secured Laurel Saddle Friends and Amy Dietz who got Provincial Construction
2. We have a great list of new ads for Commercial members: Black Bottom Builders, Yoder's Floor Coating, Shades of Bay Blanket Service, Pole Building Outfitters, Mount Harmon Wicomico Hunt Point to Point, American National Insurance/Terri Ford, Courageous Hearts, LLC, Lynch Horsemanship, Wesbanco Mortgage/Laura Vest and Origami Stables
3. Preliminary estimates are gross profit over \$10,000 with an expense estimate of \$5,000. Net should be over \$5,000. Waiting to finish the collection of all outstandings.
4. Final report in February

B. Quarter Auction update-Kate Bowski

1. Gross profit of \$1,782.31 with a total expense of \$700.00 leaving a Net Profit of \$1,082.31
2. Successful event-Monies go toward the Large Animal Rescue Equipment

C. Sunshine Friends- Pam Nebel/Joan Greenberg

1. Card and Stuffed Horse was taken to Elrita Annett
2. Discussion on budget for the year
 - a. \$200.00-Kaitie will add it to the budget
3. Submit any congratulations/sympathy/ get well names to Pam and/or Joan
 - a. Card will be brought to meeting for signatures, then sent to recipient

D. 2024 Horseshow Series-Joan and Neal Greenberg

1. Dates- April 28th, May 12th, Sept. 8^{th**}, Oct. 6th (** dbl points)
 2. Location: Origami Stables- rain or shine
 3. Meredith Smith is getting sponsors
 - a. Some awards will be saved as end of year awards
 - 1.) Equi Fit saddle pads
 - 2.) Polo wraps
 4. Joan has put a deposit down at the Moose Lodge for end of year awards on October 19, 2024
 5. Joan wondered about providing volunteers with a DEC Polo shirt for working
 - a. Budget for 24 shirts at \$25 or less each
 - 1.) Gwen suggested that whatever is ordered shouldn't come out of the Horseshow budget because they can be used at other volunteer activities
 - 2.) Jill Borowski will work with Brooke Baker to see what apparel is out there appropriate for volunteers
- 3.) Post meeting update**
- a.) Jill found vests that can be screen printed-easier to turn back in at the end of the day than a shirt
 - b.) Jill will give update at February meeting

E. "A Judges Point of View" Clinic -Joan Greenberg

1. Date: Saturday, April 6, 2024
2. Location: Origami Stables
3. Judge: Meredith Smith-20+ years experience
4. Cost: \$45 per horse/rider
 - a. \$15 to Origami. \$15 to judge, \$15 to DEC
6. Auditing fee: \$20
7. Kaitie indicated the clinic would be covered under our existing liability insurance as it covers 8 events per year

F. Investment of Excess Monies-Stan Vonasek

1. M & T Bank has "Market Advantage" program
 - a. 4 ½% interest
 - b. No fee for withdrawl or deposit
 - c. Stan gave an example that for every \$5,000, earn \$20 per month
 - d. Stan motioned that DEC should invest \$20,000 toward Market Advantage, 2nd by Neal, vote: all yes, passed

G. Speakers & Other Activities-Ken Horeis

1. Stan is in contact with a CPA from Maryland who can speak to tax concerns
 - a. She lives 3 hours away, suggested it would be good to do a ZOOM meeting
 - b. Kaitie did an internet "speed test"- should be ok for Zoom meeting
 - c. Suggest making the February meeting a Zoom meeting to check for issues

H. 2024 Proposed Budget-Kaitie Spencer

1. \$24,214.00 estimated budget
2. Add in \$200 for Sunshine and \$600 for volunteer apparel
3. Note: Professional services of \$1,000 have been added to the budget
 - a. This would cover Tammy Shorts invoicing her services and any other that come up during the year
4. Stan motioned to accept the proposed budget, Neal 2nd , vote: all yes, passed

I. Personal Liability Insurance-Stan Vonasek

1. \$1 Million in access liability insurance for \$25/individual or \$50/family
2. see Stan after meeting

J. Scholarship Dinner-Kate Bowski/Wayne Nebel

1. Saturday, March 30, 2024 at the Harrington Moose Lodge
2. Meeting to follow DEC meeting for anyone interested in volunteering
 - a. Julie and Kaitie asked to be assigned a job as they couldn't stay for meeting

III. New Business

A. By-Laws Committee Review-Kate Bowski/Kaitie Spencer

1. Kaitie reviewed changes marked in yellow
 - a. Biggest changes are that February and August will now be Board meeting only
 - 1.) Closed for Board of Directors only unless by special invitation
 - b. Board of Directors' membership fee is covered for the years they serve
 - c. Board business can be conducted via electronic means as long as quorum is met and report of all vote tallies
2. Changes in Standing Rules
 - a. Membership applications should be filled out and dues paid to be considered as current
 - b. Strike "May purchase ads in newsletter at a reduced rate" from all membership benefits as there is currently no charge for members
 - c. Budgeted donations do not have to submit a formal request

A. Other

1. It was reported that Anna Klump from the Delmarva Driving Club and Scott Nichol, who was an avid breeder and trainer of Standardbreds have passed away.

Move to Adjourn-next meeting is Monday, February 19th at 7pm at The Houston Fire Hall