

Delaware Equine Council Minutes
Monday, July 15, 2024 @ 7pm
at
Southern Delaware Therapeutic Riding

Call to Order- Ken Horeis

Pledge of Allegiance-Neal Greenberg

Approval of May Minutes-Motion to approve minutes made by Neal Greenberg and 2nd by Brooke Baker
vote: all approved

Treasurer's Report- Kaitie Spencer	Beginning Balance-	<u>\$ 9,758.11</u>	(5/1/24)
	Deposits-	<u>\$ 2,224.53</u>	
	Expenses-	<u>\$ 2,849.55</u>	
	Ending Balance-	<u>\$ 9,133.09</u>	(6/30/24)
	Investment Account Balance-	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	

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

I. Introductions -Ken Horeis

- A. Welcome to Courtney Gorham, Jackie Watson and Bex and Jeff Baughman of Courageous Hearts

II. SDTR Presentation- Jo Allegro-Smith and Kelly Boyer

- A. A very informative power point presentation was made including the many ways their program helps the disabled community both youth and adults:
 - 1. Increased self-image and self esteem
 - 2. Independence and self-confidence
 - 3. Increased mobility and balance
 - 4. Communication skills
 - a. They have 135 volunteers
 - b. Groups include:
 - 1.) Barn Sparklers - Facility maintenance
 - 2.) Horse Care
 - 3.) Lesson -side walkers and equine leaders
 - 5. They pay special attention to making sure their horses are happy in their job -Christine Niblett has taken a role with Natural Horsemanship to train the horses to understand their role. All horses are taken on a 90 day trial
 - 6. Many fundraising events and grant writing enable them to financially support their program
 - 7. They also collaborate with the University of Delaware's "Equine Therapeutics Certificate Program" for PATH certification
- B. A demonstration of their newly purchased LIFT with the help of Holly Vigilante and Calypso, owned by Stan and Laurie Vonasek, who lend her to SDTR, to show how the lift is used safely and efficiently to transfer a wheelchaired bound client to the horse.

III. Old Business

A. Horseshow Series update-Joan and Neal Greenberg

- 1. Income generated to date is \$3,370. Expenses so far is \$1,565 leaving a Net Profit to date of \$1,804.50.

2. Next shows are scheduled for:
 - a. Sunday, September 8th (double points)
 - b. Sunday, October 6th
 - c. Joan will need volunteers for the show and for set up the day before
3. The End of Year Awards Banquet will be held at the Harrington Moose Lodge on November 2, 2024
 - a. Dinner
 - b. Awards
 - c. Chinese Auction
 - d. Ticket prices have not been set yet

B. **Sunshine Friends**-Sympathy card was sent to Mark Davis' family. Mark, who passed recently, was an active member of AMBA

C. **Trade School Scholarship-Stan Vonasek**

1. Committee -Wayne Nebel, Neal Greenberg, Phoebe Drury, and Stan
2. DEC will provide a \$1,500 scholarship beginning in 2025
3. Application Deadline for both Trade and College Scholarship will be December 1st
 - a. The UD "Equine Therapeutics Certificate Program" will also qualify

IV. New Business

A. **Expedite Minutes approval and Posting on Website**

1. Due to our reduced general meeting dates, there was concern that minutes are not available until after any timely information has been shared in them
2. Julie suggested having the Board review the minutes via email, then post on the website for public review, then have official approval at the next general meeting.
3. Phoebe Drury motioned and Brooke Baker 2nd to have minutes reviewed via email, then posted for the public, then formal approval at the next general meeting. Vote: All approved the change in order to get the minutes out in a timely fashion-motion passed.

B. Jackie Watson, an Animal Behaviorist, spoke to her interest in being a meeting speaker

1. She has spent many years gaining her certification including training at the UPenn New Bolton Center. She also has her Masters in Animal Science and a degree in psychology
 - a. One of the valued behaviors are "Procedure Compliance" for Veterinary Care
2. Ken asked her to email a list of the equine behaviors that she can assist in improving or correcting.
 - a. Julie provided her email to Jackie
3. Julie suggested it might be nice to have a hands-on meeting held at a participating facility. Courageous Hearts may be an option

V. Move to Adjourn-next meeting is **Monday, September 9, 2024** at 7pm at the Houston Firehall