



MISSOULA HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL

STEWARDS OF THE MISSOULA EQUESTRIAN PARK

MISSOULA HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL BOARD MEETING August 12, 2014, 7 p.m. Missoula County Extension Conference Room

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Patterson at 7:20 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Jeff Patterson, Eunice Misbe, Cindy Arnott, Colleen Harrison, Val Knudsen, Jake Kolb, Lynn Thee, Erika Scofield, Vicki Balfour (new Treasurer).

Absent: Carolyn Quinn (excused), Rachel Ambrose (excused), Sheila Mealey (excused), Kim Stickler (excused).

Unexcused: None

Guests: Susan Mayer, Marjorie Harper, Bill Bucher

MINUTES: Minutes from the July 1, 2014 meeting were previously electronically distributed by Eunice for review prior to the meeting. There were no additions or corrections. Erika made a motion and Val seconded the motion to approve the minutes as presented. All approved, motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer's Report was previously electronically distributed by Eunice for review prior to the meeting. There were no additions or corrections. Val made a motion and Erika seconded the motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. All approved, motion carried.

- **Decision on new treasurer:** Vicki Balfour has assumed the office of treasurer. She and Eunice have met and the records have been turned over to Vicki. Eunice will be available to answer questions during the transition.

Vicki inquired about MHC purchasing the Mac version of QuickBooks since Eunice's version is PC platform. There has been discussion in the past about **purchasing a laptop** for use in scoring/bookkeeping at MHC Board-sponsored events, and a possibility would be to purchase a laptop for use by Vicki and the event bookkeepers. Cindy will look for computer and software costs at the UM store with a maximum of \$600. With school starting soon, other retailers may also have good deals.

- **Steve Buckman deposit** – Discussed whether or not the \$1,000 deposit paid to Steve should be returned to MHC until there is a plan in place for the jumps. In light of the ongoing lease issues, it may be unlikely new jumps will be approved until the new lease is finalized. The \$1,000 could be applied for jump repairs and jump maintenance instead if there will not be new construction this year.

Consensus was to ask Drue to contact Steve and discuss:

1. How much needed repairs and maintenance would cost and provide an estimate of his labor for the presentation at the next Board meeting.
 2. Travel cost to Missoula
 3. Steve would also need to provide a materials list so those items can be estimated and included in the report to the Board next meeting.
 4. Also need to ask Steve if maintenance must be done by a certified jump builder.
 5. Drue will inform Steve which jumps need repairs and maintenance and provide him with pictures, if necessary.
- Eunice has accepted the appointment as new **secretary**.

GUEST PRESENTATIONS: None

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

- **Dirty Dash reclamation** – The mud hole by the gardens is not a big issue and will be leveled. The East side will require more work to repair and will be complete by Fall. Cindy will report status to the BSSC.
- **West Fence Reconstruction** – Bill walked the fence line and there are 300+ posts, 90% of which are still solid. There are several different kinds of fencing near the gardens, but this area is not MHC's responsibility. Our area stops at the plateau. Bill will get an actual count of the bad posts that must be replaced and clarify what needs to be done at the Work Party. Work Party is scheduled for September 22, 5:30 p.m. BSSC will be invited to assist, and we will get as much done as possible with the crew that attends. Cindy will report this status to the BSSC.
- Hitching Rails and Round Pen: Bill will dismantle the Round Pen and decide what is needed for materials. Hitching Rails on hold.
- Wheels around hydrants – Complete
- Water Truck Repairs - Complete

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Lease Negotiations: Missoula County is implementing “management” contracts rather than “lease” contracts now, which further complicates our insurance concerns. Missoula County requires MHC to carry insurance, but it will be

impossible to obtain coverage if only a facility manager rather than a lessee. If we become a manager only, we will have no control over what is built—only manage what is here. Discussed inviting Hal Luttschwager, Missoula County Risk Manager, to one of our meetings in the future when the draft agreement is ready. Susie Mayer volunteered to call Jim McCubbin, Missoula County attorney representative, and check status of the draft agreement.

BSSC report: Cindy was not able to attend the last BSSC meeting. Cindy indicated that BSSC is asking for a formal request, for their approval, of the jump course--over and above what they have already received from MHC.

WEBSITE REPORT: None. Will ask Kitty to provide a list of members—name only, no contact information--on the website.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Erika emailed the membership report for review prior to the meeting. Erika has chosen to resign her board position due to the time constraints of work and school. **Will ask Kitty to advertise the open position on the website.** Eunice will assume membership duties in the interim until a new Membership Superintendent is in place.

PR COMMITTEE REPORT: None

BACK COUNTRY HORSEMEN OBSTACLE TRAIL: There was a good meeting held at the Park, which included a walkthrough. Would like to have a landscape architect make a drawing of the concept before making the presentation. The water obstacle will be located between the dressage arena and the round pen and should be very attractive for the neighbors. Val will talk to Connie Frame, a landscape architect she knows. The presentation will be made to Parks and Rec and copied to BSSC.

WATER WELL VS. IRRIGATION DITCH: Continued ongoing discussion of MHC's lack of ditch water rights. If we plant a barrier row of trees, there will need to be a consistent source of irrigation. The County is willing to help with the planting of trees. Need to research what depth a well would need to be. Bill will research other wells in the area to give some idea of cost.

EVENT COORDINATOR REPORT: Final numbers are not reconciled for the MHJA show last weekend. There is nothing in our facility rental contract about renting the jumps, and it should be updated. The contract states \$10 per rider, but it is not clear if that is per day, per show, per class, etc. This needs to be clarified next time. Thursday was supposed to be a set up day only, but they opened up the WEA and needed it worked. More detail in the next contract is needed clarifying set up days vs. event usage days. There was an accident and there may be an issue with jump cups. Tent rental should also be addressed in the contract. Cindy recommended not nickel and diming our rentals for each item but taking these things into consideration in determining the facility fee and then stating in the contract whether and when or not they have access to various items above. Possibly provide an addendum, which lists the items included in the rental fee.

CORRESPONDENCE: A letter was received from Shirley Smith on behalf of her granddaughter, who participated in the July Mini Event. She did not state in the letter her granddaughter's name. Her granddaughter was downgraded due to an issue with the horse's tongue hanging out. Susie is familiar with this issue and volunteered to contact Ms. Smith.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Clarification of Lifetime Members** - Existing Lifetime members prior to the July 1, 2014 cutoff date for sales of new Lifetime Memberships, are grandfathered in and their Lifetime Memberships are not threatened.
- **County Reimbursement for Irrigation Project** – Lisa is out of town until August 18. Jeff will follow up when Lisa returns to work.
- **Letter regarding change of reps for Waddell & Reed endowment** – There has been no response to Jeff from Laura Bakker. Cindy volunteered to give Laura a call and check status on this issue.
- **Power for WEA:** Decided to put this on hold pending a decision on water well vs. irrigation ditch usage.
- **Grounds and Habitat Development.** On Hold
- **Weed Control:** On Hold
- **Fee schedule for arenas** – On Hold

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Insurance for dressage event:** MD & CTA did not receive final approval from the underwriter for their insurance until 4 p.m. Friday, the day before the event and the cost was prohibitive making it almost impossible for a small group. If there are no spectators, a clinic only needs the clinician to provide proof of insurance to meet MHC requirements. If there are spectators insurance must be provided for them. Our own shows are covered. Further research will be done on options for renters.

Next meeting will be September 2, 2014, 7 p.m. Extension Office

There being no further business, Colleen made a motion and Vicki seconded to adjourn, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Eunice Misbe
Secretary