



MISSOULA HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL

STEWARDS OF THE MISSOULA EQUESTRIAN PARK

MISSOULA HORSEMEN'S COUNCIL BOARD MEETING June 2nd, 7 p.m. Perkins Restaurant

Lynn Thee called the meeting to order, at 7:05 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Present: Lynn Thee, Joan Scheffer, Lynn Lee, Kim Stickler, Rachel Ambrose, Ginny Fay, Bill Bucher.

Excused, Sheila Mealy Cindy Arnott, Jen Kendall, Aneill Fisler Valerie Knudsen

Unexcused: None

Guests: None,

The meeting began with the Approval of previous minutes from May. Kim wished to edit some of the information regarding the western arena and the people with whom she has spoken. The board agreed to accept the minutes as she wished to change them in her conversations with the western arena footing plans.

Treasurer Report: Johanna was unable to attend today. Kim brought the report and shared it with the BOD. Kim said she and Johanna have been working to get the files organized (they are a mess!). It was found that the UI5 tax form was not filed for the 1st qtr., this has been taken care of. Johanna had sent her report out to the BOD as an e-mail attachment. Membership funds continue to come in to the park slowly. Ginny moved and Joan seconded to accept the treasures reports. Board approved.

Rachel presented for the English committee: They had a meeting about pay for the various jobs of the mini-event production team. Rachel presented an overview of the amounts and a current budget plan. Event Producer's pay was raised from \$200 to \$400 per event. It was felt the fee for the dressage arena for the dressage events should go up to \$7 per ride.

The stall cleaning was reviewed and explained to those who were not in attendance last month. Stalls should be completely stripped to be considered "cleaned." Aneill has offered to check these at the next two events for us.

We want to be sure the jump cups we need for approval by the MHJA are the correct ones.

Rachel has located a trailer that may work out for transporting the jumps at the park. She has talked to the person who has this and he is willing to modify it for the needs of the rail storage and transport. Cost of the trailer with the adjustments that are needed would be \$750. There is room in the bay storage area to accommodate this trailer. Some clean up and sorting of non-used materials is needed there, too. Ginny moved and Joan seconded to approve this amount as long as it is made to our specifications and Rachel will check on this. The board approved.

Joan moved to approve the mini event production plan and Ginny seconded this. BOD approved.

There was a discussion regarding the size of the new flatbed hitch ball. It is a 2' ball. Bill and Kim discussed that a new one is not necessary.

WESTERN EVENTS: Kim discussed progress and Lynn Thee has not been able to follow up on some needed information. She will try to get it done soon. Knife River has the materials needed for the new footing at a cost of \$11,500. The possible uneven-ness of the clay base is still an issue. This was discussed at length. Bill did know someone who could do an assessment of the arena. It is felt that there may need to be some changes in the clay base, but we cannot tell without someone assessing and measuring things out (Level-ness, crowns, slopes, drainage, etc). We hope that the current sand will be able to be mixed with the needed masonry sand and approved for barrel racing by the overseeing committee Kim has worked with. It is a lot of money to have to spend and we want to be sure it will be well spent and provide a surface that can host barrel racing (MBHA) and sanction such events. It was felt we have to assess the clay base and know how to process. Kim is going to contact Mike Welling to see if he could help on this issue. Bill can contact the person he knows if needed. The arena size is 175x300.

Kim said that 50% more material is recommended for mixing into the current sand. The goal is a layer 8 inches deep throughout the arena. The NBHA wants to sign off on the footing and assess its safety, but have given Kim recommendations for what is necessary. We know the mixture that we need. The BOD would like to get the assessment and move on from that information. Kim will contact Mike to see if he can help us.

The cost is huge, Rachel and Ginny discussed a membership donation letter go out specifically to address the arena upgrade. Rachel will send Kim a letter she has used for such request of membership. The board would like to be able to approve the upgrade of the arena by July 2015.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: Lynn T. reported:

We still have not heard about the current lease agreement from the county, who has it.

ADA pad: should know next month

NW Energy will work around any of our event plans with their project.

Insurances are all up to date.

Extra logs are out at the park-if not used for jumps, can be used as parking barriers-which the county has wanted done. This would protect the grassy areas better. The county will need to approve a plan for this 1st. We need to come up with a good plan and our reasoning behind why it has to be done a certain way (i.e. trailer access and cornering, distance from main roads, etc.)

Jumps were painted on Saturday by Sheila M., Lynn T. Bill B. and families.

THANKS!

July 14th membership meeting was discussed. Should we open this to the public and have a BBQ at the park?

PR MARKETING:

Insurance for park horse lessons and instruction was again discussed. There are still folks giving lessons who have not submitted that they have insurance coverage. A note will go out in the park newsletter and on the website that people taking lessons should be sure the instructor has insurance. If they do we can advertise them on the webpages. Drue is current as is Carolyn. It is unknown for sure if Becky, Ginny and Laura have theirs. We need to know if they are being paid as being an instructor and giving lessons are the park. Also need to be sure riders they work with are park members or pay the day fees. Ginny mentioned using a certified letter to the instructors since they are not responding to our requests. That would put the burden on them to provide information and proof of insurance or we could have the county attorney investigate them.

Aniell had sent out photos for Thank you cards. It was felt that more variety and better park pictures should be used for these.

Ginny was willing to set up a "drop box" that BOD could access for larger files and photos. Many could not open Aniell's message on the notes.

BSSC report: Cindy and Lynn T attended the meeting. Weed spraying was a big topic of discussion. Ginny told us about her research group doing some weed studies and all the work they had compiled about it. She was wanted to be sure their work would be included in weed spraying decisions. A more integrated approach is needed so we do not kill good native plant or animal life at the park. There is less than 1% native vegetation at the park currently! We need goals on what these studies show and how to better manage the park vegetation as well as birds and mammals.

We need to spray some to manage the jump course and riding areas. BSSC already has spraying plans. Bill needs to spray around arenas, dressage areas, and jump course soon due to coming events.

Ginny agreed to contact Nick and develop a plan. Nick could not get out to park until after June 15 or so. Joan moved that Ginny proceed with this Lynn L seconded. Members all agreed.

Lynn T. has talked to the people who sell Adams trees and may be able to get some trees donated at the end of their selling season.

There are still some Facebook page issues and there are 2 separate pages. Lynn T. will contact Jennifer about this.

Sheila M. has been in contact with someone (expert person) about the obstacle course. She is gathering cost estimates, location ideas, construction ideas, e tc.)

Prototype of the license plate SHOULD be out by the end of this week. Hopefully!

Rachel moved and Kim seconded meeting be adjourned. All agree.

JS 6/11/2015