

EBLES Meeting

January 11, 2018

PRESENT: Lara Wear, Heather Afford, Joanne Nelson, Dianne McGuire, Kristen Hoel, Ted Simmons, David Leitch, Claire Vessey, Diane Rotheron, Lynn Cullen, Pamela Pack

- The meeting was called to order at 7:15
- The minutes from the November meeting were accepted.

DISCUSSION WITH GUEST MEMBERS

- The question of what is important to you about EBLES was posed. The following points were made
 - The focus should be on the survival needs of the club which includes maintaining the membership, visibility, solvency and a good relationship with the Capital Regional District (CRD).
 - Maintaining access to the trails and the presence of horses in the park.
 - Membership engagement and participation.

FACILITIES

- The leaf raking party was successful. Lots of people came out, largely as a result of Kristen asking them directly.
- The Garden City Horse Club came out and inspected the wreckage of the horse shelter and are willing to rebuild it.

CORRESPONDENCE

- None

TRAILS

- Nothing

FUNDRAISING

- So far there are four groups interested in renting the ring
 - Pony Club will hold their Prince Philip Games on May 20
 - VTRA wants to hold their trail ride on May 5
 - The Arab Club wants to hold their show series at the ring.
 - The people renting the round pen will be providing dates. They want to be able to cancel on short notice. We don't want to lose other bookings and then have them cancel. They book a lot of dates and cancel many of them.
- We need to inform CRD when events are going to be held. The dates need to be included in the report that is due January 31.

- Claire will send a message to all the groups that booked last year asking them to get their dates in as soon as possible.
- Claire checked into what would be involved in applying for a Gaming Grant. It is quite a bit of work. We would need to obtain evidence of community support such as a letter from the Mayor. We would also need a specific project. Applications are between March 1 and May 31 with a decision by August 31. It was decided that we would wait until we have a large project that we needed funding for before we apply.
- We could apply to the Horse Council. But we would need to spend money first and apply for reimbursement. They will provide up to \$500. Painting the announcers booth and possibly the judges' booth might be an appropriate project.
- The white Knight contest for a paint job is on again. Lara posted a notice about it on social media. We need people to nominate EBLES.
- Heather mentions that the insurance company has let her know that anyone renting the facility needs to have \$5 million liability insurance. This may affect the round pen rentals. It may be that BC Horse Council membership provides the necessary insurance.
- Claire is organizing a Spring Tack Sale. It will be held at Queens Corner on Sunday April 1, 2018. Claire is preparing a poster. The cost will be \$20 a table for members and \$25 for non-members.

WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK

- Julene Warwick won the draw for the \$25 Greenhawk gift certificate for members who purchased the 2018 membership online before January 1.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- The Land Use Agreement expires Dec. 31, 2018. It was a ten year agreement. We are hoping to get another ten year agreement. Lara will speak with the CRD Management Team about the terms and conditions.
- The bulletin board at the ring needs updating. The issue of putting up a signs saying you should be a member if you use the ring was discussed. However there are some liability and insurance issues that make this unwise.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF EBLES

- Lara proposed setting up a security camera system fashioned from Raspberry Pi to monitor ring use. It seemed too labour intensive to monitor it.
- Joanne suggested that there should be some sort of celebration (such as a party in the park or an organized ride) around renewal of the Land Use Agreement.
- Joanne and Pamela will produce and hand out business cards advertising EBLES and promoting membership.
- The question of how much of a threat is the cycle lobby was raised.

NEXT MEETING: February 8, 2018, 7:00pm