

EBLES Meeting – Minutes January 7, 2021

PRESENT: Dianne McGuire, Claire Vessey, Ted Simmons, Jennie Hutchison, Kristen Hoel, Lara Wear, Tina Sagert, Helen Love, Patti Brown

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

- The minutes of the December 10, 2020 meeting were approved

TREASURERS REPORT:

- The balance as of December 10, 2020 was \$10,392.27
- Revenues since December 10, 2020 were \$2,516.66 and were made up of memberships and donations
- Expenses paid since December 10, 2020 were:
 - Insurance \$ 830.00
 - HSBC Membership \$ 85.00
 - Caution Tape \$ 15.00
 - Service Charge \$ 1.50
- The account balance as of January 7 was \$11,977.43
- There is an outstanding cheque to Saanich Development for \$9,717.77
- There are unpaid bills for water for \$509.41, for hydro for \$24.57 and for the website for \$89.25
- The remaining balance is \$1,636.43
- The bill from Saanichton Development Limited for the work that was done on the large hog fuel ring was initially \$10,925.27. The bill was reduced by \$157.50 by correcting an error. Adrian Woods gave an initial discount of 5% or \$547.65 as a donation to EBLES. He reduced the bill by a further \$1000.00 in recognition of the rocks that were stirred up during the work.
- It was agreed that a tax receipt would be provided to Adrian for the discounts.

MEMBERSHIP:

- 2021 members to date is 32, consisting of 15 Individual, 8 Family, 5 Lifetime, 1 Club and 3 donors.
- It was noted that the Appy Club did not join EBLES last year, but they continue to store their jumps and have a locker in the concession building.
- A motion was passed that clubs that have lockers must be current members.
- Claire will contact Stacey of the Appy Club to let her know.
- Currently the Appy Club has two lockers, Victoria Saanich Cadora has one and Lower Island Equestrian Club (LIEC) has one. Kristen will check to see what is in the LIEC locker.
- Helen volunteered to create a poster encouraging people to join EBLES, Lara will work with her on this.
- It was agreed that the work of putting up the posters would be divided up. Laura volunteered to put posters up in barns in Central Saanich north of Forest Hill and in North Saanich. Jennie offered to do the barns on Oldfield Road. Kristen offered to do barns in the Viaduct Conway area. Dianne will do the barns in Hunt Valley. Claire will do barns in Metchosin.
- Laura will put together a list of barns. It was suggested the list of barns should be put in a spreadsheet. People could then sign up to put posters up at the barns. Lara created the

spreadsheet in the Volunteers folder of EBLES Docs. People can sign up to approach specific barns on the spreadsheet.

- Lara pointed out that we need two formats for the membership promotion poster, one for putting up at barns etc. and one to post on Facebook sites.
- Helen suggested we ask barns to buy a club membership.
- A motion was passed to change the Club membership category to Club/Barn membership as many barns benefit from being close to Elk Beaver Lake. Barn owners are able to charge higher board due to being close to the facility and trails.
- A Club or Barn membership is \$50.
- A lot of people assume that the rings and facility are maintained by CRD.

FACILITIES:

- There were about a half dozen responses to the request for input on the long term plan for footing. Most favored resurfacing with sand rather than hog fuel. Lara has put all the responses up to January 10 in a document on the EBLES Docs site in the Correspondence folder.
- Kristen thinks that resurfacing with sand is unaffordable and our focus should be on getting the ring useable as soon as possible.
- Laura suggested that we need to get the message out about the need for resurfacing to more people, possibly through Facebook.

RENTALS:

- There are no prospects for rentals in 2021.

FUND RAISING:

- EBLES could seek corporate sponsors. Some suggestions were Greenhawk, Victoria Saddlery, Borden Mercantile, Integrity, Willowwind, feed companies, car and truck dealerships, Sunrise Trailer Sales. Corporate sponsors would need recognition. Dianne will draft a letter to send to corporate sponsors.
- EBLES should make a concerted effort to increase our membership this month and then go after corporate sponsors.
- One of the people who responded to the letter to members suggested we get a bottle bin to raise money. Laura will look into this. We would need CRD's permission to put it at the facility, but it might be better to get a business to sponsor us by letting us put it in their parking lot.
- EBLES could approach CRD councilors. Dianne will prepare a letter for councilors. Dianne will also talk to Nickie Wade about approaching councilors.
- EBLES could approach local media, possibly Chek TV. Laura will ask Judy Lavoie for advice on approaching local media.
- The letters to corporate sponsor prospects, councilor and media should mention the high number of horses on the Saanich Peninsula and that there are no other public rings on the Saanich Peninsula. There is one in Metchosin and one in the Highlands. Jennie thinks the ring in Metchosin is funded by the municipality: Claire will find out.

TRAILS:

- A couple of trees are down in the trees by the fields and a couple by the ponds.
- The trails are rideable.

OTHER/NEW BUSINESS:

- EBLES Horse Council BC membership is paid
- EBLES insurance for the year was purchased from Capri.
- Ted will be meeting with Tracey Moss, a lawyer with the CRD and some other people from the CRD at the ring on Friday to discuss EBLES' Covid safety plan.
- Dianne will prepare and submit the annual Report to CRD
- A BC Society Annual Report must be submitted within 30 days of the AGM. Dianne will do this.
- Discussion of a Face to Face meeting with the membership was tabled until the next meeting. It was recognized that the current Provincial Health Officer orders make it impossible to hold a face to face meeting this month.

NEXT MEETING: 7:00 pm, Thursday, February 11, 2021