

EBLES Meeting – Minutes
May 9, 2019

PRESENT: Laura Foxgord, Kristen Hoel, JoAnne Nelson, Pamela Pack, Ted Simmons, Claire Vessey

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

- The minutes for the April 11 meeting were accepted (Claire moved, Laura 2nd)

TREASURER'S REPORT

- The account balance for May 1 was \$7712.38.
- April expenses: BC Hydro \$25.02; Poker ride misc. (Ted) \$73.26, Gravel for Loafing Shed \$358.15.
- Deposits in April: \$625.00 (memberships; pre-Poker Ride)
- Poker Ride Gross Income: \$1915.00; minus Mrs. Tubesteak \$352.80 = Net \$1562.20
- Note: Pam will keep the cash box.

MEMBERSHIP

- As of May 9 EBLES has 74 members, including members of 3 families, 4 instructors, and 3 clubs.
- 29 new members signed up on the Poker Ride.

FACILITIES

- Need to install bunking around the loafing shed to retain gravel footing. **Kristen, Ted, JoAnne and others to do this job Tuesday May 21 at 2 PM.**
- Parts of shed need staining (Kristen's to-do list; work party job?)
- Last work party successful. 8 volunteers raked sides of rings, harrowed hogfuel ring, cleaned bleachers.
- April agenda item on getting CRD to install NO DUMPING sign: Ted has sent a note to Mark Solomon, no reply as of today. In the future, Ted to copy Karen Ward (other staff in CRD office) to hopefully prevent his emails being lost.
- Preparation for Appy show: Kristen harrowed, cleaned bleachers, cleaned fridge, policed poo in the parking lot. Ted fixed sprinkler head. THANKS YOU GUYS!!!
- Progress on fencing contract: Dianne spoke to Mark of High Meadows about the fencing project. " He is still available to do the project. Given his discussion with Claire about his bid being so low, he would like to come out to the rings and take a closer look at what needs to be done. I will meet with him after I get back from Ireland in a couple of weeks when he will be on the Peninsula doing other work. Anyone who wants to join us is welcome. He has no problem providing two references from other horse fencing projects. We will discuss timing when we meet." **Kristen adds that it is also necessary to replace the bottom boards on the near side of the sand ring. She should be included in the meeting with Mark so she can outline this. (Dianne note this when booking meeting with Mark).**

RENTALS

- No new rentals

- Appy Club Sunday May 5 show – Claire will receive cheque in the next couple of days and will deposit it into the EBLES account once received.
- Gary Turcot film proposal: Claire wrote to decline on April 18.

POKER RIDE REPORT: Event on April 28 had 33 participants including 12 entries into the trail class; 59 poker hands sold. A highly successful event (once again) thanks to Ted and others securing an awesome prize collection, Ted and Kristen laying out the course, Pam chasing people to register in the parking lot, Dianne and JoAnne registering people and counting hands (along with Laura), Lynne Huston taking charge of the prize display, Lara performing her hand-counting magic.

Suggestions for next year:

1. Increase price of first poker hand to \$20 and trail class entry to \$10. (Claire moved, Pam 2nd, unanimous).
 2. Change the poster so the text stands out more. Add cost details. Refer to prizes, acknowledge major sponsors.
 3. At times there were too many people in the prize area. Needs a monitor for crowd control.
 4. Suggest splitting prizes if possible so there are more to go around.
- FUND RAISING DINNER: Following suggestion from April meeting this was discussed. We decided not to proceed because the potential risk (of booking a venue and then not getting enough participants) outweighs the reward. Claire, Kristen and Laura all consider that people go to the Hunt Ball and Cadora dinner primarily because they are receiving awards and prizes. The EBLES membership is not such a cohesive group, nor do we have prizes on offer. (Laura moved, Ted 2nd; unanimous).
 - OTHER IDEAS:

JoAnne suggested EBLES-branded horse treats. This could involve a great deal of work and expense, so not much enthusiasm for that one.

Kristen suggested we could run a Poker Ride in early fall at the Metchosin Ring. She will investigate the possibility with contacts in the Metchosin Equestrian Club.

Laura and JoAnne are considering a fun Working Equitation clinic during the summer. Revisit at June meeting.

TRAILS

- All good, no issues (Ted).

NEW BUSINESS

- EBLES to follow up on recent HCBC-MOT agreement that upon request, MOT will erect horse-crossing and horse-usage signs on trail crossings and roads (JoAnne). Laura cautions that too many signs could lead to driver indifference, so it is important that we focus on key locations. JoAnne asked executive members, especially Ted and Kristin, to come up with priority list. She will then contact the local MOT operations manager to initiate the process.

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:20 PM.

Next meeting June 13.