

**EBLES Meeting – Minutes  
October 14, 2021**

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

- September minutes were accepted subject to correction of spelling errors

**TREASURERS REPORT:**

- Revenues and expenses since September 9, 2021:

Revenues:

- \$55,000 donation from Lakes
- \$319.37 Eventbrite (\$219.37 in donations, \$100 in memberships)
- \$200 donation from Will Clinging

Expenses:

- \$180 Advance to D. McGuire (\$84 for CRD Permit, \$67.15 for spill kit, \$28.85 owing)
- \$163.17 for hard hats and vests
- \$500 (\$250+\$150+\$100) Advance to J. Hutchison (\$445 for lunch and coffee for IEOA and volunteers for hog fuel removal project, \$55 owing)
- \$396.48 Garside Signs (signs for hog fuel removal project)
- -transfer service charges \$9.00 (6 x \$150)

Hog fuel removal project costs \$1350.81 (\$84 for permit, \$67.15 for spill kit, \$163.17 for hardhats and vests, \$445 for lunch and coffee, \$396.48 for signs and \$195.01 ???)

- Current account balance: \$106,932.04
- Expected revenues and expenses

Expected Revenues:

- \$1000 from HCBC
- \$83.85 repayment of balance of advances

Expected Expenses:

- \$300 for tractor battery and trickle charger
- \$44,700 - Wish list costing
- \$47,000 - Reserved funding for repair of large ring and other projects
- \$10,255.85 -????
- Reconciled balance: \$5,760.04

**MEMBERSHIP:**

- Current membership is 113, there have been no new members this month
- Fifteen people came out and volunteered on the hog fuel removal project.

**FACILITIES:**

- The removal of the old hog fuel went very well and was well run. Lunch was well received. All the hog fuel was disposed of without having to pay any disposal fees, which would have been \$30,000.
- Next steps in upgrade of facility

- Purchase of an 8-foot gate for machinery access opening - It was agreed that Jennie and Dianne would purchase an 8-foot gate to close the opening to the large ring. It is expected to cost about \$350.
- It was agreed that a sign should be put up telling people to stay out of the large ring.
- Purchase of electric blower(s)- It was agreed that we should buy a medium quality home blower. It was agreed that Jennie would gather more information on various brands of electric leaf blowers and email the information to executive members to get a decision on which one to buy.
- Grading of clay base – Laura will talk to Mark Volk about arranging to get the clay base graded.
- Footing choices – It was agreed that most people want sand. A final decision is not needed until the spring so it will be revisited then.
- Plans for putting in new footing - Laura will phone Wendy to get email confirmation that IEOA will volunteer to do the work of putting the new footing in.
- Harrow – It was suggested that we should sell the C-rake harrow and buy a new one or try to make the C-rake work. Dick offered and it was agreed that we would borrow the chain link harrow and try it out on the weekend. Further discussion on the harrow tabled to next week.
- Pony wall/kick board choices – tabled to next meeting
- Fencing options – tabled to next meeting
- Top up of small sand ring – It was agreed that 1 inch of fairway sand should be added to the sand ring. It was agreed that Jennie would arrange to have one load of fairway sand delivered by Andy Slinger Service after next weekend preferably on a Saturday. After the first load we will reassess and determine if a second load is needed.
- Turtles – We need to talk to the turtle people about preventing the turtles from nesting in the sand ring and about when we can work on the round pen without impacting the turtles. Ted will contact the turtle people.
- Dressage surrounds – It was agreed that we will not buy dressage surrounds. We don't have the space to store them, and we can rent LIEC's set.
- Addition of crusher dust on walkways – Tabled to next meeting
- Sprinklers – Tabled to next meeting
- Rebuilding of round pen – Tabled to next meeting

#### **FUND RAISING:**

- Capital Project Grant status – no news
- Federal Grant status – no news
- Island Equipment Owners Association's contribution – Mark Volk said that a letter confirming that IEOA will put the footing in in the spring is on its way.
- Silent Auction – Jennie is working on setting up the silent auction. She needs help with data entry, picking things up and taking pictures of items. Helen will help with data entry. Dianne said she would help with picking things up and taking pictures. Helen has made a poster which Jennie showed to people at the meeting. Jennie will send out a list of silent auction items. A description and sales pitch are needed for each item: Helen will help with this.

#### **TRAILS:**

- All the trails are open. There are two trees down in the south fields, but horses can step over them.
- Need for trails improvement wish list to respond to Major's request

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Communications over past month
  - Facebook and website posts on hog fuel removal
- Communications needed - A message should go out about the top up of the sand ring, announcing the top up and asking for feed back.
- Footing choice – not discussed
- Silent auction promotion – discussed above

#### **OTHER/NEW BUSINESS:**

- Meeting with Saanich Major Fred Haynes, Megan Atkins-Baker (Saanich News), Mark Volk and others at the ring on Friday October 15 at 10:00– Laura and Ted will be there hopefully on their horses. Ideas to answer the question what can the Major do for us included: put together a map of trails and roads frequented by horses; never open up Bear Hill Road; buy the 29 acres at the corner of Brookleigh and Oldfield and create a verge along the roads for horses; arrange a meeting with Saanich Engineering Department; create horse lane of about 4 to 6 feet on the side of roads frequented by horses; and produce a booklet of horse trails in Saanich like the one North Saanich produced.
- Project Plan for CRD - tabled
- Zoom verses Google Meet – it was agreed that we would try meeting on Teams using Helen's account. Helen will set up a test call. It was also suggested that we might meet on Sunday November 14 at 10:00 instead of on Thursday November 11 at 7 pm: to be determined.

**NEXT MEETING:** 7:00 pm, November 11, 2021