

Equine Advisory Committee

Cattaraugus County Equine Advisory Committee Meeting
Cattaraugus County Center, Little Valley
January 17, 2008

Equine Advisory Committee Members Present: Terry Crisafulli, Bonnie L. Hall, James Leising, Leah Leising, James Little, Thomas Livak, Robert Pfohl, James Toner, Mary Beth Trenchard, Veronica Weber, Annie Widger, Joanne O. Young

Equine Advisory Committee Members Absent: Leonard Brainard, Judy Dalton, Sharon Nolan, Lori Northrup

General Attendance: Crystal Abers, Chair County Legislature, James Isaacson, Senior Planner, Terry Martin, County Consultant, Janet Pfohl, Jusette Aler, Marge Domres, Sue Payne

Call to order by Annie Widger at 7:07 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Leah Leising had the following corrections to the November 29, 2007 minutes: Page 1, last paragraph first line: official certificate and card is due to Coggins test not participation in the survey. Page 2, first paragraph, second line: grant money was used to refurbish trails for usage of snowmobiles and horses not for grooming of trails. Page 2, under Marketing/Tourism...third paragraph, date of dance at Riders Club is April 26th not 29th.

Barney Weber made a motion to accept the minutes of November 29, 2007 meeting as corrected. Seconded by Thomas Livak. Carried.

Horseman's Association – Information on the new Horseman's Association was shared. They are incorporated. A copy of the press release was handed out.

Ag & Markets Grant – James Isaacson reported that there were over 200 applications submitted for this grant money. No decision will be made at least until February. It was suggested that Senator Cathy Young be asked for a letter of support. Jim Little will contact her.

Reports

Advocacy Committee – Leah Leising gave an update on the No Slaughter Issue. There is an increase in the number of horses going to Mexico. Information shared on Unwanted Horses Coalition. For details and more information check for links on the Horse Council Site.



Annie Widger led discussion on recent animal cruelty cases in the County. Many ideas were shared - offer assistance to people – such as press release on winter care – speaking to clubs. Thomas Livak stated that the Committee should focus on Public Relations and “Damage Control”. Annie to seek guidance/assistance from Legislators.

Trails Committee – no report

Marketing/Tourism/Website/Brochure Committee – New Wagon Train pamphlets were passed out showing the route of the Train. It needs to be changed to take off the location of the R & R Dude Ranch. Any other ideas for changes/improvements, please contact Tom Livak or Annie Widger.

Videographer has interviewed Golden Stride, Gail Hazer and Gentle Thunder. He wants personal interviews during winter and possibly film indoor activities. Contact Annie Widger with people/places for interviews.

Competition/Events/Education Committee – The 4th Annual Spring Round Up is set for March 2nd at the Sinclairville Fire Hall. It begins at 1:00 pm. Any businesses, clubs, etc. can set up a booth to share information, events, etc. There will be a speaker and snacks will be available.

May 23rd through the 26th is the Annual Trail Ride at the Little Valley Rider’s Club.

June 1st is a trail ride at Pine Hill.

July 12 & 13th is the Ride and Learn at the Little Valley Rider’s Club.

Houghton College has many events scheduled – check the college web site.

Old Business

Wagon Train and Stagecoach Run – Dolly Little announced a meeting would be held on 2/12/08 at 7 pm that will be open to the general public. At that time, committees will be formed and chairs assigned. There are still many things to work on. If you are interested in assisting with the Wagon Train, there will be a job for you to help with.

JoAnne Young motioned with a second from Barney Weber to revise the August 8, 2007 motion regarding use of Casino money to use all of the \$10,000 of the Casino money for the Wagon Train project. Carried.

New Business

Thomas Livak suggested that a video documentary should be done of the entire Wagon Train and Stagecoach Run. It needs to be done with professional equipment. Jim Little is looking into and will get a committee together to address it.

James Isaacson reported that there are over 80 acres in Machias with a dwelling and horse barn and 437 acres in Farmersville acquired by the County. It was suggested that the Equine Advisory Committee advocate for possible uses. Leah Leising will mention at the next NYS Horse Council meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the Nash Hill Equestrian Center, Gowanda on February 28, 2008 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

James Toner motioned with a second from James Leising to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Carried.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Beth Trenchard

APPROVED AS WRITTEN FEBRUARY 28, 2008.