

Equine Advisory Committee

Annie Widger, Chairman

Cattaraugus County Equine Advisory Committee Meeting
Cattaraugus County Center, Little Valley, New York
March 25, 2008

Equine Advisory Committee Members Present: Lenny Brainard, Terry Crisafulli, Bonnie Hall, Jim Leising, Leah Leising, James Little, James Toner, Mary Beth Trenchard, Veronica Weber, Annie Widger, Thomas Livak

Equine Advisory Committee Members Absent: Judy Dalton, Sharon Nolan, Lori Northrup, Robert Pfohl, JoAnne Young

General Attendance: James Isaacson, County Senior Planner;

Annie Widger called the meeting to order at 7:01pm with 11 members present.

Approval of Minutes

Jim Toner moved with a second from Jim Leising to approve minutes of the February 28th 2008 meeting as submitted. Carried.

Old Business

Ag & Markets Grant Update – James Isaacson stated that a list of approved projects is at the Commissioner's desk and within the next week or two he should know if the Grant is approved. The changes in Albany are delaying the process.

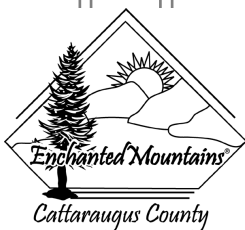
New Member Prospects – Mary Beth presented the letter to be sent to prospective members. Suggestions for improvement of the letter were made. *Leah Leising made a motion of approval with changes, Jim Leising seconded. Carried.* Letter will be sent out.

Casino Funds – Thomas Livak suggested that we should look at other ideas for use. Discussion on properties in Franklinville and Machias for studies on Equine initiative. Possibility of Great Valley Youth Camp. Possibility of the property at the end of Pine Hill for further improvement of the campground. This spurred a discussion on an article in Western Horseman, which listed Franklinville #3 in the top ten great hometowns for horse people.

Annie Widger asked people to let her know if they are interested in forming a committee to look into developing a program to educate the public on ensuring a horse friendly environment in Cattaraugus County such as issues of neglect, traffic safety, etc. Annie charged the committee to list their top 4 priorities of the best use of the money and get them to her by Friday.

Standing Committee Reports

Trails – National Trail Day is June 7th. Work dates for Pine Hill: May 3, 18 and 31st. Discussion on Bucktooth Run log trails, possible idea for parking lot.



Marketing – James Isaacson showed the draft of the map- still needs some descriptions, but is looking great.

Video – Annie Widger spoke with Diana – she needs gas money – discussion on possibility of hiring someone to contract for video of Wagon Train. Jim Toner suggested we write a contract with either the school or whomever is going to be doing the video. Annie will work on. Tom Livak explained we need about a years worth of footage; when county hired someone for video they paid about 11 grand.

Annie gave report on Fiona Farrell meeting.

Wagon Train – Meeting on 4/1 at the Little Valley Fire hall at 7 pm. Jim and Dolly Little have taken many opportunities for advertising. Many horse related magazines, papers, etc. will carry pictures, stories on the Bicentennial Wagon Train run. Discussion on advertising spurred discussion on Internet advertising and domain names. Annie asked for ideas on Domain names to be sent to her by Friday.

Sponsorship/Fund Raising – We need to step it up and form a report on. Tom Livak will check on the Bicentennial Committee money. We also need to revisit the budget for the Wagon Train at the next meeting.

New Business:

Equine Ed Barn – Annie stated we need to focus on Business displays, interactive items, etc. to educate the public. Discussion on signage, announcements and directional signs. Annie would like to form a committee and asks that anyone interested please let her know by Friday.

Next Meeting – April 23rd 2008 at Little Valley 7 pm

Adjournment

Jim Toner moved with a second from Mary Beth Trenchard to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 pm. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Beth Trenchard

APPROVED AS CORRECTED ON APRIL 23, 2008. Corrections are: Page 1, under Trails: delete the word “work” so that it reads, National Trail Day is June 7th. Work dates at Pine Hill should read “May” 3, 18 and 31st.