

Cattaraugus County

Equine Advisory Committee

Al Gerstung, President

Cattaraugus County Equine Advisory Committee Meeting
Cattaraugus County Legislative Chambers
Little Valley, NY
April 19, 2007
7:00 pm

In Attendance:

Advisory Committee: Allan Gerstung, Jim Leising, Leah Leising, Tom Livak, Jim Toner, Veronica Weber, Annie Widger

General Attendance:

Judith Ahern, Judy Dalton, Vicki Hitchcock, James Isaacson, Terry Martin, Ainsley Smith, Becky Smith, Lynn Telaak

Absent Committee Members:

Charlene Aronson, Lenny Brainard, Gail Hazer, James Little, Sharon Nolan, Lori Northrup, Tony Orsini, Teri Parker, Robert Pfohl, JoAnne O. Young

Minutes could not be approved due to lack of quorum.

Election of Secretary was postponed until a quorum is present.

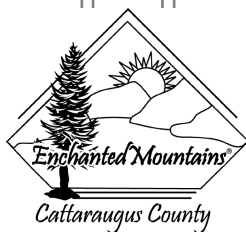
Sub-committee chairs were asked for an update:

Advocacy Committee Update- Leah Leising had contacted Edward Koorse, Director & Fire Coordinator for Cattaraugus County Emergency Services Department who was unavailable for this meeting. However, he sent Vicki Hitchcock in his place. Vicki brought flyers on the Empire State Animal Response Team (ESART), which explain their program and upcoming conference locations. She has e-mailed ESART expressing interest in hosting a conference and will follow up with a letter. She feels that with the Equine Advisory Committee, the local SPCA and local municipal groups, we would have enough people to warrant holding a conference here.

Lynn Telaak mentioned that the 4H does training involving farm animals. She then stated that she is the equine representative for Farm Bureau and explained this "grass roots" organization.

Tom L. introduced James Isaacson, Senior Planner, who is working on the County's Quality Communities Grant and with Terry Martin as the County's Consultant.

Trails Committee Update – Veronica Weber stated that the trail workday at Pine Hill has been postponed until further notice because of snow. The contractor involved is ready to start working on the trails. There will be a trail workday at Allegany State Park on 5/15/07 and a workday at Pine Hill 5/05/07. National Trails Day is 06/02/07.



Also on Trails, The American Horse Council *Featured Riding Trail* program is part of the new www.horsecouncil.org web page. Leah L. suggested we nominate one of our trails. The Trails sub-committee will follow up with this by writing a short narrative detailing why one of our trails should be chosen.

Leah L. reported that there will be an internationally known trail designer giving a program sponsored by the Catt/Chaut Chapter of the NYS Horse Council. Mike Riter, Trail Design Specialists, Inc., will be at the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County in Jamestown, on May 23 at 7:30 pm. Leah feels it would behoove any organization with an interest in trails to be part of this program.

Al G. questioned whether or not the trails at Allegany State Park were suitable for 2-wheeled carts. Jim T. replied, no. There was some discussion on requirements for carts. It was suggested that we develop a "Ride & Drive" in Allegany State Park.

Marketing/Tourism/Website/Brochure Committee Update – Annie W. reported that they had been working on preparations for the Expo. A letter had been sent out to various businesses offering to display their flyers/brochures on our table at the Expo.

Shirts with logo were discussed. There are not enough on hand of the same color for the group going to the Expo.

By-Laws Discussion – Tom L. discussed the committee adopting by-laws. He encouraged the committee to adopt "Roberts Rules of Order" instead of spending time researching by-laws. To change members, simply notify the Legislature in writing. He suggested that a motion be made when we have a quorum to adopt these rules.

Video Project – Annie W. reported that she had contacted RIT and was in touch with a sophomore who was interested in the video project.

Advocacy Committee – Leah Leising reported that she had e-mailed the group late in the day regarding bills that were up in front of the Assembly and suggested that we take the time to look over this list of bills.

There was discussion on a **"Meet & Greet" with the County Legislators**. It was decided that the best time would be immediately after their regularly scheduled session. June 13 was the date picked. We would introduce the brochure, have photos of the booth at the Expo, and ask the sub-committees chairs to do 5-minute presentations. Margaret would put together an invitation on committee letterhead to be put in the Legislator's boxes.

Terry Martin had handouts of e-mails he had sent. One was regarding Onoville Marina expansion and improvement and a meeting date of April 27, 2007 with Dave Rivet. The other was to Tom Livak praising the work the Cattaraugus/Chautauqua Chapter of the NYSHC has done in the brief time they've been in existence.

Al G. adjourned the meeting.

MINUTES APPROVED AS SUBMITTED JULY 3, 2007.