

Equine Advisory Committee Meeting

October 16, 2014

Advisory Committee Members Present: Linda Murphy, Lenny Brainard, Luke Brainard, Holly Parry, Jim Little, Jim Leising, Leah Leising, Becky Smith

Advisory Committee Members Absent: Amy DeTine, Barnee Weber, Melinda Nichols, Tom Livak, Stacy Riley, Vickie Raecher

General Attendance: Crystal Abers, Holly Zendarski

Chairman Lenny Brainard called meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Approval of minutes:

Jim Little motioned to accept minutes from April 17 meeting. Luke Brainard seconded motion. Motion carried.

Membership Vacancies:

Lenny Brainard reported that we now have 3 vacancies due to Ruthe Riehle's resignation. All terms expire at the end of 2014. He encouraged all present to have any interested persons submit a letter of interest to James Isaacson.

Committee Reports:

Marketing - Becky Smith reported that we still have Horse Trail brochures left. All events that we were aware of were posted on the Enchanted Mountains site. Leah Leising responded that she had been looking for information regarding Equine Committee meetings and that the CattCo site needed to be updated and that links were not working.

Advocacy - Jim Leising inquired about the Fall classes that were to be held September 27, October 11 and October 25 and Holly Parry reported that the presenters were unable to participate in classes at that time. Jim suggested that the Committee attempt classes again in the Spring. There was discussion on membership changes to the New York State Horse Council. There was discussion on the carriage horse issue in New York City. Leah reported that NYS Horse Council members have checked on the welfare of those animals and approved of the care they are receiving. Farm Bureau has sent out a survey regarding equine policies in New York State. Leah was going to forward the survey to James Isaacson and ask him to send it out to interested parties.

Trails - Luke Brainard reported that he had ridden the Lou Eibl trails and they're very nice.

Horse Resource - Becky Smith reported that the barn dance fundraiser scheduled for August was postponed due to foundation issues with the barn. Hopefully it will be rescheduled for 2015.

New Business:

Jim Little reported that the DEC was shutting off trails that are on private property due to lack of written agreement from landowners - verbal agreements are not enough.

Linda Murphy reported that Franklinville is having issues with horseback riders on the Finger Lakes Trail.

Holly Perry asked if the Horseman's Association funds could be used as a match toward a grant.

Leah Leising suggested getting trail users together and having a trail workshop with Bud & Gwen. She also suggested trail rules be posted.

Crystal Abers gave suggestions on steps to begin a grant and asked that we call to set up a time to walk through the steps. Then we can see if there's a grant available that meets these needs. Much documentation is needed before that time.

The match from the Horseman's Association could be used for this grant. There is \$3489.75 in the fund.

There was discussion on next week's meetings:

- Trails Initiative, Wednesday, October 22 at 7pm, Legislative Chambers, Little Valley County Center
- Farm Bureau Dinner, Wednesday, October 22 at 7pm, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ellicottville
- Open Space Meeting, Wednesday, October 22, 4-6pm, Municipal Building, Springville

It was suggested that previous Committee members be contacted and asked if they would be willing to serve again.

There was discussion on places to join Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Trails.

Next meeting: November 6th at 7pm, 2nd floor Conference room, Little Valley County Center

Holly Parry motioned to adjourn at 8:46pm. Jim Little seconded.

Respectfully submitted by Becky Smith