

Rio Verde Horsemen's Association

Board of Directors' Meeting

April 6, 2016

Attendees: Mo Wachman, Marjorie Porter, Jenny Powers, Terry Stecyk, Judy Riley, Carmela Lizzo, Lori Bridwell, Jean Anderson

Absent: Claudia Jordan

Guests: None

Reports

Minutes – Jenny/Marjorie

The minutes from the March meeting were taken by Marjorie as Jenny was absent due to illness. The minutes were distributed by email and minor edits provided. A motion was made to approve with corrections and seconded.

Treasurer's Report – Judy

Judy distributed the report during the meeting and there were no questions. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded, approved with no comments.

Membership Report - Mo

Total memberships as of 4/6/16 are 504. There are 22 new members for 2016. Since the last meeting 2 of the 3 new members are lifetime members. There was a question on this number and Mo and Judy will confirm.

Facebook Report - Terry

Terry reported that there are now 646 "likes" up from 629 in March. Terry explained that the way the Facebook account is set up makes it problematic for postings because they appear on the left and are easily missed. However, postings are being viewed and "liked." The page does not offer an option to "follow" because of the way the account was set up as a non-profit organization. It was decided that no changes are necessary.

Promotional Items -- Jean

There were 10 decals sold at the yard sale in March. Jean will continue to manage the promotional items even though she will not continue as a Board member.

Old Business

Spring Potluck/Dance – April 16

Carmela is working with a local vendor on supplying decorations. The band has been arranged and Terry has been in touch with her contact to confirm. Carmela will let the Board know if help is needed for set up. Jenny volunteered to assist Marjorie with registration. The RVHA event signs will be used on Rio Verde Drive.

Rattlesnake Avoidance Training

Terry reported that 29 dogs were trained at Shadow Hill Farm last month. Web is retiring so will no longer offer classes. He intends to keep and take care of his snakes in retirement. Willow's snakes unfortunately died during a cold spell in Globe and she is searching for replacements to hold the April classes at Lorill Equestrian Center. There are 22 dogs registered for April classes. Terry requested the use of the RVHA event signs. Jenny will provide Rattlesnake Solutions contact and information to Terry in hopes of obtaining replacement snakes.

Election Committee Update

Marjorie reported that the committee met on Friday and 2 new applications were received. All the applications will be reviewed and acknowledged. Marjorie and Mo will confirm the dates, location and coordination of the online election process. It was decided to hold the election lunch at Carmela's at 10:00am on Saturday, April 30. Details will follow.

New Resident Postcard Project

Mo requested an update on this process but Claudia did not attend the meeting. Many postcards were returned previously due to residents having not yet moved into the property. The Board will discuss reprinting the postcards and working on improvements for the welcome project process.

Spring Trail Ride

Terry reported that 18 riders signed-up, the majority (14) rented horses so that continues to be a popular option. There were 22 sign-ups for lunch with some drop-ins. Having a smaller group worked well, it was a lovely ride and everyone had fun. No incidents to report.

Equine Self-Defense

The Mounted Officers Training Association (MOTA) is the group we need to talk with. Jenny will get contact information from Cave Creek Saddle Club as they had a representative speak to the Club. Terry and Jenny think it is the same person Terry met at Ride with a Cop event. Will follow-up and report any new information to Board.

New Business

Cactus Rescue/Adoption Plan - Terry

Terry has been in contact with a representative from Trilogy/Shea Homes and Native Resources to allow for cactus rescue during construction. Cactus will be offered to local groups as a donation – Four Peaks, Southwest Wildlife, and Reigning Grace for landscaping. Leftovers will be offered for sale to Board members and then to the membership. Proceeds will benefit RVHA selected charities. Cost will be minimal. Terry will arrange the event and has offered her property as a collection site.

Terry also reported that her Trilogy contact, Rob Izer, Project Manager is interested in resident education on wildlife. They are also interested in rental horses for rides from Trilogy. Terry will continue keeping communication channels open to promote exchange of information and develop relationship that will benefit both Trilogy and RVHA.

Open Range Horses - Terry

Trilogy plans to completely fence property to keep horses out by the end of summer. Trilogy is interested in assistance from local horse people to remove horses and return to the river when needed. It was thought that a group could be formed to provide this assistance in an effort to preserve and retain our feral horse population along the Verde River without government interference. Terry will provide information to Lori and arrange a meeting.

Update on Salt River Horses Legislation

Jean reported that a committee will be formed to study the horses and make a recommendation to the government. However, it was noted that Simone Netherlands' Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is already very involved in the legislation process and the Group has been monitoring and assisting with the wild horse population at the Salt River for many years. To follow this topic "like" Salt River Wild Horse Management Group on Facebook.

Area Plan Update - Marjorie

The last report from the Area Plan Committee was June 2015. Mo received an email from the County that the water portion of the Area Plan is complete and submitted. Carol Schuler and Bill Bailey were working on the water section. Carol reported to Marjorie that a smaller group is working with groups that impact our area. It is unclear what those groups are. Carol will work on a way to communicate with RVHA members. RVHA is not actively involved, but is available to assist if needed. If individual members want to participate they will need to contact Carol. The Board decided to take a "wait and see" approach following past experience with this group.

Advertising Program/Newsletter - Claudia

No report is available due to Claudia's absence. She did not submit information for this meeting. There has been no feedback from advertisers regarding opportunities. It is hoped that advertisers will be willing to advertise when a new format is decided.

When the new Board is in place an assignment can be made and engage every Board member in active participation in this and other projects going forward.

Carmela will draft a message for Mo to distribute requesting information or articles to be shared in lieu of publishing *Round-up*.

Motion to Adjourn

The Board thanked Jean for her service during her term on the Board. A motion to adjourn was made at 8:45pm and seconded.

Next Meeting

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Wednesday, May 4.

Submitted by
Jenny Powers, Secretary