

Rio Verde Horsemen's Association

Board of Directors' Meeting

February 3, 2016

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

Absent: Jean Anderson

Guests: None

Note: Prior to the start of the meeting, Ferrell delivered a document on behalf of Jean. The document related an incident experienced in Pennsylvania concerning appropriate vehicle towing capacities relative to the trailer being towed and the regulations that could potentially be enforced by local law enforcement personnel. The information was reviewed and briefly discussed, but not entered into the Board meeting business. The documents were left with Mo for reference.

Reports

Minutes – Jenny

The minutes from the January meeting were distributed via email and no edits or comments were received. A motion was made to accept the minutes as presented, seconded, passed without comment.

Treasurer's Report – Judy

Judy previously distributed the report by email. All bills have been paid. There was no discussion on the information provided. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded, approved with no comments.

Dues for Arizona Horse Council are due and Judy will pay by check for the RVHA association membership.

Membership Report - Mo

Total memberships as of 2/3/16 are 460. This time last year the total was 502. There were two new members for 2016 since the last report.

Facebook Report - Terry

Terry reported that there are now 620 "likes" up from 570 in November and the popularity for posting information and cross-posting with other local sites is increasing.

Promotional Items -- Mo

There were three decals sold as a result of having the availability of decals on the RVHA Classified Ads. A total of seven decals were sold since the last report.

Old Business

City of Scottsdale Trailhead Improvements – Jenny

Jenny and Theresa attended the Open House at the Granite Mountain Trailhead. Theresa Thraen attended the Fraesfield Open House the previous week. After chatting with the City representatives, we learned that there has been no negative response and the City is giving the same considerate approach to these locations as we have experienced at Tom's Thumb and Brown's Ranch. The improvements will be phased in as funds are available.

Riding Events

Team sorting – Jenny has been unable to reach Susan Bowers at Lost Cowboy to secure potential dates for a team sorting clinic.

Equine Self-Defense - Terry has been in contact with the City of Scottsdale Mounted Police Unit, but there is now concern regarding liability issues and weekend dates availability. Terry will continue to follow-up.

New Business

Spring Potluck Event – April 16

The Board decided on a Tax Relief Spring Potluck event at Rural Metro to include a band for dancing, water, soft drinks and table service. Carmela will follow-up with Rural Metro to confirm arrangements.

Election Committee

Marjorie and Barbara Elliott will serve on the committee. Nominations, ballots, voting, the annual meeting followed by a brunch need to be arranged as well as the location determined. Progress will be reported at the next meeting.

Garage Sale/Yard Sale – March 19

Carmela will research locations and more information will be provided as details are available.

Tonto National Forest

Jenny received copies of letters sent by a staff ranger for Tonto National Forest, which outline recommended improvements for Forest access. Affecting the RVHA area will be improvements to the roads at 160th St and Lone Mountain (gate), which includes smoothing and grading sections of the road with the expectation that off road vehicle users will favor the roads rather than create new ones.

Improved parking and access is planned for the space on 144th St north of Lone Mountain/south of Dove Valley on the east side. Improved parking surface and access into the fenced area of the Forest are planned.

Improvements to the parking lot north on 136th St at the Forest boundary are planned to improve the layout and surface, landscape with boulders and encourage users to utilize the off road vehicle roads and refrain from using trails near private homes that are being revegetated.

Comments are being solicited from within the Cave Creek Ranger District by mid-January. Several other areas are being targeted for improvements and revegetation outside the immediate RVHA area. It is unknown when work will begin on these projects.

Rattlesnake Classes

As an alternative to holding a rattlesnake awareness program with RVHA, Rattlesnake Solutions extended invitations to two free events scheduled February 13 and 20 at Cave Creek Regional Park on Carefree Highway. RVHA will promote the events to members by email and FB postings.

Rattlesnake Avoidance Training for Dogs

Terry is working on a March session with Web at either Terry's property or Kenda Newbury's property. A later session with Willow is planned for April at Arizona Cowboy College. Details will follow.

Checker XII Ranch becomes Chaparosa Ranch

Under new ownership and management the ranch is planning events and activities for children battling cancer. The ranch is offered to RVHA with sufficient advance notice for reservation of the covered arena for RVHA events.

Troon Farmer's Market – 10am – 1pm on alternating Saturdays

The Farmer's Market is a nice collection of food and craft vendors with new vendors being added at each session (twice monthly). It is being promoted on FB and with classified ads.

Charitable Contribution

An offer of 9 bicycles is available to charity. Terry offered to check into a Fountain Hills possibility or Reigning Grace Ranch.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:30pm and seconded.

Next Meeting

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Wednesday, March 2. Marjorie will bring refreshments. Location to be determined depending on weather conditions.

Submitted by

Jenny Powers, Secretary