

Rio Verde Horsemen's Association
Board of Directors' Meeting
February 6, 2013

Attendees: Mo Wachman, Lori Bridwell, Marjorie Porter, Claudia Jordan, Jenny Powers, Judy Riley, Ray Wallage, Dan Cohorst
Absent: Terry Stecyk
Committees: Carmela Lizzo, Social
Guests: Ed O'Brien (Arizona Horse Council), Barth D'Ascoli (Rio Verde Saddle Club), Ron and Barbara Elliott

Minutes

A correction was made to the January 3 Minutes to add Terry's name as an attendee. Motion to approve, seconded. Minutes approved with correction.

Treasurers Report

Bank discrepancies have delayed the report. Checking \$4,671.14; savings \$253.96, Pay Pal \$5,471.29 Total \$10,396.39. Petty cash not balanced since Chili Cook-off \$459.55

A motion was made to accept the verbal report, seconded. Accepted without comment. Judy will provide an updated report at next meeting.

Membership Report

As of today there are 484 members for 2013 with 449 renewals and 35 new memberships. The total represents an increase of about 80 members over this time last year. There are 12 lifetime and about 100 multi-year members. No further reminders for renewal will be sent.

Social Committee

Trail Ride Feb 10 – about 25 riders have registered with some additional for brunch. Weather permitting.

Yard Sale – March 23 -- Reata Pass location was selected due to visibility from the street. Will have professional signs at intersections to increase traffic; will advertise on Craig's List. Spaces are \$10 and include lunch from Greasewood. Open to any interested vendors, non-members pay higher price at \$15. Flyers will be posted at the General Store and at the Verde Community centers. Mo will update the flyer to include non-member information. Judy will update PayPal for non-member price. Marjorie will update website events list. Barth suggested using the *Roadrunner* newsletter for the Verde communities. Barth will send information to Mo. Set-up is at 8am, start at 9am, ends at 2pm. Vendors must bring their own tables.

Spring Dance – Big Sky offered their venue for an event. A May date is in discussion.

ACHTA & Trail Ride at Bumble Bee – April 26-28 – in discussion. Attendees may participate in the ACHTA competition or just trail ride.

ACHTA Clinic at AZ Cowboy College – this event will be good preparation for Bumble Bee. Lori will check calendar and consider early to mid-March.

Elections – should be in April.

Old Business

Facebook – Terry (Mo reporting)

128 likes, no other reports.

Welcome Committee – Claudia reporting

Claudia has been busy and has been unable to work on the committee. She will probably be busy until the end of April and then could start again. Claudia will see if she can get some help, and if not, will catch up after April. Claudia tells all new people about RVHA in the course of her business.

Fire District – Ray reporting

Annie Hodgkins is working with others to learn the law. Michele Reagan, Rural Metro and others are in agreement to change the laws – for example 50 plus 1 of voters in place of 50 plus 1 of land owners, which is prohibitive. By August there may be a new Fire District option within the law regarding the purchase of land and construction of buildings and purchase of equipment. The Rio Verde Fire Department is open to the option of providing coverage for the right price. Rural Metro wants to work with the community and is cooperating. Much is unknown and no definitive reportable information is available.

New Business

15th Anniversary – Mo is still collecting ideas. Celebration should be in September.

Logo Update -- Mo is collecting thoughts on how to run the contest. Prizes could be offered for first, second, and third selection. Guidelines for use will be provided, but design is open to the interpretation of the artist. Contest rules should designate what elements must be included. The goal is to simplify the logo and make it easy to reproduce. Send ideas to Mo. Does the Board decide winner? Board members should bring suggested criteria to the next Board meeting. Board could select top 3-5 and then put to vote of membership. Reveal new design at the anniversary celebration.

Election

Grandfathered Board members who were in office when Bylaws were accepted in February are not required to run for election. However, the process of staggered terms needs to begin sometime. Claudia was elected in last election for a two year term so does not need to run this year. Board members are elected for two year terms. The Bylaw Committee will address an amendment for the election coming up and should be prepared to answer questions at the Annual Meeting. Bylaws committee will begin meeting to work on this amendment.

Moto-cross Track Issue

There will be a meeting at Barbara's house regarding the motocross issue on Thursday, Feb. 7 at 5:30pm at 28927 N 160th St. Donations are coming in for hiring a lawyer but that is on hold and checks are being returned. A volunteer has offered to organize the effort, provide video, etc. Ag exempt permit is allowing track for personal use, which owner claims is temporary until the house and horse property is established. Flood Control permits were denied, but when the ag permit exemption was granted then Flood Control stepped out of process. Meeting will organize the effort and attempt to force Flood Control influence due to extensive grading and changes to the topography. Hearing was postponed, but is now on back on schedule. RVHA will post notice of Feb 7 meeting. Efforts for the hearing Feb. 14 will be organized to get as many people to attend as possible. Barbara will send Mo reminders for posting to membership and keep the membership informed.

County Permitting and Regulations

The Board would like a resource for the permitting and regulation process and law. Answers from the County are different every time they are asked. It was suggested RVHA have another meeting with Valerie to get answers. RVHA Board may ask the person who is helping with the motocross effort to assist. It was suggested the Board contact the Farm Bureau for information – contact is Phil Bashaw.

Meet & Greet with David Schweikert

Barth provided an overview of the current bald eagle situation on the east side of Verde River near Box Bar Ranch. This area has been inaccessible during eagle nesting Dec 1 to Jun 1. The Tonto Forest is now in agreement with 2007 protected species act to allow limited access. However, the signage and fencing funds are not available in 2013. The Tonto Forest wants to partner with local entities for projects. Rio Verde Saddle Club has been cleaning a designated stretch of the river in the Forest, now the Forest Service will supply the dumpster to assist in the effort as a partner. Rio Verde Saddle Club is proposing a gathering of local equestrian groups for a "meet and greet" with David Schweikert, who was helpful in the access situation. RVHA will not co-host, but will post notice for the meeting to keep membership informed.

The Tonto Forest is lacking in funds for enforcement along the river. There are problems with small planes landing on air strip (used for training during WWII) and possible drug running, in the area. Numbers on the planes have been reported to authorities. Ultra-light aircraft are landing in the area.

Request for Donation

Scottsdale Community Equine Science Dept. is looking for donations for scholarships. Ed will provide information to submit for Board approval.

Motion to adjourn: 8:46pm

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 6 at Arizona Cowboy College. 6:30pm refreshments and social; 7:00pm meeting begins.