

Rio Verde Horsemen's Association

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 5, 2014

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

Committees: None other than Board members

Absent: Carmela Lizzo

Minutes – Jenny

The minutes from the February 2014 meeting were previously distributed via email and no comments were received. A motion was made to approve the minutes and seconded without discussion. Marjorie has a copy for the website posting.

Minutes – Special Board of Directors Meeting - Marjorie

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was held on March 24 for preliminary discussion of the Vista Verde community development plans. The minutes were submitted by Marjorie. A motion was made to accept the minutes, seconded and passed without discussion.

Treasurer's Report - Judy

The report was distributed. Questions were received regarding the following:

- The balance of the November dinner dance income will appear in the March report. A check was lost in the mail and had to be re-issued in January.
- The dance instructor was paid in two installments and a decision was made to increase the tip.

Approval was tabled until the next meeting to allow Judy time to research the dinner dance questions and confirm the dance instructor's tip.

Membership Report - Mo

Currently there are 567 total members for 2014 as of this meeting, which reflects a high number of early renewals. There are 43 new members for 2014, 24 of which joined since February 17.

Social Committee – Carmela (Mo reporting)

- **Yard Sale –March 22**
Mo will arrange for a porta-potty rental. The reservation for table space includes lunch at Greasewood Flat.
- **Spring Dinner Dance – April 12**
The venue will be Cave Creek Outfitters. Todd's band is available. The menu is a choice of chicken or steak.

Facebook Report - Terry

Terry will update the number of "likes" at the next meeting. Terry has made several posts. Photos from events and notices of lost and found dogs create the most traffic to the page.

Welcome Committee - Claudia

There have only been 20 closings in the past three months. Of those, 14 were local and Claudia mailed packets. Responses to the program have not been significant. Claudia feels that the newsletter and mailing expense is not worthwhile and suggests a postcard message. The postcard would contain resource information and if the new property owner is interested Claudia will follow-up. Dan will assist with the logo from the newsletter for the design of the postcard. Claudia will draft copy for review.

Old Business

Volunteer Day

There was a lot of interest in participating March 1, but unfortunately the weather did not cooperate. The event was rescheduled for Saturday, March 29.

Trail Rides Committee – Terry

Spring Ride – March 9

A trail ride with Rocco as leader will depart from Arizona Cowboy College. An 8:30am gathering time and 9:00am departure is planned. The ride will conclude at noon followed by an informal lunch. Rental horses are available at \$50 for three hours. Lunch is priced at \$5 for members and \$8 for non-members. Jenny and Marjorie will pick up Jersey Mike's sandwiches for the lunch. Terry is in charge of drinks. The exact number of participants will be available on Saturday for the purpose of ordering lunch.

Election Day – April 24

The event is arranged for Greasewood Flat. The barn area was reserved so RVHA was assigned the new picnic area. Attendees will receive a choice of burger, chicken sandwich or veggie burger. Lunch is complimentary for RVHA members.

The deadline for candidacy forms is March 15. Once the forms are turned in the Election Committee will contact the candidates if needed to verify information on the forms. At this time there is only one candidate other than Board members running for re-election. Mo will compile the information and set up the online election ballot for distribution.

Hike – Brown's Ranch Trailhead – February 15

The information was late due to other commitments so the turnout was light. There were four hikers. Randy reported excellent trails, scenery and weather were enjoyed by the participants. It is expected that turnout will increase with more advance notice.

Vista Verde Update

No motion on this topic was made or voted on at the special meeting February 24 due to the upcoming Board meeting the following week. The Board looked at how to manage this type of situation going forward.

A decision was made that RVHA would donate \$500 toward the hiring of an attorney. Randy would also contribute \$500. However, with current information, the contributions are a moot point. No attorney assistance is required as there is no legal avenue to pursue. The developers have adhered to the Area Plan as it currently stands.

RVHA will form relationships with the various County departments to allow networking and look toward the future as to how to proceed with problems as they develop. Mo will follow-up with getting to the right people so that RVHA is kept informed of any changes and to ensure that notifications are received in a timely manner. Then the avenue to share information can be determined.

It was suggested that a special space on the website be dedicated to sharing special projects information so that members can take responsibility to be aware of changes in the area.

Rattlesnake Avoidance Training

Reminders have been sent that snake training begins this weekend. Lori receives one free training for hosting the training on her property and can determine which dog will take advantage of the training session. Terry explained that re-training dogs is not necessary and is recommended against because it can confuse the dogs.

New Business

Area Plan – Meeting March 5

Matt Holm, County Planner, Carol Shuler, Mo, Marjorie and Bill Bailey met regarding the Rio Verde Foothills Area Plan. The plan was last revised nine years ago and needs to be updated. Matt is available for questions, but has other commitments that will prevent his giving the area plan his attention until the end of the year.

The emphasis of the plan should be:

- Retaining the rural environment
- Retaining low density housing
- Providing for trail access
- Providing for wildlife corridors (keeping open space for the passage of wildlife)

RVHA will form a committee to get involved to work on the area plan update through the rest of the year. Board members are encouraged to invite other members who may be interested in assisting. Carol Shuler has already done a great deal of work breaking down the plan and suggested that subcommittees work on different sections, for example trail access.

On the website the Area Plan is linked to the Rio Verde Foothills Area Plan for reference. Board members are encouraged to become familiar with the Rio Verde Foothills plan prior to the next Board

meeting. Matt Holm will help with the notification process associated with the plan. An article will be prepared for the next newsletter with Carol and Bill's help.

Wild Mustang Program - Terry

Wylene Wilson-Davis is a well-known trainer specializing in mustangs. She gained notoriety in the competition involving 100 mustang/100 trainers/100 days. She is willing to do a horsemanship clinic in the Rio Verde area of two to three days in length. There can be eight participants minimum and 20 participants maximum. The focus of the clinic is to build horse and rider partnerships, gain trust and work on desensitization.

Claudia and Terry are researching possible venues. It was decided that the RVHA would not be the event sponsor, but RVHA notifications could be used to notify members of the opportunity to attend a clinic if arranged. Terry will pursue.

Motion to Adjourn

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

Next Meeting

The next meeting is Wednesday, April 2. Social at 6:30pm and meeting begins at 7:00pm. The location will be Bridwell Equestrian Center/Arizona Cowboy College unless otherwise noted.

The refreshment schedule is as follows:

April – Terry

May – Lori

June – Claudia

Submitted by

Jenny Powers, Secretary