

Board Meeting

August 20, 2009 at 6 PM Pacific Daylight Time

Present: Don Betts, Steve Anderson, Ted Ruprecht, Mary Tiscornia, Ben Volk, Lani Newcomb, Jim Steere, George Hall, Greg Fellers, Steve Shaw, Melanie Weir

Absent: Rufus Schneider, Don Strong, Sarah Howard

Meeting called to order at 6:06pm.

Minutes approved.

President's Report

Filed State of California papers. Must have an address in California in the event of a lawsuit. Steve Shaw is allowing the association to use his address for this purpose.

Vice President's report

Website being updated for the Horse Hall of Fame/Horse of Distinction. This will include the electronic nomination submission forms and process.

George Hall asked to include him as a mentor in the Santa Cruz area. Look at newsletter for information.

Promotions – Ben Volk

Hood River/Trout Lake area. Ben and Don to get together. Will also discuss Portland Marathon

Sanctioning - Lani Newcomb

Race directors need to get the 2010 races to Annie by November 1st
Issue with insurance. Currently with Best Insurance. For events held with AERC rides we had previously used AERC coverage, but it turned out that we did not have coverage after all. For 2009 the Association is picking up the insurance premiums. For 2010, however, the races will need to pick up the premiums. The cost is \$10 per team. We must ensure communication to all race directors about the issue so that they all know this cost will need to be included in race entry fees next year.

Future Race Sites – George Hall

Still looking at 2011 for Grass Valley area where Wild West was held (Melissa Ribley race director).

Will consider Bandit Springs in central Oregon.

Achievements/Special Awards – Ted Ruprecht

Want to take a look at a better way to do year-end awards instead of at the membership meeting because not many people attend, or the award winners are not there. We could post the year-end awards on a bulletin board and hand the awards out individually instead of during the meeting. Or perhaps adding it to the current year race award ceremony.

Many think that is already too long. Another suggestion is to do the raffle during dinner to save time – or even at the membership meeting to increase participation. However, one issue is that we often don't know what we are handing out for the raffle until after the current race awards. No motions were made.

Statistics – Steve Anderson

Working on statistics with Annette Parsons to get ready for the 40th anniversary book.

Statistics on year-to-date ride & tie races (received so far this year):

234 entries
148 competitors
 16 M/M
 30 M/W
 39 W/W

Treasurer's Report

Dodge Cox is about \$42K

Checking account balance \$20,300

Ted cashed CD into Coast Central Credit Union Business Savings Account. Steve spoke to John Osterweis about how to invest this. Does the board need to approve all activities related to investing? Should we make a motion to have the investment decisions made solely by John Osterweis and the Treasurer?

It was suggested that we could have a simple process where changes are communicated via e-mail and any objections from the board must be communicated within a certain amount of time.

Steve reported that he needs to send 1099 forms to 2009 championship prize winners. These need to be mailed by 1/31/2010.

Issue: Website bills for 2008 and 2009. Steve received an e-mail from Trish in the amount of \$2,326. Steve spoke to Trish there was discussion about modifying the web hosting service arrangement. Some discussion followed about the activity on the website. Melanie reported that it is always being updated.

Hall of Fame – Mary Tiscornia. Willie will be the 2011 winner. Mary will take care of the award. Mary and Melanie are working on getting the Horse of Distinction award nominations on our web site.

Head Veterinarian – Greg Fellers. Three vets worked fine this year. He is aware of concern about keeping the costs down. All vet checks will be in base camp in 2011. The race could possibly be monitored with 2 vets as long as there is a treatment facility close by. Was informed that the closest treatment center is probably 40 miles in Hood River. It was suggested to keep 3 vets for next year.

If there are any suggestions for Dr. Fellers for next year's race please contact him.

Old Business:

Report from Committee for Future Ride & Tie Association Funding

Steve Anderson did not have a report but Melanie suggested that if we are to increase membership dues for 2010 fees we need to make the decision soon because we will want to be able to announce it to the membership soon. No motion made. We will leave membership dues at current levels for 2010.

New Business

Annette Parsons – 40th Reunion Year Book

Annette is working on this year-book. Will be given out to participants and also available for sale. Will eliminate the participant's guide for 2010 and therefore will need to get sponsors into the booklet, either include them as part of book or as inserts. Board members who have been around the sport a long time please help Annette compile the information.

Mary Tiscornia made motion to support the development of 40th Reunion Year Book. Steve Shaw seconded. Motion passed – unanimous.

Melanie Weir made a motion to allow John Osterweis, Steve Anderson, and Don Betts to make investment decisions and take investment action so long as board is notified via e-mail within 7 days of the transaction. Lani Newcomb seconded the motion. Motion passed - unanimous.

Steve Anderson: Issues with generic entry form. Instructed to go ahead and make changes to the entry form and send it out.

Vet School Scholarship.

In order to meet our education purposes for our non-profit status, Don Betts is working on implementing a competition between vet schools at the championship. Vet students and veterinarians will compete and each year whichever school gets the most points from its team wins a scholarship for that school in the name of the Ride and Tie Association.. Don will write to all vets that have been associated with ride & tie and AERC to get participation and donations for the scholarship. He will be working with Greg Fellers and Jim Steere.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 19, 2009 at 6 PM Pacific Standard Time