

Minutes
Ride and Tie Board
March 12, 2020

1. President Heltibridle called the meeting to order at 6:04/9:04
2. Roll call: Board of Directors: Janice Heltibridle, Rufus Schneider, Susan Smyth, Steve Anderson, Courtney Krueger, Lani Newcomb, Sara Boelt, Carrie Baris; Guests: Sequoya Russ
3. Lani made motion to approve minutes from last meeting (February 13). Courtney seconded. Minutes approved.
4. Committee Reports
 - a. Technology Committee – see #5a below
 - b. Vet Scholarship – Lani reported that there were 25 essays submitted. The committee has narrowed that down to four finalists and will make a decision on number of winners in the next week. The total allocated to be awarded for the scholarship(s) is \$3,000. Scholarship committee to determine how much to award to each if multiple winners are selected.
 - c. Treasurer’s Report – Reviewed top ten expenses for 2019. Federal and California tax returns completed and copies sent to R&T secretary. California state RRF-1 and SI-100 forms prepared and checks mailed.
 - d. Ad Hoc Committee – Godfrey Sullivan donation - The swag looks good and has been delivered to both coasts.
5. Open Issues
 - a. PR/Social Media campaign (Website, Postcards, Email, Facebook/Instagram/YouTube, etc., Ads, Other?) The new website is targeted to go live on March 16. A link with a demo of the new website still in production was shared with the board on March 9. The domain name was transferred flawlessly from Go Daddy to Upstate Tek on March 2. Janice, Susan, and Carrie have done a good job of posting on social media and are receiving a positive response. Posts regarding the saddle raffle have generated approximately \$100 worth of ticket sales so far. Postcards for championship were printed and mailed out on March 9, extra copies were sent to Chris Amaral and Sequoya Russ. Email notices regarding the championship will start going out over the next several weeks. Ads promoting R&T have been purchased and are being run in AERC Endurance News (Feb, Mar, Apr issues); PNER Handbook; and, Tevis Forum.
 - b. Championships
 - i. 50th Anniversary Race (Cuneo Creek/ Sequoya Ward Russ – June 20-21, 2020)
 - Revisited the Awards budget discussed various awards and prizes. Completion awards for short course (both R&T and Equathon) will be fleece blankets. Sequoya will continue working with Susan and Rufus regarding t-shirts (thinking retro design with “What is this Madness”, and other specialty/division awards. Janice will provide some old photos for consideration and ask her husband to help with design. Sequoya has not been able to identify a photographer(s) for the event yet. Board suggested possibly reaching out to photographers who do mountain biking or trail run events.
 - Susan made motion to approve a separate line item on budget (\$1,200) to hire a band. Lani seconded. Motion approved. Band will start playing around 3ish, break for dinner/awards and continue playing until quiet time.
 - Budget for specialty awards was also increased. Estimated 30 total awards at \$50 each. Board concurred with increase and that it should be more than enough.

- Wording and design for Buckles finalized. Rufus will place order with Gist. Tentatively will be shipped to Debbie Hansen-Bernard in Oregon. Janice will reach out to Debbie to confirm.
- ii. East Coast Championship (Clemson, SC/Sara Boelt – May 23-24, 2020)
 - Buckles/quantities (R&T only) – Board voted to approve purchasing 40 “special” 50th anniversary buckles for East Coast as presented by Sara Boelt just for this year’s regional championship.
- iii. AERC Convention (Jacksonville, FL March 6-7, 2020, Coordinator – Joanne Mitchell) Reports from the convention are that it went very well. There was a good bit of interest in Ride and Tie and over \$200 worth of tickets were sold for the saddle raffle. Question rose about reimbursing Joanne for part or all of her expenses to attend convention (she is not an AERC member) and went only to represent R&T. Courtney Krueger moved that we reimburse Joanne Mitchell \$700 for expenses associated with the convention. Motion carried.
- iv. AERC/R&T Committee – We are continuing conversations with AERC and are seeking to include a person on the AERC ride manager and AERC membership committees to be part of this. We are working on a number of issues such as streamlined entries/joint championships/reduced costs, etc.
- c. Storage Trailer – deferred until the May meeting. Pictures of contents from Sequoya forwarded to board for consideration on what to keep, donate (AERC, Tevis, local endurance clubs, etc.), or trash. Will plan on hauling trailer and all contents to Championship. Contents will be disseminated there before trailer is then put up for sale.
- d. 50 Years of Madness – The book looks great. It is currently a little over 300 pages. Edits and comments provided to Annette by Liz, Bob and Janice Helitbridle. Annette will update, and order another proof before it goes to final print.

6. New business

- a. Upcoming Elections for Board of Directors – If anyone wants to run for the board, they need to submit a photo and write-up as soon as possible. There are currently three candidates running for three open positions: Courtney Krueger, Carrie Baris and Alison Zeytoonian.
- b. Horse Awards
 - i. Horse identification – request from Statistician for help on solution on how to better identify horses to ensure records are as accurate as possible Horse Hall of Fame and Horse of Distinction– Janice raised some questions regarding the criteria, nomination and selection process. Was referred to and will follow up with Mary Tiscornia.
- c. COVID-19 and events- Krueger moved that the board adopt the statement from the R&T Board of Directors that he provided regarding guidelines to limit the potential spread of the COVID-19 virus. Statement was approved. Krueger will provide the statement to race managers.

7. The meeting adjourned at 9:04 PST/11:04 EST

Next special meeting (championships only) – April 9, 2020 6:00 PM Pacific/9:00 PM Eastern

Next regular meeting – May 14, 2020 6:00 PM Pacific/9:00 PM Eastern