

Ride and Tie Board Meeting March 9, 2023 9 pm EST/6 pm PST

1. Call to order

2. Roll call - Courtney Krueger, Carrie Baris, Steve Shaw, Greg Fellers, Alison Zeytoonian, Rhonda Venable, Chris Amaral, Sara Boelt, Steve Anderson, Bob Heltibridle, Lani Newcomb

3. Approval of minutes from the last meeting (January 26, 2023) - Motion to approve - Bob Heltibridle, Second - Courtney Krueger. Motion passed.

4. Committees

a. Godfrey Sullivan Committee: Godfrey Sullivan pleased with report and AERC partnership.

b. Nominating Committee: Three people interested in the board for three open spots currently. Will be published in next newsletter.

c. Vet Scholarship Committee: Greg, Chris, and Lani reading essays, will then compare notes and pick finalists, then pick winner. Should be done by late March. 24 entries this year.

d. R&T/AERC Committee: Spoke with Mike Maul and continuing partnership obviously, working on webinars in the last year of our connection.

e. Treasurer's Report/2023 Budget: Steve Anderson has been updating with incoming membership dues, but also outgoing costs for website. Steve Shaw mentioned there will be at least two more donations that will help balance the budget. The new budget for the championship has not been included. Steve Anderson is still working on actuals for 2023, this is just an estimate.

f. Horse Awards: 2022 Horse Awards have been sent out. There will be two for 2023.

g. Publications: No updates

h. Technology: Janice and Bob continuing to work on database solutions. Working on proposal with Edward. Bob has been marking Juniors, but this will be included in new database.

5. Ongoing Business

- a. Youth Year End Awards: Working on database with Bob to keep track for year end awards.
- b. 2023 AERC Convention in Jacksonville - We will make a plan next year based on Joanne Mitchell's recommendations from this year.
- c. Webinars with AERC for 2023: Sara contacted AERC office as well as Susan Smyth, Rhonda, and Alison about possibilities and participating in webinars. Suggestion to possibly create a Google for nonprofits account so we can use different options for our webinars and meetings, as well as creating email addresses specific to Ride and Tie. Bob will look into cost.
- d. 2023 World Championship - Suggestion to up fee for equathon entry in order to generate more funding. Biltmore charges \$100 per entry/per day. Questions about cost of photographer, insurance, vet fees. Goal is to break even at the end of the ride.
- e. Sponsors: Alison spoke to Specialized about gift cards for prizes and for the silent auction. More sponsors are needed for championship.

6. New Business

- a. New plan for lifetime members: Steve Shaw looking into lifetime members, or founding members, and what services they receive. Steve had the idea to ask these members for further donations to pay for the last few costly years.
- b. Membership fees for 2024: Proposal to raise membership fees for 2024 - Individual to \$35, family to \$50, one day to \$15. Fall special to \$45 if joining/renewing on or after October 1st for remainder of current year through December 31st of following year. Keeping fees low does bring in more members. Discussion will continue at further meetings.

Next meeting: April 27, 2023 9 pm EST/6pm PST