



Limestone Pony Club

Meeting Location: Bamboo Brook, Cazenovia NY

Prepared by: Amy M. Bittner, Secretary

Date of Meeting: 8/5/20

- I. Meeting called to order by Nicole Casamento at 6:45 PM
- II. Roll Call to establish presence of quorum. In attendance were DC Nicole Casamento, Megan Kahn, Treasurer; Amy Bittner, Secretary; and the following sponsors: Julie Jordan, April Anderson, Barb Lindberg, Alix Courson, Arianna Coursen and Julie Lafrenz. Absence excused: Sponsor Krissy Boys, Marketing Director Sherri Benedict.
- III. Minutes from the prior meeting on 7/1/20 were approved.

IV. Treasurer's report

1. Account balance \$1,274.86
2. Tack Sale net was \$373.00
3. There is a concern regard how to avoid the monthly fee for the bank account. Nicole Casamento is going to contact the Regional Supervisor to discuss securing some of the investment money so that we can maintain an adequate amount to avoid having to pay the monthly fee.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

V. Old Business

1. Communications:

- Website: Sherri Benedict secured information needed to begin setting up a website for Limestone.
- CNYD&CTA – Alex Belton has been sharing any information we requested on their face book page.
- Worthwhile to follow other pony clubs on Facebook
- **All voted in favor approving the release of the press release** that Sherri Benedict prepared.
- A monthly newsletter with a letter to the membership was discussed.

2. Recruitment

Nicole Casamento is setting up a table at the summer show at the fairgrounds with information about pony club.

3. Fund Raising

Tack sale a success though there were not a tremendous number of buyers. Possibility of doing this type of event at a different time of year was discussed as was the impact of COVID-19.

4. Equipment and Supplies

- Julie Jordan will recover trophies from Cynthia Curney.
- Alex Coursen offered Matt to build bridle and saddle racks.
- Assembly of group kits will be the subject of a winter meeting.
- Nicole Casamento will send an e-mail to Rolling Hills with a list of the items that belonged to Limestone that should be returned. A copy should go to Regional Supervisor.

VI. **New Business**

1. Instruction:

- A discussion was held concerning quality of instruction and tie to pony club fundamentals. 90 % of the instruction traditionally focused on care and management of horses, so it was judged important to train our instructors in pony club practices, including safety inspection at beginning of every lesson
- **All voted in favor of keeping prices for regular group lessons at between \$20 and \$30 per lesson with the club paying \$15 and the member paying the balance.**
- Instructors will be invited to attend a training session regarding pony club with a mock safety inspections. Erica and Jo are the primary instructors currently. The proposed meeting date is September 19th at Bamboo Brook. Julie Lafrenz agreed to report back on the proposed meeting.
- A written guide for instructors is to be prepared with information regarding teaching consistent with pony club guidelines. This will be furnished prior to the training session.
- Amy Bittner will contact Ellen Stanton at Tanglewood about scheduling lessons at that location.
- **All voted in favor of adding the cost of the D pony club manual to the cost of membership for next year.**
- It was agreed that the cost sharing for members' lessons would continue per the policy developed earlier in the year with the issue being revisited for next year.
- Additional potential instructors include Crystal Gaskell (willing to teach \$20 per person); Diane Brandow (\$20 per person).

2. Ratings

- Adult ratings are needed. A date was proposed. Secretary's notes indicate the date would be the end of December (???)

3. Trail Ride

An overnight camping trip to Brookfield was rejected due to COVID-19 concerns. The possibility of a same day trip with each member supplying their own lunch was discussed as an alternative.

4. Clinic

- As a way to advertise and promote Limestone, holding a clinic with a prominent horseman was discussed.
- Names Joe Fargis, Neil Shapero, Sarah Potter, Candace King and Carol Kozlowski were discussed.

- Julie Lafrenz thought the cost would be approximately \$1500 for the clinician
- Chacea Sundman's farm was mentioned as a possible location.
- Julie Lafrenz agreed to reach out to some possible clinicians.

Next meeting will be on September 2nd at Bamboo Brook at 6:45 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.