

On The Bit Meeting – May 2017

May OTB Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2017

Present: Stephanie, Lexi, JJ, Jessica, Connie, Mary Lynn, Katie, Ginka, Pam, Kelly, Tom.

Meeting called to order at 7:16 p.m.

Ginka read minutes.

Pam moved to accept minutes, Mary Lynn seconded.

Treasurer's report:

Since the last meeting we spent \$500 on Wildcatter deposit, along with some other Derby party costs. We had one new member join. So, the current balance is \$4134.09. We upgraded our banking status, so we now have the ability to process credit cards, and we have a debit card as of this Thursday, May 4.

Stephanie moved to approve, Kelly seconded.

Old Business:

Tack Swap:

We had a good turnout, and recruited at least one new member! (Katie). Stephanie suggested doing such events annually/semi-annually.

Schooling show:

Jessica brought a draft of a prize list. There was some discussion of changing the address for the barn to ensure folks navigating using google apps etc. find the location okay. We need to check with Julie to ensure she is okay judging to fourth level. (Flyer now states introductory to third level). Jessica set the opening for show entries three weeks long to give folks a lot of time to send in entries. Stephanie indicated that we need to give printer a few days' notice if we want to print ride times. Show date is now on the RMDS website. We will do an email blast as well. Jessica would like to have a meeting next week, on Tuesday, May 9th at 7 p.m. for folks interested in serving on the show committee. Anna, Connie, Mary Lynn, Stephanie, and Ginka volunteere for the show committee. Ginka inquired as to whether we should we offer western dressage and gaited tests? Jessica will add western dressage test of choice and gaited tests to the prize list, and confirm with the judge. Julie is currently working on the contract. And Jessica needs to write contract with Spur Ridge. Ginka reminded the group that we need RMDS insurance. Ginka will call Beth to request insurance for the show and the Derby party.

Derby Party:

Stephanie: The RSVPs are currently at 85. Stephanie has to provide Altitude a number of attendees by tomorrow afternoon. Do we want to add on a few? But we would be paying \$10 a head for those extras. Tom prepared a document with cost projections. Set up will be 10 a.m. at the Wildcatter. We have all printing done etc. Anna, Jess and Ginka will volunteer to circulate and sell betting cards. Steph proposed 5 beyond rsvp. Pam and other suggested 10. Group settled on 10 beyond RSVP.

Ginka asked the group about continuing our Chamber membership. Anna should forward email blasts to entire membership. This Thursday at Acre company is a business after hours party. Members should attend the after hours parties and talk about our club and what dressage is. Let's take advantage of our 3 month trial membership. Kelly will look into potential open dates for holding an after-hours. They run from 5:30 to 7. We could give a spiel about club. We can revisit whether to become a long-term chamber meeting at a later date.

Educational Events:

Colic seminar with Irena will be held on Wednesday, June 7th. Cost will be \$15 per person. Motion to hold at Spur Ridge by Connie. Members can bring some snacks to share and beverages.

New Business:

Proposal to meet earlier next meeting to fill out a show entry form? 6:30 p.m. June 6th.

Upcoming clinics:

Jessica Greer clinic is canceled (Cheyenne).

Nell Foxworth will be here May 12th Friday for 6-7 rides. 6 already confirmed. Let Steph know asap.

Ride a test Cheyenne May 20th. Info at Cheyenne dressage and eventing website (Jane's barn). Great venue. There will be the clinic day before.

Symposium on RMDS website:

CO Horse Park, May 20-24th. Any interest in going? Anna should send out an email to Laramie/Cheyenne members to attend for part of it? Nell Foxworth will be riding.

Tom moved to adjourn at 8:51. Kelly seconded.

Post-meeting note: Please pay attention to website and send Stephanie any suggestions.

On The Bit Meeting – April 2017

The meeting was held April 4, 2017 at Altitude Chophouse. In attendance were: Ginka, Kelly, JJ, Connie, Pam, Tom, Stephanie, and Irina Weese.

Ginka called the meeting to order and read the minutes from the March meeting. Correction for the cost of Spur Ridge/donation amount – they will donate \$250, leaving the cost to the club of \$100. Tack swap time is 1-4pm. Kelly moved to accept the minutes as amended. Pam seconded.

Old Business

Schooling Show

Jessica was ill, so we didn't have an update.

Kentucky Derby Party

Stephanie provided an update. Invitations and posters are done and were passed out to members to distribute. We had the contract for UW to review and sign. Tom will review and sign and get Stephanie a check to take to UW.

Julep cups – can we get them engraved with the OTB logo? Kelly will ask Star awards the cost. We can sell them if people want them rather than just having them available for drinks.

DVD – Ginka reported that it is not easy to find a dressage DVD, but she is still looking.

Stephanie will email about a committee meeting next week.

Tack Swap

Spur Ridge is providing the lobby at no charge. We have flyers put up and on Facebook.

Chamber Business Alliance

We discussed members' thoughts on becoming a member of the Chamber. There was some concern about the cost and whether it would make sense for us given that there aren't a lot of similar non-profits who are members. Some members thought a 3 month trial made more sense for us to see if we get enough benefit from it. Kelly will talk to Josie about that. Stephanie moved to do a 3 month trial, Kelly 2nd. Stephanie encouraged members to keep track and decide if we think it is worth it when our trial membership ends so we know if we want to renew.

Education

Irina Weese was present to discuss our desire to have a colic seminar. She would charge \$150 for 45-60 minute presentation. We discussed possible dates and whether we wanted to add it to a regular meeting. We decided to do it on a separate night and try to get the public to attend. We decided on June 7th. Kelly will check on

location options. We will charge \$15 per person and everyone can bring snacks like we did for the Banned Substances seminar. Kelly moved to hold the seminar as discussed. Tom seconded.

Equine First Aid – Kelly reported on her findings. She found a woman who would do 4 hours of instruction and 4 hours of hands on experience. She would then issue us certificates. The cost would be \$150/person. Irina suggested talking to previous attendees to see their thoughts. The general consensus was it was too expensive and we didn't want to dedicate 8 hours to the topic. Kelly will look at other options that are less expensive.

New Business

Clinics

We need to let Stephanie know of upcoming clinics so she can get them on the events page of the website.

May 20 is a Ride-A-Test in Cheyenne at Jane's house

On the Levels

We will host a movie night on Thursday May 18th at Stephanie's house to watch On The Levels. 6:00 for pot luck with wine, cheese, and popcorn. Wear your lounge clothes for a fun and relaxing evening.

Kelly moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45. Stephanie seconded.

On The Bit Meeting – March 2017

Meeting held at the Altitude Chophouse on Tuesday March 7th.

Ginka called meeting to order at 7:22 p.m.

Present were: Ginka, Tom, Kelly, Anna, Connie, Jessica, Stephanie, and Mary Lynn.

Josie Molloy was present for the first part of the meeting to tell us about the Laramie Chamber Business alliance. The basic membership level and non-profit rate is \$299 per year. Membership includes the weekly newsletter, and advertisement to the local business community. Discussion ensued about the costs and benefits given that we are a small club. Stephanie suggested we table the decision until the next meeting; Jessica seconded.

Treasurer's report: Given by Tom. Current balance is \$5212. Only spending since last meeting was \$25 to the Secretary of State for our Certificate of Good Standing. Kelly moved to accept, Mary Lynn Seconded.

Old Business:

Schooling Show:

Julie Haegen is available to be our judge and Spur Ridge is available for the venue. Jessica posed the following questions: Do we want to set up the show arena in the indoor arena? Do we need both arenas to be off-limits to boarders for the day? Group decided yes to first question, and no to second.

The cost for Spur Ridge for the day is \$350 but Spur Ridge will donate \$150, leaving a cost to the club of \$100. We need to obtain our own event insurance from RMDS.

For Sunday's clinic participants, there will be a \$15 fee to individuals for haul-ins.

Show name will be the "OTB summer schooling show"- motion by Connie, seconded by Anna.

Jessica will be sending out an email to meet to work out details for show planning. Show committee needs to put together a prize list. Stephanie moved to accept all these conditions, and Kelly seconded.

Kentucky Derby Fundraiser:

Stephanie brought sample menus assembled by Altitude which the group decided looked great. Cost of the Wildcatter will be \$2,500. We will need an exception to serve the mint julips.

We could also do mint chocolate truffles from the Meteetse Chocolatier for \$2/piece.

Anna encouraged discussion about our financial considerations, given that just the venue cost would comprise almost half of our entire club's budget. Ginka suggested we obtain sponsors in advance to allay costs. But Stephanie indicated that we need more details to provide to sponsors before we can approach them with our event ideas.

We will not be set up to do official betting. But we could do some fun "in-house" betting, and hold raffles.

Anna moved that we move forward with the fundraiser; Connie seconded.

Next steps for the party include: Stephanie will arrange the contract through UW. We decided that a ticket price of \$40 a person and \$75 per couple sounded reasonable. We need to determine how best to honor/display corporate sponsors. Tom suggested maybe we have about 4 corporate sponsor tables? Kelly suggested we charge \$500 for those tables. Ginka asked about invitations. Tom has a designer named Chantalle that he will ask about invitations, which would entail just the cost of paper. We need to make a distribution plan and do a save-the-date posting soon.

Someone suggested that we have a side-display running of Olympic and/or freestyle dressage. Anna will look into the availability and cost of a DVD. We should also have flyers at the event highlighting our club.

Stephanie will make a group in Slack to make sure we are organized and divvy out tasks. We should have the invites printed by April 10.

Dressage Arena:

Ginka learned that the seller had purchased the arena from Somerset Farms in Longmont for \$600. Some of the boards and letters are damaged. Ginka showed photos, and the group decided the damage would be too much work to fix and that we should hold off. Connie made a motion to not purchase and Anna seconded. Kelly will ask Cynthia if she plans to sell her arena.

Tack Swap:

Stephanie asked Jessica how much it would cost to have the swap at Spur Ridge, in the lobby and Jessica said she will ask. Stephanie will make a poster ad. Items can be used, for swap or sale, or give-a-way. Items should be clean and in relatively good condition.

Tack swap will be held on April 22, from noon- 4 p.m. Please help spread the word. We can provide coffee and snacks.

New Business:

Educational Ideas:

Stephanie: One idea would be on how to mentally prepare for riding a test.

Anna suggested a focus on colic in horses. Connie will call Irena.

Rocky Mountain Expo:

Will be held the weekend of March 11-12. RMDS will have a booth. Stephanie will email some information about OTB for the booth.

Website:

Ginka suggested that maybe we update our webpage with some more personal photos of members riding etc. But Stephanie indicated this might be fairly difficult and photos need to be of sufficient quality. Stephanie also reminded us that our spam filter needs to be updated and costs about \$30 per year. Tom moved we purchase, and Connie seconded.

Motion to adjourn by Kelly at 9:19 p.m., Connie seconded.