

## Minutes South Kettle Moraine Horse Trail Association Board and General Membership Meeting

Saturday 2/12/2022 Meeting called to order by Jen at 10:15

Present: Jen Haras, Amy Muth Laura Savatski TBD from signup list.

- Approve December 14<sup>th</sup> , 2021 minutes, Jen moved and Amy seconded approval of minutes, all in favor.

Treasurer's report – annual (Amy)

- \$15,844.74 balance in bank, \$1,377.31 Fall fundraiser profits. Funds still trickle in from tack sales. Bingo from 2021 at Squiddy's \$715. Did not apply for any grants as doing activities has been challenging in Covid times/and in getting DNR approval. Lunch at Sassy's a loyal sponsor after the trail cleanup event was sponsored by the club. Sponsors of fall fundraiser in Palmyra and Eagle area primarily were again reviewed and thanked. Routine fees for porta potty cleaning. Laura moved to accept report, Lisa seconds, all in favor.
  - Thanks to our Gold Sponsors: Rustix, Knuckleheads, Endurance Podcast, Midwest Garden Mart, Lower Springs Lake BP, West 20, Wild 3L Ranch ☺
  - Silver Sponsors include: Rushing Waters, Eagle Public Market, True Value in Palmyra, Sassy's Kettle Hill Grill, Rainabobainas, Purina.
  - Thanks for Spirit Horse Donation of \$900
  - Thanks to Equine Trail Sports for their \$250 donation made today at the meeting to help promote their July 9& 10, 2022 Trail Obstacle Event

Park project report (Bob)

- Excused, due to DNR issues and health of key staff the footing project that was planned for 2021 will be scheduled for spring 2022. Funds of \$8500 are already allocated for the cost of gravel and previously approved. DNR was to supply labor.

Trail Report from Bob

- White trail cleanup done in 2021
- Corrals were slated to be worked on in 2021 for the footing improvement. However, Don at the DNR for health reasons was not able to coordinate this project. The hope and plan is to restart this in spring 2022. DNR will be doing the labor and the club has previously approved \$8500 for the stone to improve the footing in the corrals so they do not flood or get holes dug by nervous pawing horses. Corral work will be staggered through the year. Brian Lemke and Ann \_\_\_ are onboard with this as the next priority.
- Site 419 the test site has been holding up well according to Lisa and Bob

- Laura mentioned safety issues with the Stair Trail, Don and Bob plan to take a look at it. Tara mentioned it was last improved in 2019.
- Brand new Marker Boards/magnetic boards for the kiosk donated by Bob – found in trash.
- Bike turnstile also is rotting/needs work. DNR recognizes that need and wants to work with bike groups. Want signage on either sign of the turnstile to warn bike riders how spooky the horses are
- Request for signage at Road X, Piper Road, and ZZ that the trails are for horses only. A member has encountered several bikers. Bob to request that DNR put signs up in these areas at crossings. Need more “No Bikes” “No motorized vehicles” signs to show the approved multi-uses of that stretch of trail. Current markers are down or non-existent. Ann and Lisa to work together to make a list of where the signs are needed. Various reports of unsafe biker/hiker behaviors.
- Recommend that riders call the Tip Line to report issues/infractions on the trail 800-847-9367 or the Headquarters at 262-594-6200
- Recommendation that some of our horse riding members attend bike group meetings etc...
- Horse Council District 4 has funds available to help with corral footing/signage. Thanks to Tara for the suggestion.
- Signs are made at BSI at correctional facility and is the preferred vendor per the DNR.
- Thanks to Andy \_\_\_\_\_ and his daughter for the many days of work on the obstacle course
- More than 100 volunteer hours were logged in 2021

#### Old business

- Vote to spending up to \$300 for signs at main bike turnstile on main trail, the other bike turnstile off the main trail, and at Tamarack (6 total). Amy moves, Dawn seconds, all in favor.
- Ask DNR for bike club info so we can establish contact/connection with them about working together on a safe environment for all.
- As an FYI, A UMECRA ride manager wants to donate 2 signs with a 2 Mile To Camp permanent marker on main trail.
- Also, the hot water was not working in 2021 and DNR was notified. Please help remind DNR if this issue persists so it gets fixed. 262-594-6200

#### New business - Discussion of upcoming meetings (Jen)

- Midwest Horse Fair – please signup for a shift with Amy (4hrs). In the Colliseum in booth C47. Discussion that Spirit Horse provide cards and crafts for the event to bring people into the booth and make \$ for the club (1/3 of proceeds go to SKMHTA). Unknown at this time what kind of Covid safety protocols will be required. Maybe masking inside?
- Pizza (Bingo? If we can get it licensed party) at Rustix or Knuckleheads combined with a fun event.. Not March 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> as there are competing events. Target March 26-27. Little bit of preference for Sunday.
- AERC needs to be recognized for their past donations with signage at the Kiosk. Laura to work with Bob on figuring out what AERC donations need to be recognized (\$3K = 7.5K), Amy to provide Laura a list of donations for the corrals. A member suggest we have a donor recognition

plan in working with the DNR. There are a lot of \$1K donors and the suggestion was made to have recognition at the \$5K point.

- Suggestion by Tara to take down magnetic board on left and put Corral Project recognition of greater than \$1K was discussed by the group. This was previously approved and we will follow up on this outstanding matter.

#### Elections of officers for 2022-23 – 2 year commitments

- Nominate \_\_\_\_\_ President 2022-2023
- Nomination of Debbie Domalgalski as Fundraiser Coordinator (planning small events) 2022-2023. All approved Debbie – welcome!
- Nomination of Jen Haras for Secretary (help with Social Media and website) (1 yr remaining) 2021-2022, All approved Jen – welcome!
- Nomination of Amy as Treasurer 2022-2023, Amy accepted. All approved Amy – welcome!
- Nomination of Duane Domagalski as trail Coordinator for 2022-2023, Duane accepted the nomination. All approved Duane – welcome!
  
- Discussion of open positions on board for ideas how to fill. Pizza party? Hags on Nags? Request that members bring forward suggestions.

#### Future of the club

- We are a social club about fun. Board needs to focus just on fun for now and deprioritize the project work. We need membership and engagement for the future.
- Current club structure is as a social club not a 501c (3). So under the current structure, SKMHTA is not eligible for “Friend of” group funds from the DNR, matching funds from other organizations/businesses etc... which are open to non-profits in general. Discussion of what else needs doing.
- Fall Social / Fall FUNraiser vs. Fall Fundraiser – focus more on fun and less on \$\$’s raised
- Discuss need to adjust goals or structure to fit with lower engagement and fundraising abilities to support just a few thousand or less a year of improvements at current membership levels.
- Need to more clearly have the meeting schedule and location publicized. Confusion on that.
- Discussion of quarterly meeting schedule on zoom/in-person. Suggestion on space at Phantom Ranch Bible Camp in Mukwanago.

*Laura moves to adjourn the meeting, Lisa seconds all in favor. Meeting adjourned 12:07*

*Submitted by Laura Savatski*