

Horsemen's Council May Minutes

Present ~ Marj Harper, Mark Wright w/Back Country Horsemen, Lindi Vishoot, Barbie Howell, Nancy Hinman, Christine Foster, Mike Hartkorn

Mark Wright discussed the May 16th Equine Skills Expo. There is lots of advertisement. Smoke Elser will talk w/ Monti Turner on Montana Today on 5/12, 2 different articles in the Missoulian, 8 sandwich boards will be put up the day of the event, and an article & ad in Rocky Mountain Rider. The Expo will focus on safety vs training. Three veterinarians will give talks; there will be a kids area w/games, ect; St. Pat's will be selling helmets at cost. Set up will start @ 1 on Friday. Vendors are charged \$50 unless they are members of the park or Back Country Horsemen. BCH has allocated \$700 for the Expo and the Park will be covering expenses for porta potties, bleachers and picnic table.

Mark mentioned that Ken Wood w/ Opportunity Workshop may be able to build us picnic tables. Lindi will contact him to discuss.

Marj and Dee Dee will look into our insurance policies. In our next newsletter we will include a statement regarding the importance of riders being members and thus signing a release form, except if participating in an activity/clinic/show that has it's own insurance and is approved by the Horsemen's Council. Nancy will write it up in appropriate form.

Barbie received several prices for printing the brochure and Kinko's has the best price (\$380/1000). She spoke w/Blue Mountain Clinic & Missoula Vet about the possibility of sending out brochures w/their monthly bills. Blue Mnt. monthly mailing is approximately 1200 and Msla Vet is about 400. The Council approved \$500 for printing brochures and flyers.

The dressage arena still needs more sand removed. Marj & Lindi will have another removal session before the May 30th schooling show. Lindi will put some excess sand in the round pen and check with Laura Bakker about more sand being put in the 4-H arena.

A motion was made & passed to give Cat Constantine a yearly membership for all the help and volunteer hours with selling the hats & tees. She and Lindi have volunteered for 3 Saturdays of selling.

Lindi received an estimate from Paulson Electric for putting up lights in the stalls. The idea is to put lights inside the stalls along the peak of the roof. They would have globes w/shock resistant glass covered with a die cast guard. Also included in the estimate are 2 vandal proof light to be mounted on the exterior near the breezeway. The estimate is \$2500 or \$2000 w/out the exterior lights.

Marj will attend the next Big Sky Park Stewardship Committee meeting is hopes of getting help w/funding some of our projects. They receive \$750/month rental fees for the cell phone towers.

The decision was made to go w/ Small Dog Solutions for the website overhaul. Christine likes the idea of drop downs and adding a 'last updated' line. There is interest in coming up w/a new logo.

Mike brought up concerns regarding decisions and/or discussions made online vs at the monthly meetings. Nancy suggested we change the bylaws to enable us to make emergency decisions via email. This topic needs further discussion.

Minutes submitted by Lindi Vishoot