

Horsemen's Council June 2009 Minutes

Present ~ Marj Harper, Ginny Schuler, Lindi Vishoot, Laura Bakker, Mike Hartkorn

Marj gave a recap on the Expo. About 325 people attended. This is in addition to all the exhibitors, vendors and volunteers. That's pretty good considering it was graduation at the University. Marj received some great feedback from a county commissioner who was quite impressed with the turnout and the park!!

Ginny would like to use the 2 old gates from the main arena for the speed events arena. She will also be able to use the excess sand, rock and topsoil that we have. Lindi will consolidate these piles so it looks better as we aren't sure how soon it will get put to use. Ginny will be getting estimates on the cost of putting in the arena and Marj will discuss the new arena with the Big Sky Stewardship Committee.

Lindi will get an estimate for getting the lawn areas sprayed for the excessive dandelion population. She'll knock down the weeds around the 4-H arena. We are seeing an increasing amount of cheat grass across the park. Lindi will talk w/ Al Knudsen regarding a plan of action with this difficult weed. Sue Mathewson (who has been involved with getting our weed grants) and Nick Holden (who has been doing the spraying) will be involved w/this.

Comments were made @ the May 30th dressage show that...more sand must be removed. The main areas are between S and center, and between V and center.

Laura made a motion to increase Lindi's wages to \$20/hr. She's an independent contractor so is responsible for all taxes including self-employment taxes. She also regularly uses her vehicles and tools for park duties. Mike did not feel there were enough people at the meeting to make a vote. It will be discussed at the July meeting.

Laura volunteered to be the 'sergeant at arms' at the meetings. She will help us stay focused on the topic being discussed. She will remind us that when someone has the floor that means that one person is talking (and hopefully the rest are listening). It is very inefficient, disrespectful and frustrating being interrupted repeatedly. If we can get clearer on our discussions then we can make clearer decisions.

There was further discussion on the chain link enclosure. I hope we can finalize this @ the July meeting.

Meeting adjourned @ 8:30

Minutes submitted by Lindi Vishoot