

Horsemen's Council July 2009 Minutes

Present ~ Christine Foster, Mike Hartkorn, Anita Scott, Connie Long, Dick Clemow, Rachel Ambrose, Barbie Howell, Drue Kerns, Alex Clemow, Marge Clark, Sharon Barrett, Ginny Schuler, Marj Harper, Lindi Vishoot

Further discussion of Lindi's wages for her groundskeeping duties. (Lindi was asked not to be present for this discussion.) The position is as an independent contractor vs an employee; a 1099 is generated annually. There may be some conflict of interest as the Council also voted her in as Secretary. There is currently no written job description for the groundskeeper. Mike will write up what he feels the position entails. Currently the groundskeepers hours are sent to the treasurer monthly, with a weekly breakdown of hours & description of work.

Barbie made a motion that Lindi stays on the board, stays on as groundskeeper, and does not vote on issues pertaining solely to her groundskeeping position (i.e. wages). Drue seconded the motion & it carried.

This year Lindi's groundskeeping hours average about 17/week. The position typically lasts March-Oct with March & October having significantly less hours. The current wage is \$12/hour. Barbie made a motion to raise it to \$16/hour, Anita seconded the motion. The motion failed. Drue made a motion to raise it to \$14/hour. Ginny seconded the motion and it carried. The motion was amended to start 7/7 and continue until the end of the year. The amended motion carried.

Alex Clemow, with Waddell & Reed, is the financial advisor for the Missoula Horsemen's Council Endowment Fund. The Endowment was set up so the Council can use the interest and/or dividend income for Park improvements but may not touch the principle. Over the past year the Fund has generated about \$500/month. In June there was a significant decrease in the amount which sparked some concern. Alex explained that this was due to a change in the way the interest was dispersed and will not have a significant on the overall performance.

Dick and Alex Clemow are with the Montana Draft Horse and Mule Association. They are interested in using the Park Oct. 2-4 for their annual Fall meeting/clinic. Stall & arena fee's will be exchanged for work done by the animals (mowing, dragging or cultivating). The Park hopes to hold a membership meeting/lunchBBQ on Sunday and the animals could be available for wagon rides and possibly a 'learn how to drive' demo.

Jenn Mittelstadt, with the University of Montana Equestrian Team is interested in using the Park Sept. 19th and/or 20th. It will be a fundraiser for the team to go to the Nationals. There are 20 members on the team and the majority of their budget comes from fundraising events. She is considering bringing in a clinician or possibly a 'Horse Expo' type of event. Drue suggested she put on a Hunter Jumper Show but there may not be time to pull that together for this year. The Park may waive fees to help the team out.

Marj Harper has interest in putting together a Dressage Schooling Show, w/ Deb Spence, to benefit the park. No date has been chosen yet.

Bleacher Update ~ Lindi has been in contact w/Vince Gavin as per Barbie's suggestion. He has designed some great wood bleachers for Bonner School which are all up to code. He is drawing up bleacher plans for the Park (in exchange for riding lessons for his partner's son). After he gets together w/Steve Hutchings, the Missoula County Building Official, we will be able to get some estimates.

Website update ~ The 1st step in the process is getting photos. There is some concern about involving commercial interests with our site. There are non-profits that use 'ways to support', 'sponsors' and 'links' to help fund their organizations (Montana NPR is one example). At this time the Council does not want to use Jenn's/Tangible Memories photographs in exchange for a link to her website. Lindi will see if she would be happy with photo credits vs a link. We have several additional sources for photos & will get the word out to members to see if they have any to share. Lindi will be updating the old website as the new one is being developed.

Membership to the Council ~ Laura Bakker, Barbie Howell and Christine Foster were voted in as "at large Council members". Anita Scott will be representing Msla Dressage & Combined Training Assoc. Connie Long will be representing Back Country Horsemen. This, according to Article IV of the bylaws makes them officials voting members.

Chain Link Enclosure ~ Motion was made and carried for Ken Wood to build an enclosure approx 24' x 62' (bid #85) for \$750.

Meeting adjourned ~ 9:50

Minutes submitted by Lindi Vishoot with help from Connie Long