

Horsemen's Council November 2009 Minutes

Present ~ Susie Thomas (Bitterroot Pony Club), Steve Morris, Ginny Schuler, Laura Bakker, Drue Kerns, Marge Clark, Susie Mayer, DeeDee Gianchetta, Smoke Elser, Marj Harper, Mike Hartkorn, Sharon Barrett, Barbi Howell, Christine Foster, Lindi Vishoot

October Minutes were read and approved.

Laura reported on the Target Range Neighborhood Plan meeting. Peggy Morrison, who is on the Neighborhood Plan Committee requested Laura to be part of that committee. They support the proposed Western Events Arena and will draft a letter reflecting that. Everyone involved realizes the importance in Big Sky Park becoming a dedicated park. There are preliminary discussions for a children's playground at the park. A comment was made that the irrigation ditch would have to be fenced off from the kids.

Drue discussed the October Mini Event. Entries were low as the date had to be moved to the following weekend due to snow and frigid temps. Drue and Catherine Meslanka are donating their fees back to the Horsemen's Council. The Event grossed \$1651. Drue discussed the possibility of Steve Buckman (who designed the Cross Country Course) coming to the park and switching the course around. Riders have been jumping the same course for 7 years and a change would be beneficial. Steve charges \$425 per day and travel fees from Vancouver Island. The travel fee could be split with Billings as he will be doing work on their course also during his trip in November. Steve estimated \$1200 to switch the course around and rebuild the schooling trakehner. A motion was made and approved for \$1200 for Steve. Susie Thomas, with Bitterroot Pony Club, may be able to gather up some donations to help with the cost and possibly a Bobcat to use.

The Arena Werks drag is in need of a repair that will cost about \$100. A motion was made and approved for \$100 for Big Sky Tractor to repair.

Steve Morris completed the Tower section of the perimeter fence. Steve requested an additional \$350 to cover the cost of the post pounder. A motion was made and approved for \$350 for Steve. The total cost of this section was \$4150. Steve's bid for labor was \$2000, cost of materials was \$1800, and cost of the post pounder \$350. The Stewardship Committee will reimburse the Council for materials after getting approval from the Park Board.

Laura reported on the 10/13 meeting with the Stewardship Committee regarding the Western Events Arena. Copies of the Proposal were given to Bill Dahlgren. He will draft a letter to be sent to the neighborhood explaining the proposal and notifying everyone of the next meeting 11/17 encouraging involvement and input. It will probably be brought to the Park Board in December.

Susie Mayer reported on the proposed changes to the bylaws and discussion ensued.

Susie will type up the agreed upon changes and send out to Council members. Once the Council members comment on the draft it will be sent to the general membership for approval.

Barbi Howell was nominated for president and Ginny Schuler was nominated for vice president. Nominations for Council members: Laura Bakker, Christine Foster, Mike Hartkorn, Anita Scott, and Drue Kerns.

DeeDee reported on finances. There is \$12,532 in the accounts (\$7532 in MFCU and \$5000 in the CD). We are waiting for the \$1800 reimbursement from Big Sky Stewardship Committee (for fence materials). DeeDee is concerned about the reimbursement that Lindi is receiving for materials, ect. and prefers expenses be paid with company checks.

Meeting Adjourned 9:35. Minutes submitted by Lindi Vishoot