St. Joseph County, MI
4-H HORSE COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 6, 2014

President: Regina Schinker
Vice President: Patti Adams
Secretary: Sherri Rivers
Club/Specialty representatives:
Treasurer: Tereasa Hufstedler
Deputy Treasurer: Pam Cook


16 Voting Members: Suspended meeting for 15 minutes, waiting for Bonnie Alvarado, so that we would have quorum. Special thanks to Bonnie for being our life line!

Call to Order/pledges: by Sherri Rivers

Secretary's Report: Sherri Rivers Correspondence: Letters from Amy and Savannah Taylor thanking Horse Council for her Royal Court Award and making 4-H possible for her. Letter from Kosciusko County 4-H Horse & Pony Club, inviting us to partake in their fundraiser show www.freewebs.com/kosciuskohorseandpony. Good idea, I will draft a letter to email to other counties inviting them to join us for our fundraiser shows.

American Quarter Horse Assoc. in conjunction with the American Youth Horse Council, Certified Horsemanship Assoc., The US Pony Clubs, and state equine specialist members of eXtension’s Horsed Quest Learning Network have been working on ways to include youth ages 5-9 TakingMeRiding.com a digital, immersive experience that engages kids with horses and youth 10-19 OnlineStable.com to make animal management and record keeping easier. Take Me Riding is offering a geo-location based map to direct kids and their parents to horseback experiences. This map will direct them to riding centers, horse events and institutions that encourage horse activity in a positive youth development environment. Our county office location and website will be included in this map. In the event you get visits or calls from Take Me Riding users, we are encouraged to help them find a St. Joe 4-H horse club and connect with a horse adventure here.

St. Joseph County 4-H Youth Council Auction and Toy Show will be held in the Livestock Show Arena on St Joseph County Fairgrounds, Saturday, June 28, 2014, Silent Auction 11-1, Live Auction 1-2, Toy Show 9-3 (Tractors, Cars, Trucks, Etc. Proceeds go to St. Joseph County 4-H Programs.

Questions, revisions, and changes to minutes from April? No. Motion was made, seconded, passed to approve the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Tereasa Hufstedler – Still need donation packets from following clubs asap. Please turn in to 4-H office. Turned in are: Gymkhana, Tumbleweed, Town & Country, Sauwauseebee, Buckaroos & Driving. Still need: Desperados, Stirrup Fun, Spirit Riders & Trail Blazers. We need to mail out invoices asap.

Beginning Balance: $4,827.86
Driving Show Donation 200.00
Prairie Pony Award Donation: 50.00
Tammy Hughes (horse bowl reimbursement) 72.00
April Checking Interest .20
Ending Balance $5,006.06
Motion was made, 2nd, Treasurers Report accepted and passed.

Public Comment: Dawn Steele – In regards to King, Queen, Prince, Princess Award. As donor of the Megan Holt Award she is concerned about the changes to the KQPP and how it will affect her award. She recommended that in the future, we let the donors of fair awards know and be given ample time to adjust their procedures, points and award formats for new changes to these programs. She felt it might be necessary to adjust her award and is aware that the content has already gone to print for the fair books. It remains very important that the kids who try out for the Megan Holt Award not have any entry fees to participate at shows towards this award. She expressed concerned with how to count points for Megan’s award.

Specialty Area Reports:

Cloverbud: Pam - Nothing new.

Competitive Trail: Teresa - First trail ride of the year is May 18 @ Russ Forest. Get there at 9, ride begins 10 am SHARP.

Dressage: Sharon - Sharon has had to take back Dressage, Jessi will not be help with it. Workouts should be on the website this week. Workouts will be mostly Wednesdays in grass at fairgrounds or at Sharon’s farm.

Driving: Bobbi - Not present. Bobbi Jo had her baby!, Shirel is unable to print Driving Showbill. Anyone else? Let Eva know.

Gymkhana: Shirel - First workout May 13. The address for the Gymkhana Fundraiser Show is incorrect on the 4-H website and in the Hoofprints publication. Please Note. Eva will make sure it gets fixed.

Horse Bowl: Tammy - Kids competed at state. Senior team placed 2nd overall, which qualifies them for nationals!! Great achievement and unheard of for a second year team. Alexis Leighton won the entire competition for the seniors. Other teams very impressed. Everyone placed! Need help with fundraising for nationals tba location – Kentucky or Quarter Horse Congress. Two team mates attended tonight. Tansley Henline and Samantha Sigman. (Round of applause) Tammy does not know any details about cost, dates, etc. Have you done fundraiser form for Eva. For each fundraiser. On wordpress website. Tammy will write a base letter stating request for money and thank you for donation.

Horse Judging: Tammy -

Jumping: Kelli - not present. We need jumping schedule turned in so that it can be put on website asap.

Reining: Kasara - working on walk trot pattern, probably same as regular pattern just walk trot.

Old Business:

KQPP - see New Business – Eva

Special Committee Reports


Pleasure Fundraiser July11/12/13: Patti - None available. Sent signup sheet around. Have you done fundraiser form for Eva?

Driving Show: Bobbi - None available. Sent signup sheet around. Have you done fundraiser form for Eva?

Gymkhana Fundraiser July: Shirel - Need to pass around signup sheet for help at show. Have you done fundraiser form for Eva?

KQPP: Kathy - Waiting for Eva’s Update on King Queen Prince Princess

Regular Committee Reports

Judge Hiring: Julie - Not here (Driven Dressage show date has not been set, therefore no judge has been hired)

Awards: Connie - Contact Julie Bruce for this. Connie was not available for committee meetings.

New Business:

1. Sign-up sheets for show help Passed around, if your club does not sign up, you will be appointed a time to help.

2. Yearend award descriptions on website? Sherri requested a copy of the awards. New ones – Prairie Ponies In Hand and Top 6 Overall Award. Pam stated that Regina had submitted a copy to Tonya for the website. Will check to see if posted. Follow Up. Teresa asked about awards for these. Norma said Kelli Trail volunteered to handle awards for Top 6. Follow Up with Kelli and Julie B. Norma also stated that she just gave Teresa the money for the Prairie Pony awards. She will purchase a plaque and bring it to fair. Follow Up Julie.

3. Budget Discussed, questions, made a few changes. Diane had question as to drop in income on budget from 2013 - 2014 for State Qualifier, Gymkhana expenses – low because it doesn’t include the payback classes. To be added later. Teresa clarified see attached sheets for proposed budget and show breakdown to be voted on at June Horse Council meeting. Shirel had correction. She has already turned in $250 donation in for Gymkhana Fundraiser. Teresa corrected.
Also vote to move Wolthius Helmet money left over $15 to general fund. It has been earmarked for a minimum of four years and $15 isn’t enough to purchase another helmet. Motion made by Diane. Question Horse with most Heart. Correction to Monies Donated Teresa had in Gymkhana Show. Fixed. Diane made corrected motion. Motion seconded, passed. Wolthius money moved to contributions.

Discussion regarding motion/vote to collect money for Horse Judging National Competition. Kathy pointed out not necessary, already on budget.

4. Eva – KQPP – There have been many emails, discussions, etc. over the last several months in regards to changes. She has spent several weeks reviewing Horse Council meetings, Constitution, Read minutes and she is officially making in which she did not meet with the KQPP Committee on this decision. For this year the KQ Contest will be held at the State Qualifier Show. Kids will be “crowned” at the end of this show. They will not take their reign until the last day of fair at the award ceremony. The new court will not wear any prizes until end of fair. The current court will finish out their reign until the end of fair (Sept.). “New Court” will reign from end of fair until June 2015. Then 2015 Court may be crowned at State Qualifier in 2015. She met with Executive Board prior to Horse Council meeting tonight to explain this discussion. There will be a written test, interviews and pattern this year. Committee will meet May 14, 7:00 p.m. to determine how this will be facilitated at the State Qualifier.

Tereasa clarified that kids participating just in KQPP will not be charged any fees for participating, only for State Qualifier show. This should help with Dawn Steele’s concerns. Sherri clarified what Eva stated. Committee will only make determinations on logistics how KQPP will be conduct in June.

Regina joined us at this time and again clarified that the new KQPP post fair committee will determine going forward if this year was a success or it needs more revamping.

5. Moving Dressage to week of fair - Wednesday during fair week during draft horse show. Patti talked to Bill Johnson. He has ok’d this. It would help with budget and fair costs. Draft show will be in old arena. Dressage in new arena. Half of arena is for show, half for warm up. Samantha commented that it would create a great deal more pressure to perform another day. Four show days in a row is too much. Sharon has concerns with heaviness of arena for dressage. Several others also share her concerns. She prefers to have it before fair. Sherri stated that everyone take these ideas back to their clubs and discuss it. This issue will be voted on at our June meeting. Sharon would like to talk to Bill Johnson regarding swapping arenas with the draft show. Regina and/or Patti will continue dialog with Bill regarding this change. Regina/Patti/Sharon will continue to communicate in regards to this issue and report back to HC prior to vote.

6. Showbill distribution - Everyone volunteered to help. Sherri sending to other counties. Regina stated that we can get copies from 4-H office (fee involved as usual) and people can pick them up to distribute. Please call ahead so that your copies will be ready for pick up. Post on Facebook, which has a designated show bill page. Running Hard will also put it on their page.

7. Covered Bridge Days - June 21, 4 pm They would like 4-H to participate in the parade. Horses, kids, stick horses, etc. Contact www.coveredbridgedays.com, Eva will sign off on community, government service for kids who participate. Riverfest - Diane stated we may want to participate that in the Mendon parade also which is in August. Three Rivers Memorial Day Parade - check with TR Chamber of Commerce. Samantha suggested walking in these parades with club banners. Shirel mentioned that there will be something for everyone, antique car show, live band, casino night, fireworks, etc. To start after the parade. Contact her for more details.

8. Fuzzy Horse Show -Town & County fundraiser - Connie - Beautiful day, but there were several area proms. Participation was down. They netted $776. $425 donation to be distributed between Pleasure Fundraiser, Gymkhana, State Qualifier and smaller amounts as specified in letter to specialty areas. Given to Tereasa. Special thanks to Town and Country for their generous donations.

9. Stall Committee for Fair - Committee will have less responsibility. The number of stalls per club will be dictated by the number of kids who are entered in fair classes - August 1. If you have 20 kids who sign up for horse classes, you have 20 stalls to fill. College students will not be exempt. *NEW RULE, voted on last fall. * Regina reminded everyone to keep in mind that they may want to take the opportunity to help on this committee of stall assignments.

Eva’s Updates:
1. Auction and Toy Show proceeds with be spent on St. Joseph County 4-H Programs.
2. 4-H Camp registration starts May 7 on line. They still need one female camp counselor, age 16 or older. Great experience. Something to add to your resume for college and summer jobs. July 8-10. Not long commitment!
3. Fair Association meeting, May 20, at fairgrounds. Please attend if you are a member.
4. Exploration Days is coming up. We have a record number of kids that have enrolled this year!
5. Still Project Exploration Night - June 23, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Come and do a mini still project, see what you might like to do for a fair project next year. Hang out with friends, and a good time. Make it and take it. Bring friends that are not in 4-H, too!
6. Youth Council - TSC - Scott – we need people to work May 10, 10-2 pm TR & Sturgis, August 9, 10-2, get people excited about 4-H. Contact Cody Baker, Youth Council Rep. Directly or thru 4-H Office - Eva.

Adjournment – Special thanks to Bonnie for making this meeting possible and for everyone’s help in having a productive, great meeting. Motion to adjourn, Seconded. Passed.

**As Secretary was running meeting, I didn’t get notes on who made motions, and seconds. Sorry, it was hard to hear on tape. So they were excluded from May Minutes. As usual, the tape is available at 4-H office for anyone interested in listening to meeting.

Sherri Rivers, HC Secretary