

Loudoun County Equine Alliance (LCEA) Meeting – April 19, 2016

Draft

Board members attending were: Dorothy Beach, Paula Beckett Bliss, Louise Cotulla, Kelly Foltman, Emily Houston, Stephanie Jennings, Michelle (Sheli) King (by phone), Marion Lee, Mary Terpak, Janet Vandervaart, and Terri Young.

The meeting began at 9:25 a.m.

Secretary: The minutes for March 15, 2016 were approved.

Treasurer: Stephanie reported that there was a balance of \$2482 in the LCEA account.

Membership: Mary reported that there were 43 individual members and 36 business members. There was a discussion about people who paid but hadn't submitted a form and those who submitted a form but hadn't paid.

Election of Officers: Current officers were re-elected.

Loudoun Coalition Meeting: Marion reported on the topics discussed at the March 29 meeting. Mary will go to the next meeting, which is today.

Annual Meeting and Expo: Held Thursday, March 31, at the Otium Cellars winery. It was judged to be a success with close to 100 attendees. Kelly said that some businesses requested larger tables, but whether they can be accommodated depends on the size of our next venue. She thought the number and timing of the speakers was good. Paula suggested splitting the speakers or putting them in a separate room so that attendees would not have to stand for so long if they were not interested in the speakers. She also suggested we provide more speakers on such topics as equine feed and insurance. It was generally agreed to expand the scope of the expo gradually and that a weekday evening was the best time to hold it. Salamander Inn has offered to host the event in 2017 at no charge. It was decided to look at other locations before making a decision. Some wineries have larger rooms than Otium Cellars and Salamander's larger space is not heated. Sheli suggested that in 2017 we have a signup sheet for board members to spread out the work. Two people are needed at the sign-in table. It was also suggested that we recruit LCEA member volunteers to help.

Projects for 2016:

- **ZOAG:** Kelly said it is important for LCEA to be more active in ZOAG. A board members should attend meetings, and someone might get a seat on ZOAG through REDC. Meetings are once a month at 8 a.m., usually on Tuesdays. The next meeting on April 26 is a public hearing. LCEA's recommended changes to equestrian zoning will be discussed. Mary said she probably would attend. Stephanie will compose a letter and forward it to board members, so they can express their support of the proposed zoning changes.
- **LOCOTA:** Paula said that REDC wants LOCTA to be a viable organization. She no longer attends meetings, which are usually held the day after LEA's monthly meeting, but which are often cancelled. Marion volunteered to attend meetings, and Dorothy said she would be the alternate.
- **VDOT:** Paula said she is working with someone retired from VDOT to determine how best to fill out the forms requesting VDOT erect caution signs on roads frequently travelled by equines. Kelly said she would talk to Kellie Boles about how to speed up the process and perhaps identify a VDOT contact.

LCEA Website: It was decided that all businesses can be listed in multiple categories. Business members can also have a photo and/or additional text describing their business. Stephanie has almost completed entering the businesses from the previous website. When she finishes, Marion will check various documents, such as the equine calendar and the Loudoun Hunt Race program for additional businesses to list. Kelly and Stephanie will collaborate to send a letter to business members saying they can have a photo and additional information on their LCEA website listing.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:15 a.m. The May 17 meeting will be held at Kelly's Dunthorpe Farm, 35709 Suffolk Lane, Purcellville 20132, at 7 p.m. Respectfully submitted by Marion Lee