

## Loudoun County Equine Alliance (LCEA) Meeting – January 17, 2017

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

The meeting began at 9:20 a.m.

**Secretary:** The minutes of the December 20 board meeting were approved.

**Treasurer:** Stephanie said that there was a balance of \$3126 in the LCEA account.

**Membership:** There are 46 individual members and 42 business members. Many current members need to renew. Stephanie will send board members a link to the membership list. Sheli offered to take over membership duties.

**Morven Park:** Stephanie Kenyon provided an update on activities at Morven Park. She said that county permits had been received and that construction for the track and new rings would begin in late spring. A construction company has been selected and outlines taped where dirt will be distributed. All dirt movement will occur concurrently in the infield, track, and Hedge Arena. Footing will be replaced in the Bedford and Davis arenas, and the fencing will be replaced by March. The old footing will be used to enhance the trails and other areas. The trails will be expanded towards the mansion and Old Waterford Road. A yearly equestrian membership is planned, which would include annual access to trails (with a guest), four tickets for mansion tours, previews of mansion events, special member-only rides, and invitations to social and equestrian events. It will be launched in the spring with a currently suggested cost of \$250. Stephanie said that Morven is also planning to hold Friday evening polo matches in the Davis arena during July and August. There will be a three-board fence with metal mesh surrounding the arena. Kelly expressed interest in an LCEA sponsorship.

**Large Animal Rescue Seminar:** Sheli said there had been no response.

**2017 Expo:** The 2017 Expo will be at Harmony Hall in Hamilton on March 30. Emily and Kelly will visit the site on January 24 to get some decorating ideas. Kelly estimated there would be room for 35 vendors. Stephanie and her husband Mike, Kelly and her husband Phil, Louise, Marion, Janet and Emily volunteered to help with the setup starting at 3:30. Most of the same people will assist with the takedown. Another Turn tack shop offered to bring staff and equestrian items to help decorate. The Large Animal Rescue group may provide horse-oriented decor for outside. Sheli will order the food and water and provide tablecloths. Janet will pickup and deliver everything. Marion and Brad Cotulla will man the check-in desk. Terri has developed a press release. Kelly said we need to start getting commitments from interested businesses. Emily agreed to take over tracking the list of businesses for Expo, keep them informed, etc. Stephanie will contact new business members and give the board access to the business member list.

**LCEA/EMC:** Marion has talked to Richard Gargagliano re: the February 7 joint EMC/LCEA presentation. He asked for LCEA to share the provision of snacks with EMC. The board approved spending a maximum of \$50 for snacks. The addition of a saddlery expert to the panel was discussed.

**Board of Supervisors:** Kelly said that the BoS (in particular, Tony Buffington and staff) want to schedule an open discussion with LCEA and other equestrians. It will probably happen in April. The Morven Carriage House ballroom was suggested as a possible location.

**Tri-state Tack Sale:** Louise will man an LCEA table in the morning of the sale on February 18.

**Marketing:** Stephanie passed around a copy of the proposed new tri-fold.

**Rural Roads/Drive Gently:** Emily said the meeting with BoS representatives was postponed.

**LoCota/Trails:** Kelly talked to Dog Fabbiola about possible multi-use unpaved trails around vineyards. He would like to organize an LCEA-sponsored ride at Temple Hall at which his vineyard would serve drinks. Kelly will follow-up, and

Stephanie Jennings offered to help. Stehanie asked about the status of the Evergreen Mills trail now that the road relocation has been completed. Kelly said she would investigate to see where the parking is located, and she would walk the trail.

**Tri-State Crystal Crown Rides**: Stephanie Jennings said she was approached to see if LCEA was willing to organize one of the rides. Board members present agreed not to pursue this.

**Parks and Recreation**: No meetings.

**Future LCEA Meetings**: It was decided to have a March 21 9:15 a.m. meeting at Morven Park. 2017 evening meetings and probable hosts are: May – Kelly?, July – Kelly?, September – Janet or Best Western, December – Marion.

**LCEA Website**: Stephanie has added a page for Expo. She will add Emily as a Facebook Administrator, so she can invite people to Expo.

**Virginia Horse Council**: Aftr a discussion, it was decided that It was decided that we should look into joining. Emily said that they should be a good ally for rural roads.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marion Lee