

Loudoun County Equine Alliance (LCEA) Annual Meeting – September 19, 2017

Board members attending were: Paula Beckett Bliss, Louise Cotulla, Kelly Foltman, Emily Houston, Stephanie Jennings, Christie Kimberlin, Michelle (Sheli) King, Marion Lee, and Janet Vandervaart. Sheryl Williams, Acting Director of Morven Park, attended as a guest.

The meeting began at 7 p.m.

Sheryl updated the board on current plans for equestrian facilities and activities at Morven Park. She said the new arenas were under construction and should be usable by spring 2018. Steeplechasing will be held again, starting in the fall of 2018. The polo ring will stay intact. Board members suggested other equine activities and demonstrations that might be held in the evening break between polo games. Morven Park is interested in exploring the possibility of developing a coliseum as a public/private venture. The Route 15 traffic study does not indicate direct access to Morven Park from Rt. 15. Morven would like to have traffic lights at both a new T-intersection at Market and 15 and Raspberry Falls and 15. Sheryl said that the search for a new Executive Director has not started yet.

Secretary: The minutes of the August meeting were approved.

Treasurer: Stephanie said that there was a balance of approximately \$4481 in the LCEA account.

Membership: Sheli reported three new individual memberships. There are currently 89 LCEA members (47 Business and 42 Individual).

Joint Tuesday Talks: Two suggested topics for LCEA's joint presentation with Marion DuPont Equine Medical Center (EMC) in 2018 were Ophthalmology and Footing. Sheli will review these subjects with EMC representatives.

Expo Update: Kelly will contact various organizations such as Morven Park, Visit Loudoun, Southern States, and EMC to solicit door prize donations. Emily will send Expo information to youth groups such as 4H and pony clubs.

Rural Roads/Drive Gently: Kelly and Emily will attend the September 28 7 p.m. meeting at the Dirt Farm Brewery. Kelly will bring a map of Loudoun and ask for ideas regarding signage, speed limits, etc. The Board of Supervisors has approved the Greggsville Road compromise to keep the southern portion of the road unpaved. Emily said the Rural Roads committee will hire someone to produce a comprehensive history of Loudoun roads, which could be used as the basis for historical designations.

Conservation Coalition: In regards to submitting an LCEA white paper, Emily has picked out elements from the comprehensive plan that are relevant to equine interests. Kelly said trail access and parking, a quarantine facility, and Morven Park as a public/private facility should be included.

TLAER Training with Marion duPont Scott Equine Medical Center (EMC): Janet has contacted Rebecca Giminez re: TLAER training. There is a two-day Intro course for owners covering what tools are needed and who to call in an emergency. This can be followed by an Ops level course of two to four days, depending on who attends. The Intro course can be one day if followed by a two-day Ops course. Janet said EMC has some of the equipment needed. Sheli will set up a meeting with all interested stakeholders to determine possible dates and next steps. Janet will ask Rebecca for funding guidelines.

Trails: Kelly said the Parks and Recs meeting on September 14 had a low equestrian turnout. Meeting participants looked at maps and talked about next steps. As there are no parks in western Loudoun except Blue Ridge and Franklin Park, working with vineyards and breweries to establish trails would be one possibility. Trailer parking at Balls Bluff may be approved, which would allow a cut-through to the Potomac Heritage Trail. Kelly said the president of Banshee Reeks

was in favor of a perimeter equestrian trail, from which Evergreen Mills trails could be accessed. Kelly said Moriah Flemming, Manager of Special Events at Oatlands, was interested in equine use of Oatlands trails, and Kelly will represent her with the paper on how trail access might be managed.

The meeting was adjourned 9:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marion Lee

The next meeting will be October 17, 9:15 a.m. at the Morven Park Equestrian Center Hoffman Classroom.