

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

Board members attending were: Dorothy Beach, Paula Beckett Bliss, Louise Cotulla, Kelly Foltman, Stephanie Jennings, ~~Michelle (Shell) King~~, Marion Lee, ~~Janie Rentz~~, ~~Mary Terpak~~, ~~Janet Vandervaart~~, and ~~Terri Young~~. Guests were: Stephanie Kenyon and Sheryl Williams – Morven Park, Megan Richardson – Southern States, and Sandra Chanadale – Total Equine.

The meeting began at 9:25 a.m.

Secretary: The minutes for December 15, 2015 were approved.

Treasurer: Stephanie reported that there was a balance of \$1438.36 in the LCEA account.

Membership: Kelly reported that there were 30 business members – 3 renewals and 3 new. There was a discussion as to who has joined and who has not. Kelly will email the latest member spread sheet to board members. Stephanie will snail mail members who have not yet renewed.

2016 Meeting Dates: Kelly read a list of the remaining meeting dates and times for 2016: April 19, June 21, August 16, October 18, and November 15 – 9:15 at the Morven Park Hoffman classroom; and May 17, July 19, September 20, and December 20 - 7:00 p.m. at the Marshall House Administrative Offices. February 16 is a joint presentation with EMC, with a talk by Divinci Equine Emergency Transport and probably a representative from the Hamilton Fire Department, as well as a tour of a trailer equipped for emergency transport. It was decided to have a business meeting on March 15 at 7 p.m. at Marshall House. March 31 is the annual meeting at the Otium Cellars.

Board Nominations and Elections: Paula said she knew of two people who might be interested in serving on the board. There was a discussion as to how to handle board members who are interested, but can't get to board meetings. There was also a discussion of morning vs evening board meetings.

Loudoun Equine Survey: Kelly said that she has seen the draft, and that her comments have been sent back to Weldon-Cooper.

LCEA Website: Kelly said that Brad told her that he would like to offer each business member its own web page with multiple indices. There was a discussion as to how many free indices to allow and whether/how much to charge for more. Businesses will be provided with a form to fill out with info to populate their websites. Kelly demonstrated possible web page formats on her laptop. Non-member businesses will still be listed as they are now with hyperlinks to their websites.

Tri-state Tack Sale: Dorothy and Marion volunteered to man the LCEA table at the Tri-state Tack Sale on February 20. The rain date is February 21. Paula and Louise will have an adjoining table. Paula will pick up the LCEA banner from Kelly as well as membership forms and Expo flyers. Stephanie Kenyon said she would donate a Morven poster to anyone who joins LCEA at the sale.

Annual Meeting: March 31 at the Otium Cellars: 6 p.m. – meeting; 6:30 – 8:00 – Expo; 8:30 - Stephanie Kenyon will speak. There was a discussion about businesses that might want tables – hay suppliers, vets, and others. Kelly proposed having a poster listing all LCEA business members, even if they don't have tables. Kelly said she would remind Kellie Boles that she promised to help with food. Kelly will send invitations to the Loudoun Board of Supervisors members. Kelly suggested giving free pens instead of door prizes. Some costs were mentioned, and it was approved that the board spend up to \$175 on pens with LCEA logo, website, etc.

Morven Park: Kelly said that Stephanie Kenyon, the new Morven Park director, was enthusiastic about making Morven Park an important equine center. There was a discussion about the proposed equine quarantine center – whether it might be located at Dulles, or Morven, or elsewhere.

Publicity: Kelly said she would talk to Margaret Morton about an LCEA article in Loudoun Now and about whether Margaret is interested in publishing an equine calendar. Kelly said she was interviewed by Ed Felker for the Loudoun

Times Mirror, but that the article may not appear until after the LCEA Annual Meeting. Marion said that the equine calendar had not appeared in the last two issues of the Loudoun Times Mirror and that the equine calendar on their website was out of date. She will talk to Crystal Owens about these two items.

Horses' Rights: Dorothy said that it is a Virginia Commonwealth law that horses have the right of way. There was a discussion about whether VDOT would erect "Caution Horses" signs, and whether the signs would be free. Paula said she would look for the name of her VDOT contact to give to Kelly.

Expectations for LCEA in 2016: Kelly said that she would be open to LCEA forming a 501c3 "Friends of LCEA" organization if thorough research is done in advance to establish the need, but that she is comfortable with LCEA's current direction. Paula said LCEA needs to do a better job of self-promotion. She also said that it would be simple to set up a "Friends of LCEA" but why should we change direction?

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marion Lee