

## **Loudoun County Equine Alliance (LCEA) Meeting – June 19, 2018**

The meeting began at approximately 9:20 a.m.

Board members present were Louise Cotulla, Kelly Foltman, Emily Houston, Stephanie Jennings, Michelle (Sheli) King, Marion Lee, ~~Janet Vandervaart~~, and Christie Kimberlin.

**Secretary:** Minutes of the April 17, 2018, and May 15, 2018, meetings were approved.

**Treasurer:** There is approximately \$4259 in the LCEA account.

**Membership:** There is one new business member.

**Annual Meeting:** Sheli said there were approximately 50 attendees at the May 15 meeting at the Sporting Library in Middleburg. Bad weather probably affected the attendance. Sheli will contact the Sporting Library for possible participation in a similar event next year. It was agreed that we should cut back on food the next time. Sheli will also contact non-members who attended as guests. It was agreed to donate \$250 - \$350 to the Sporting Library; Sheli will check the list of specific items the Sporting Library is requesting.

**Elections:** Louise and Emily were elected for additional two-year terms.

**Sporting Library Event:** LCEA will have a table at the Sporting Library July 27 evening concert with pens, brochures and other giveaways. The board approved spending \$225 for 500 sticky note pads with an LCEA logo.

**Expo 2019:** The board agreed to pay \$1000 plus \$75 for one bartender to hold the Expo at Stone Towers on either March 19 or 26, 2019. It was agreed that LCEA should provide its own signage. Sheli said she would ask Visit Loudoun if they would sponsor the event again.

**Trails:** Kelly said she went to a meeting recently regarding the Evergreen Mills Trail. The landfill will be expanded, and their fence moved to within three feet of The Woods Road by Fall 2018. She was told about a 100 acre field (Big Woods) across Evergreen Mill Road that could be used for equestrian trails if we cut them. Kelly said that the Banshee Reeks manager no longer lives on the property, and that we should push the Board of Supervisors to talk to Parks and Recs to approve an equestrian perimeter trail. There is a 100 acre property (currently in easement) near Franklin Park that might be suitable for equestrians, but the county would have to buy it. Bike Loudoun has a multi-use concept called Emerald Ribbons (which would include biking, hiking, kyacking, and riding). Dennis Kruse will give a presentation on Emerald Isle at the July 17 LCEA meeting. Regarding the possibility of equestrian trails at Oatlands, Kelly said she has no connections with the newest administrative staff.

**Roads:** Emily said there was a recent meeting to discuss a scoring system to determine which roads will be paved. A list of criteria was established, but the criteria on the list need will be weighted at the next meeting. Emily said that LCEA has input in this scoring system. The next scoring development meeting has not been scheduled. The initiative is being led by the County Transportation staff.

The Rural Roads Committee recently toured unpaved roads the with the northern Virginia representative of the Commonwealth Transportation Board. A study of the various rural road surfaces is needed. There is a funded study on maintenance of unpaved roads that will be conducted by the Research Council (part of VDOT) in 2019. Better gravel and more skilled graders provide better results. The State Department of Transportation has an Office of Innovation which might provide useful

data. It was suggested that LCEA should work with the Virginia Horse Council on road surface issues. There have been suggestions that businesses sponsor specific areas of road improvement.

**Possible New Board Members:** Both Stephanie Kenyon and Tori Sullivan (of BarnWiz) are interested in serving on the LCEA board. They will be invited to the July 17 meeting.

**Envision Loudoun:** Kelly said the concept is very broad – the plans sound good but results depend on how the plan is implemented. She said LCEA needs to be more of a voice on zoning decisions and that LCEA should express an interest in the county assisting people in putting their properties into easement.

**TLAER (Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue) Course :** LCEA is waiting for a decision from the Virginia Horse Industry board on our grant application to hold a TLAER course.

**Evening Meeting Locations:** As we no longer have use of the Marshall Center, it was decided to hold the July 17 meeting (with Bike Loudoun) at the Morven Park Equestrian Center Hoffman classroom. Sheli may host the September 18 meeting, and Marion will host the December 18 meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marion Lee