

Loudoun County Equine Alliance (LCEA) Meeting – November 20, 2018

Draft

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

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

Secretary: Minutes of the October 16, 2018, meeting were approved.

Treasurer: Stephanie reported \$3542 in the LCEA treasury.

Membership: Sheli reported 113 total members - 30 individual and 83 business, with two new individual members and one new business member. She has received oral comments from several business members re: discounts to LCEA members. Sheli said the next steps are to get a few more businesses on board and then get membership cards. Kelly suggested the program should start in January. Sheli will send out renewal notices.

New Board Member: Reid O'Conner was voted in as a new board member.

LCEA Website: Stephanie demonstrated a banner of LCEA business members scrolling across the bottom of the LCEA website home page. Board members approved it. She has also put a link to the Driving Safely Survey on the LCEA website and has received four responses.

Emerald Ribbons: Kelly said that Janet was still trying to contact USTR to get their organization involved in the Emerald Ribbons (ER) program. ER is having some success, including publicity with the Rural Forum and other organizations. They are also working with PEC. Kelly has emailed ER head Dennis Kruse asking him to get the BoS to push P&R to action. The equine community needs to have more of a voice with the ER.

Rockwool: Kelly said the Rockwool plant will probably become a reality in spite of the opposition.

Envision Loudoun Comprehensive Plan: Emily said there was a new Comprehensive Plan draft about three weeks ago, but it still lacks specificity. She said there was nothing about roads in the plan, so she will add text about rural roads to the LEA response. She spoke about her three-minute talk before the Planning Commission. Emily will redo her draft document and include links to the relevant Comprehensive Plan draft sections. Kelly said LCEA should advocate for items the equestrian community said were important to them in the LCEA survey of several years ago.

Rural Summit: Kelly gave bullet points from the survey at the rural summit. She said there was good turnout and information on what programs are available for rural interests. Kelly's comments at the summit stressed the need for public rideout and updated show facilities.

Road Survey: It was decided that the deadline for responses to the Road Safety Survey should be a week after the LCEA Expo. Stephanie will bring a laptop to the Expo to encourage people to enter their experiences. The survey info should be presented to the Virginia General Assembly when it is in session next fall and winter.

REDC Survey: Kelly said there is a link on the LCEA website for people to use to respond to the REDC survey, which is for rural farmers, including equestrians..

TLAER (Technical Large Animal Emergency Rescue) Course: Kelly said that the Loudoun County Fairgrounds fills the bill as a host location for a TLAER course, but it is expensive. We are looking at a 2020 date. There

needs to be a budget and a grant, possibly from the Virginia Horse Council or the Virginia Horse Industry Board. Kelly said we might also want to reach out to cattle owners to help support the TLAER.

2019 Meetings: It was decided to have seven morning meetings and five evening meetings in 2019. Our first choice for the annual meeting in May would be the Sporting Library.

Miscellaneous: Emily said that the Philomont fire station will be torn down and a new fire station proposed to be built on the Philomont Horse Show grounds. She also shared a brochure of a new organization: America's Roads, which is a committee of the Mosby Heritage.

December Meeting: Marion will host the Tuesday, December 18, evening meeting. Potluck volunteers: Sheli -chili, Stephanie – cornbread, Louise – salmon mousse, Emily – wine, Kelly – salad, Tori – dessert, and Christie – disposable bowls.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marion Lee