

BSHP Board Meeting

August 8, 2023

Started at: 6:pm

In Attendance: Clara Davison, Tienry Wheaton, Deb Anderson, Karla Nichwander, Katie Nichwander (on zoom), Jennifer Cote, Jan Harris, Arwyn Anthony, Natalie Sullivan, Scott David, Irene Given

Start and Welcome- Meeting started at 6:45pm.

Karla makes a motion to approve minutes from last meeting. Deb 2nd. No discussion, motion carries.

Horses for clean water update- Natalie is putting together an event to help people manage horses on small acreage that will be sponsored by the park on 10/14/23. Natalie spoke with the Missoula conservation organization and was able to get \$2,500 from them to put on the event. The Missoula conservation district will be moving near the Fairgrounds by the time the event starts. This will include a 3-hour lecture in the morning followed by a farm tour at Natalie's property. There are four ticket options: member and non-member full-day, and remote member and non-member. The current budget includes \$3,121.72 in expenses with a projection of making \$1,078 for the park. Suggestions from the board include asking other organizations and businesses to sponsor elements of the event. Scott also suggested that we ask the 4H kids to volunteer time to help put the event on. **Scott makes a motion to approve the budget for event. Jan 2nd. All in favor, motion carries.**

Dressage arena update- Tierney spoke with Susie and work will be started next week. Susie is planning to touch base with Arwyn as well to give an update. Arwyn hasn't been able to order the fencing for the dressage arena because the park credit card is getting declined. Jennifer and Arwyn will meet to figure it out.

Committee Reports

Events Committee- There have been no new events added to the calendar. There is discussion of having a barrel race clinic next year. Arwyn would like to everyone who runs events to start planning for next years dates to be able to plan accordingly. Ideally, park sponsored events would get the first pick of weekends, then we would open the calendar up to other outside events. We need to set a deadline for events to get their dates picked out. Jennifer asked Arwyn to get a calendar together for next year by the next board meeting. Natalie is asking event coordinators to send her enough information about the events so that each event can have its own webpage. This will allow her to be more flexible with the information presented.

Facilities- Scott is watering everything as best as he can. There is a broken pump on the west end and he is working on it. Ellie was able to clean out the bunks and will mow on Thursday. Jackson from the county sent out an email warning of toxic hemlock growing along the ditch. They are putting it up to use to decide how to decide the problem. Unfortunately, the only solution is to hand pull the weed when there is no water in the ditch. Scott doesn't seem to think it's a big problem. Natalie also brought up the increase spread of Pigeon Fever. She is wondering if the park should take responsibility to announce and warn the community with information. Due to the increase in various equine diseases, we may want to start requiring coggins for incoming horses. This creates and labor issue of having someone who can

check that each competitor has their paperwork. Natalie also suggests that the park should have a biosafety plan in place in case there is an outbreak or we find out that there was a sick horse present at a particular event. The board suggests that we table this issue to our January retreat to have the time to formulate a plan.

Public Relations/Long-term Planning- Karla sent out the meeting minutes from our last meeting. We were able to have Grant come to our last meeting to help us and he thinks we are on the right track. We are going to put together a presentable map showcasing our projects and the projected budget. This would allow the public to know the vision and obtain input and potential fundraising. We have created slack channels to try to capture groups that are invested in the park that we have or have not communicated in.

Finance- Jennifer has been able to use the new excel sheet. The new endowment account has approximately \$968.01. Due to weather, we have less income than previous years, although the WE and mini event did well. Jan estimates that she netted \$2,200 from the CMR show, which is wonderful. Sheila Miller has been able to help reconcile through July 31st. They are working on reconciling accounts for events so that event coordinators can give feedback on the various accounts that we need. Jennifer says that it is important that we only use a single payment/signup platform to help make accounting easier. Karla and Tierney want to take a close look at the accounting workload to determine if we can either lessen the work to the point that it can stay a volunteer position or hire an accountant. Currently, the amount of work is just too much to stay as a volunteer position. It is Jennifer's recommendation that we need to pay for accounting work.

BSSC- The BSSC received \$58,000 to improve the trails, but we can't use any of the monies for park specific improvements. Jennifer brings up the issue of renting stalls not during shows. The BSSC does not mind if we rent stalls, but they are concerned about dust, noise, and manure during events. Jennifer needs to receive information about the stall rentals in order to update our insurance policy. It is also important to note that the BSSC does not want us to push overnight stabling through advertising, but we could always ask the BSSC if we could post ourselves as an overnight facility. As long as the insurance would not cost more than what we make from overnight stalls, we should keep allowing overnighters. Karla is going to look into our insurance policy and the potential increased costs. Karla is hoping to schedule a meeting with the county, Arwyn, Tierney, and Grant to discuss future planning.

WE Panels- Last summer's WE event bought panels and have sold them, although there aren't any invoices paid. Both of the people who bought the panels owe \$1,600, totaling \$3,200 that the park hasn't received. Jennifer has sent 4 invoices since last fall. Jennifer is asking the board to help formally address the individuals asking for the invoices to be paid and that their memberships and welcome will be withheld until payment is received. Deb is suggesting that we may be able to involve the sheriff due to the loss of county property. Tierney is also suggesting that we can inquire to a lawyer previously used by the park. **Scott makes a motion to send a certified letter with return receipt requested. The letter will entail that the individual has 30 days to either pay the invoice or return the panels in good condition, with the penalty of revoking membership and ability to participate in any park events. Jenifer 2nd. All in favor, motion carries.** Scott will contact the attorney and hopefully have the letter sent by the end of the week.

Scott makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jan 2nd. All in favor, motion carries.