

November 1, 2009
VQHA Board Meeting
Shelburne Town Offices, Shelburne, VT

Meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. with a quorum of officers and directors present; Maureen Rich, Meredith Langlois, Lucille Evarts, James Warden, Shannon Warden, Michele Barnes, Mary Pat Roche, Melanie Paquette, Diane Saunders. One member was present, Tracy Reed.

- Secretary's Report was read.
- Motion made by Lucille Evarts to amend the Mission Statement to add the word "Quarter" in front of horse. Michelle Racine seconded, motion passed.
- Treasurer's Report was read, Balance on hand 11/1/2009 \$2,386.94
- Committee Reports:
- R-6 held a meeting recently and dates were tentatively set for the R6 show. It will be held in Springfield, Mass on July 14 through July 18, 2010.
- Letter was read from AQHA regarding open shows in our area, this list will be generated and sent to AQHA
- Show Committee: Michelle Racine, Tracy Reed, Melanie Paquette, Meredith Langlois, Shannon Warden, Lucille Evarts, Mary Pat Roche. Lucille Evarts will chair this committee.
- AQHA Trail Ride: Very successful ride, had to postpone due to weather. Had 27 riders. 5 VQHA members participated, 22 non members. \$650.00 was collected of which \$100.00 was returned as float money, 10% to be sent to the AQHA Foundation. Motion made by Mary Pat Roche to donate \$100.00 to the Franklin County Humane Society, seconded by Jim Warden. An addition to the motion to add "please use money for equine needs". Motion passed.
- Ride Committee for 2010; Shannon Warden, Chairman; Jim Warden, Diane Saunders, Maureen Rich.
- Fundraising: Meredith collected the Yankee Candle orders. Committee for 2010; Meredith Langlois, Jim Warden, Shannon Warden
- Awards & Banquet: Still getting quotes from Restaurants and Halls. We will hold a Silent Auction at the banquet. Everyone will be asked to donate an item. Doesn't have to be horse related.
- Youth Advisor Report and Youth Financial Report were not available at this meeting.
- Goals: At the retreat, Communication was a popular topic where we decided that "Argumentative type items are not done through e-mail, but face to face. Emails are informational only. Important items should be at meetings, not emails.
- Newsletter: Mary Hutchins will continue with the newsletter if she receives the information. Have all members contribute. Discussed how we can add different informational items. Maureen Rich will have a "Medical Corner", Diane Saunders a Farrier Corner, Mary Pat Roche; free classifieds, Meredith Langlois; articles from Professional Horseman, Shannon Warden; Event news, Michelle Racine, Congress, upcoming events, member spotlight.

- Membership: Goal is to increase members by 10%. Our numbers could be better. Michelle Racine will right a survey, "Top 3 reasons why people join VQHA" This could be sent to AQHA and they will send to Vermont Quarter Horse Owners.
- Fundraising: Grant Application: Maximum \$4000.00. In the past we have used money for marketing, Versatility Ranch start up. Jim Warden would like to apply for Marketing Money to help increase our membership. Will look into advertising on the local radio stations to promote our upcoming events. Money for promotional items for new members, money for Versatility Ranch, Money for Prizes.
- Professional Horseman of the Year. We have 4 very qualified Professional Horsemen in Vermont, Shannon Warden, Lisa Whalen, Jesse Stewart and Erin Longworth. This year we have chosen to highlight Lisa Whalen.
- NEW BUSINESS: Open board position to fill for 1 year due to the resignation of Dawn Walters. Motion was made by Michelle Racine to appoint Tracy Reed, seconded by Melanie Paquette. Motion passed.
- Bylaws: Ideas from members were read and need to be addressed. 30 day warning for any changes.
- Motion by Diane Saunders to change the membership, \$30.00 family, Individual \$20.00, \$0.00 youth, seconded by Mary Pat Roche. Motion passed. Adjust proposed bylaw to correspond with memberships.
- 2nd bylaw change: Don't agree, *VQHA existence could be at risk. *Too many Indians, not enough chiefs. *Issue of sustainability/knowledge would be gone. *There are sufficient checks and balances in place.
- Diane Saunders, Category 2, Section 9; not enough points to be able to qualify for year end awards. Required points for Versatility Ranch.
- Diane Saunders made a motion to look into Mane Stream Publishing to send out to members as opposed to Equine Journal, seconded by Jim Warden, passed.
- Equine Affair; Lucille Evarts, Mary Pat Roche, Michelle Racine will be attending.
- Jim Warden; don't specify where money is going to be spent. Don't earmark where money is spent.
- Next meeting December 6, 2009 at Michelle Racine's, 10:00 a.m.
- Motion by Diane Saunders to adjourn meeting, seconded by Tracy Reed. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary Pat Roche,
Secretary