

**Pennsylvania Equine Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Draft Minutes
August 16, 2016
Ag Progress Days
State College, Pennsylvania**

1. **Call Meeting to order** – The meeting was called to order by President, Charlie Van Auken at 5:30 pm.

2. **Roll Call :**
 - A. **Board of Directors Present:** Charles Van Auken, President; Bud Wills, Vice President; Edith Ryan, Treasurer; Aleta Seifert, Corresponding Secretary; Gail Eichelberger, Recording Secretary; Jeanne Askey, Judy Cole, Amanda Gerner, Linda Golden, Mike Kraft, Guy Seifert, Skip Seifert, Rick Shiffler, Burt Staniar, Capri Stiles-Mikesell, Ann Swinker, and Elaine Winters.

 - B. **Board of Directors by Teleconference:** Not available for this meeting.

 - C. **Board of Directors Absent:** Donna Foulk, Helene McKernan and Desilene Phillips

 - D. **Guests:** Maximi Barrel, Laura Kenny, John Ryan, Susy Seifert, Robin Smith, Gwen Wills and Karen Yugovich.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** – Minutes of the May 19, 2016 meeting were emailed to members of the Board of Directors for review prior to the meeting. See attached. *A motion to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Burt Staniar. With no further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.*

4. **Treasurer's Report** – Edith Ryan reported. A Financial Statement was emailed to members of the Board of Directors for review. See attached. Beginning balance June 1, 2016 was \$42,364.06. Total deposits for June were \$6,629.12; total payments were \$8,825.73. Ending balance June 30, 2016 was \$40,167.44. Beginning balance July 1, 2016 was \$40,167.44. Total deposits for July were \$3,726.70; total payments were \$9,972.90. Ending balance July 31, 2016 was \$33,921.23. *A motion to accept the treasurer's report subject to audit was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Capri Stiles-Mikesell. Motion passed.*

Edith reported that the large expenditure was due to ordering a new supply of the Equine Liability Signs. The PEC credit card was compromised and Edith closed it. She asked that the board consider the purchase of Norton Anti-Virus software for the six computers that are used for the PEC business. The cost would be \$69.00 dollars to cover all of the computers for one year.. *A motion was made to purchase the Norton Anti-Virus software program for the six PEC computers by Ann Swinker, seconded by Amanda Gerner. With no further discussion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.*

5. **Corresponding Secretary's Report** – Report was emailed prior to the meeting. Aleta reported that we received a request for sponsorship from the KILE. *A motion was made to have Aleta contact David McElhaney for a clarification on the sponsorship letter was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Linda Golden. With no further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed. There were two opposed votes from Bud Wills and Skip Seifert.*

We received a request from the American Horse Council for a donation. Last time they were looking for \$25,000.00 from Pennsylvania. Ann commented that we never get any other groups to participate. Burt commented that the AHC is a benefit to the equine industry but it is unlikely that we can get enough Pennsylvania groups to provide funds. Ann will find out more information and bring it to our next meeting.

The American Horse Council has hard copies of their directory to purchase. It is also online.

We received thank yous from our two scholarship recipients, Caleigh Anderson and Karoline Kent.

Aleta was asked to provide information about the proof of purchase of liability signs for a law suit.

6. **Foundation Report** –Jeanne Askey reported. The balance in the Foundation account as of July 2016 is \$20,670.55. The scholarship fund balance is \$486.46. There was an \$80.00 error which was found. Monies will have to be transferred to the scholarship fund to cover the two \$1,000.00 scholarships to be awarded.

7. Old Business

- A. **Fall Annual Meeting 2016** – Bud Wills and Ann Swinker reported. The location will be the Super 8 Hotel in State College. The board meeting will take place on Friday, December 9 and the issues forum will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2016. Ann will be mailing out a Needs Assessment Survey Form in September. The meeting will focus on the information received back from the survey. She is trying to get Dr. Wolfgang the State Veterinarian to present. The afternoon will focus on a group working session with the county directors.

- B. Needs Assessment Survey** – Ann Swinker covered this under Item A.
- C. York Fair/Bloomsburg Fair Update** - Mike Kraft reported. York Fair set up will be on September 8, 2016. The Fair goes from September 8th to the 18th. He emailed the request for volunteers and will be building the schedule. Mike will only be helping with the set-up for the Bloomsburg Fair which takes place September 24th to October 1st.
- D. Role Description and Journal Entries** – Capri Stiles-Mikesell emailed a sample format that she would like all officers and chairman to complete and return to her to be entered into the Policies and Procedures. This will be valuable information for future use. Capri will email it out again.
- E. Kile Horse Show/Pennsylvania National Horse Show** –Skip Seifert reported. The PEC will be sponsoring five classes again this year. There will be a total of \$500.00 in prizes for each class. \$400.00 in cash prizes and \$100.00 for a cooler. The cash prize will pay \$200.00 for first place, \$125.00 for second place and \$75.00 for third place. The first place winner will receive the cooler. The coolers have arrived. The lettering will be put on them. The KILE dates are September 30th to October 9th. Mike and Skip will help set up for the Pennsylvania National Horse Show. Elaine will be asking for volunteers to man the booth at the horse show. The dates for the horse show are October 13th to October 22nd.
- F. National Equestrian Trails Conference** –Bud Wills reported. Bud and Gwen attended the conference. Gwen has a thumb drive with all of the programs that she will download on to a thumb drive for board members at their request. The board member must supply their own thumb drive.
- G. Sunday Hunting** – Bud Wills reported. Bud and Gwen will be attending a meeting with the game commission on August 17. He commented that the Farm Bureau is not in favor of Sunday hunting. The game commission wants us to present a plan with concessions to allow Sunday hunting. It was suggested that we should be given more time to ride in the fall and spring. Not during major deer season. Linda Golden asked if the game commission has made any formal concessions. Bud commented that they did not. Skip Seifert suggested that we make a request that they open all game lands to equines. Guy Seifert said we should be given as much access as possible. During turkey season let us on but not during bear and deer seasons.

8. New Business

- A. **AHC Request for Contribution** – Already covered under the Corresponding Secretary’s report.
- B. **Request to meet with Kristan Tullo from the Humane Society** – Kristan Tullo is the State Director for the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). PEC County Director Brenda Mowery who will be in charge of the ELC at the Bloomsburg Fair asked if someone from the PEC Board of Directors could meet with Kristan Tullo. It was not clear why this request was being made. Skip commented that Brenda should be representing the PEC at the Bloomsburg Fair and not be handing out any information relating to HSUS. It was decided that Charlie should speak to Brenda. Bud Wills feels we should put something in the By-Laws that prohibits PEC members from expressing other views such as the views of HSUS. *A motion directing Charlie Van Auken and Skip Seifert to meet with Brenda Mowery to discuss protocol for PEC members when representing the PEC at events was made by Bud Wills, seconded by Guy Seifert. With no further discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.*
- C. **Scholarship Awards**– Rick Shiffler reported. There were three applicants. Two applicants were awarded. Caleigh Anderson and Karoline Kent will each receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship from the PEC.
- D. **E-Blast Campaign Program** – Capri Stiles-Mikesell reported. Capri would like to use a different web program for the E-Blasts. We have been using Robly. She suspects that through using this program our PEC credit card information was compromised. She had two companies to consider. One was Benchmark at \$39.95 a month and the other was Zoho at \$45.00 a month. Capri stated that she preferred Benchmark because they allowed unlimited E-Blasts. *A motion to allow Capri Stiles-Mikesell to research the companies and choose the one she feels is the best at a cost not to exceed \$45.00 a month was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Rick Shiffler. With no further discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.*

PRESENTATION – Mel Blount, Youth Equine Center who was supposed to speak did not show up. The presentation was canceled.

9. Committee Reports

- A. **Advertising** – Bud Wills reported that ads would be continued in the Paper Horse.

- B. Collegiate Membership** – Burt Staniar reported that he will be waiting until school is back in session to contact representatives from various colleges about the Collegiate Membership.
- C. Education Grant Program** – Donna Foulk was not in attendance. She did send a report which was sent to board members. It was suggested that the information about the grant program should be a link on the PEC website. Donna is also looking for volunteers for her committee. Gail Eichelberger has volunteered.
- D. Electronic Director's Manual** – Helene McKernan was not in attendance. She did send a report which was emailed to board members. Helene McKernan encourages committee members and board members to review the information in the manual and send any changes or additions to her.
- E. Equine Learning Center** – Skip Seifert reported that the next event is the York Fair and everything is status quo.
- F. Equine Welfare** – Ann Swinker reported. Report was emailed to board members. She reported that the Horse Protection Act about the soring issue with the Tennessee Walking Horses is still a hot item.
- G. Facebook** – Amanda Gerner reported. Amanda emailed her report to the board. She reported that we are getting a lot of likes on the PEC Tips.
- H. Legislation** - Linda Golden reported. Linda emailed her report to the board.
- I. Membership** – Desilene Philips was not in attendance. Her report was emailed to the board. Membership numbers are just a bit below or the same as last year at this time.
- J. Newsletter** – Judy Cole reported. Our newsletter will be in the next issue of Pennsylvania Equestrian. Also the information about the Pennsylvania National Horse show will be in the next newsletter.
- K. Nominations** – Bud Wills reported that there are no open positions on the board at this time.
- L. PennAg Liaison** – Skip Seifert and Ann Swinker reported that the last meeting was held at the Centre Hall Show Grounds. Representatives from State Departments were invited.

M. Policies and Procedures – Bud Wills and Helene McKernan are still working on the Policies and Procedures.

N. Scholarship – Covered under New Business.

O. Signs – Report emailed to board members.

P. Sponsorship – No report.

Q. State Director Chair – No report.

R. Trails – Report emailed to board members.

10. Additional Business

Laura Kenny is the new Penn State Employee from Montgomery County who will be overseeing Ag Progress Days.

11. Meeting Dates

(1) December 9 – Hotel 8 State College

12. Meeting Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rick Shiffler, seconded by Capri Stiles Mikesell. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail R. Eichelberger

Gail R. Eichelberger
Recording Secretary

