

**Pennsylvania Equine Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Final Minutes
December 9, 2016
Super 8 Hotel
State College, Pennsylvania**

- 1. Call Meeting to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Vice President Bud Wills at 5:30 pm.

- 2. Roll Call :**
 - A. Board of Directors Present;** Bud Wills, Vice President; Edith Ryan, Treasurer; Aleta Seifert, Corresponding Secretary; Gail Eichelberger, Recording Secretary; Judy Cole, Mike Kraft, Desilene Phillips, Guy Seifert, Skip Seifert, Burt Staniar, Capri Stiles-Mikesell, Ann Swinker and Elaine Winters.

 - B. Board of Directors by Teleconference:** Charles Van Auken; President, Rick Shiffler

 - C. Board of Directors Absent:** Jeanne Askey, Donna Foulk, Amanda Gerner, Linda Golden, Helene McKernan

 - D. Guests:** Margie Buck, Rick Buck, Karoline Kent and mother, Sheri Knepp, Cindy McCullough, Joan Pauley, Robin Smith, James Veil and Gwen Wills.

- 3. Approval of the Minutes** – Minutes of the August 16, 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 August 16, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Capri Stiles-Mikesell. With no further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.* Gail noted that the minutes that she e-mailed were not the correct ones and she would e-mail the correct copy. Any corrections were noted.

- 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 August 1, 2016 was \$33,921.23. Total deposits for August were \$3,089.14; total payments were \$5,006.24. Ending balance August 31, 2016 was \$32,004.14. Beginning balance September 1, 2016 was \$32,004.14. Total deposits for September were \$3,427.34; total payments were \$3,376.47. Ending balance September 30, 2016 was \$32,055.01.

Beginning balance October 1, 2016 was \$32,055.01. Total deposits for October were \$2,925.14; total payments were \$2,925.14. Ending balance October 31, 2016 was \$27,175.52. Beginning balance November 1, 2016 was \$27,175.52. Total deposits were \$2,157.04; total payments were \$5,853.70. Ending balance November 30, 2016 was \$23,478.86. *A motion to accept the treasurer's report subject to audit was made by Mike Kraft, seconded by Guy Seifert. Motion passed.* Guy asked about the approval of a budget. Edith said she will present the proposed budget at the January 2017 meeting.

- 5. Corresponding Secretary's Report** – Report was emailed prior to the meeting. Aleta reported that we received notification from American Equine Insurance Group that there will be changes to our Association Insurance through Hallmark. There is a question about the premium cost because they had not yet indicated if there would be a premium increase with the proposed changes in the carrier. The Executive Committee approved an increase of \$5.00 to the Association Plus Membership in anticipation of a premium change. The PEC will also honor the request for \$500.00 as our installment supporting the EDCC. The PEC will also be supporting the sponsorship to the Mike Waugh Celebrity Draft Horse Driving competition at the 2017 Farm Show with a contribution of \$850.00.
- 6. Foundation Report** – Report submitted by Jeanne Askey. The balance of the foundation account as of 11/30/2016 was \$14,438.29 and the balance of the scholarship account as of 11/30/2016 was \$566.46.
- 7. Nominations and Election of the PEC Board of Directors for 2017** – Bud Wills presented the slate for the 2017 year. It was recommended that all board members be retained and that Capri Stiles-Mikesell who was appointed to finish a term that expires on December 31, 2016 be elected. *A motion to retain all nominees and elect Capri Stiles-Mikesell for the 2017 term was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Skip Seifert. With no further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.*
- 8. Old Business :**
 - A. KILE Horse Show Report** – Skip Seifert reported. The PEC was reimbursed the cost of mailing out the coolers to the winners. Other than that one issue the show went well again this year.
 - B. PA National Horse Show** – Elaine Winters reported. Elaine thanked the volunteers for their help again this year. Elaine took some time to explain to the board meeting guests how the PEC sets up the information booth at the show.

- C. York Fair/Bloomsburg Fair Update** - Mike Kraft reported that the York Fair went well this year. Mike thanked the volunteers. The Bloomsburg Fair also went well. There was only one horse available to put in the chute so David Rohrbach from Bee Tree Trails stepped in and volunteered his draft horses to help. This was a big hit with the children. David has offered his horses to help at the ELC at the PA Farm Show this year. Charlie Van Auken and Bob Sneed will be helping Skip this year at the Farm Show because Mike will be unavailable.
- D. Friends of the Farm Show- Information Item** - Charlie Van Auken reported that the Executive Board approved the donation of \$850.00 to Friends of the Farm Show Celebrity Driving Event for 2017. This was approved by email in November.
- E. Insurance for Association Plus- Information Item** – Charlie Van Auken reported that the Executive Board approved a \$5.00 increase for the Association Plus membership as a precaution in case the insurance changes would precipitate a premium increase. Ann Swinker shared an Equisure Fact Sheet with the board. Equisure is Personal Excess Liability Insurance. Hallmark insures the PEC and its officers and board members and any associations that are Association Plus members of the PEC. To be covered when working on the trails for DCNR you must be registered with the DCNR. Members can register with them on-line as a volunteer. This covers you for one year. If you sign up to volunteer you must be assigned to an approved project.

Vice President Bud Wills introduced one of the PEC Scholarship recipient Karoline Kent. He allowed Karoline to share with the board and guests her experience and education with horses. Karoline thanked the officers and board members for their support. Karoline is now attending Penn State University Main Campus studying Equine Science. She introduced her mother who was accompanying her at the meeting.

9. New Business:

- A. PEC Member Trail Ride** – Bud Wills provided information about a proposed member trail ride. The trail ride would take place August 17-20, 2017 at Bob Summers old CCC camp. We would accept 40 riders because there are 40 stalls and horses cannot be high lined or corralled. The cost would be \$80.00 per rider and \$68.00 per non-rider. Electric would be on a first come-first served basis at \$24.00. There are toilets and showers available. The PEC does not need a special use permit as long as it is not an organized guided ride and we are not making a profit on the ride. *A motion to go ahead with advertising the PEC member ride for August 17-20, 2017 at Bob Summers old CC camp after the start of the new year was made by Capri Stiles-Mikesell, seconded by Skip Seifert. With no further discussion a vote was taken and the motion passed.* The information will be shared with members after January 1, 2017.
- B. EDCC Update** – Bud Wills reported that this is funded by the horse industry. The information on the website is very beneficial if you travel with your horse. A request is from the American Horse Council for the donation of \$500.00 per year over a three year period . This will be our second year to donate. *A motion to donate the \$500.00/year for the next two years to the American Horse Council to support the EDCC was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Burt Staniar. With no further discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.*
- C. Statewide Impact Study-** Bud Wills reported that the Delaware Valley College will be heading up the statewide study. Delaware Valley College is charging \$75,000.00 to do the study. Capri suggested that we provide information about the study in the E-Blast and Newsletter along with a link to Delaware Valley College’s site. We will not provide our mailing list. Burt stated that if the information is shared on the internet people will decide on their own if they would like to participate. Gwen asked if the study would interfere with the study that Dr. Ann Swinker is conducting now. The results with this study could be compared with Ann’s. Guy asked if there will be a cost to obtain the survey’s final report. Ann said that the American Horse Council is going to do a nationwide impact study. The break down cost for each state would be \$17,000.00. Ann said that this was discussed at a PennAg meeting and people felt it would be easy to raise the money through all of the horse industries. The last time a study was done Pennsylvania did not participate. Burt asked if we felt the study was worth it. Bud said the American Horse Council is looking for pledges. Bud said the Farm Bureau would probably donate some money.

Capri suggested that we look into the GoFundMe site. It is very easy to apply to it and is free. It should go through the American Horse Council not the PEC if it would be approved to do so. It was suggested that we create a committee to look at this and come back in January with a report. *A motion was made to appoint Ann Swinker as the chairman of a committee to research how to best handle the funding for the Impact Study was made by Mike Kraft, seconded by Burt Staniar. With no further discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed.*

D. PA Farm Show ELC – Mike Kraft reported that he will be sending information out for volunteers. Other information was already covered.

E. PA EXPO 2017– Skip Seifert reported that plans are underway. The contract has been signed and he will have more information after the first of the year. Since Ann will be retiring this year, Capri has agreed to take over arranging the seminars in Seminar Hall B for the Expo. Since Ann had access to audio visual equipment through Penn State, Burt will check to see if Penn State will still provide it for this event.

F. Promised Land State Park – Guy Seifert asked if the PEC would like to participate in the Promised Land’s Civilian Conservation Camp reunion. It will take place August 12, 2017. It will take place at the museum and the PEC could set up an information table which Guy has volunteered to man. We will bring it up again at a future meeting.

10. Committee Reports:

A. Advertising – Bud and Capri reported. They will be advertising the PEC in a variety of periodicals.

B. Collegiate Membership – Burt Staniar had nothing to report at this time.

C. Education Grant Program – Donna Foulk was not in attendance and there was no report.

D. Electronic Director’s Manual – Helene McKernan was not in attendance and there was no report.

E. Equine Learning Center – Report was emailed to board members. Mike Kraft reported. Information previously covered.

F. Equine Welfare – Report was emailed to board members. Ann Swinker reported. Information previously covered.

G. Facebook – Report was emailed to board members. Amanda Gerner was not in attendance.

H. Legislation - Report was emailed to board members. Linda Golden was not in attendance.

I. Membership – Report was emailed to board members. Desilene Philips reported that our membership is 888. This is lower than last year's total of 925. She has received over 50 memberships so far for 2017. Membership renewal notices will be mailed before the end of December 2016.

J. Newsletter – Judy Cole reported that she will be working on the 2017 schedule. A comment was made that the newsletter has never been better.

K. Nominations – Bud Wills reported and made a suggestion that we approach Dave Rohrbach and ask him if he would be interested in a board seat if one opens up in the future.

L. PennAg Liaison – Skip Seifert and Ann Swinker did not have anything to report at this time.

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

N. Scholarship – Rick Shiffler reported that there were three applicants for a scholarship this year. It was approved by the board to present two \$1,000.00 scholarships this year. The scholarships were awarded to Karoline Kent and Caleigh Anderson.

O. Signs – Report emailed to board members. Skip Seifert reported that we are in good shape with sign inventory.

P. Sponsorship – No report. There is still time to get an ad in for the January newsletter.

Q. State Director Chair – Report emailed to board members. Charlie VanAuken reported that he made attempts to contact each county director and invite them to our annual meeting. The purpose for this was to allow time on the meeting agenda to have a brainstorming session focused on how county directors can work together and also how the PEC board can support them.

R. Trails – Report emailed to board members. Bud Wills reported that the Sunday hunting was a topic of discussion at the Farm Bureau meeting. Gwen Wills attended the Rural School Rules meeting in Warren County. The focus of this meeting was on the timbering in the National Forests.

11. Additional Business:

A. Budget Approval – Guy Seifert asked if the Budget will be approved. Edith said the budget information will be ready for the January 2017 board meeting.

12. Meeting Dates

- (1) January 21 – Harrisburg Farm Show Building 11:00 am.
- (2) March 11 - Hoss's Restaurant, State College 11:00 am.
- (3) May 13 - Harrisburg Farm Show Building 11:00 am.
- (4) August 15 – Ag Progress Days Horse Building 5:30 pm.
- (5) November 3-4 - Annual Meeting - Super 8 Hotel, State College

13. Meeting Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Guy Seifert, seconded by Elaine Winters. With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail R. Eichelberger

Gail R. Eichelberger
Recording Secretary

