

BOD UMECRA Meeting
March 11, 2006
Olive Garden Restaurant
Madison, WI
11:00 am

Present: Rick Nelson, Lori Windows, Joslyn Seefeldt, Bettina Koehn, Joyce Mocilan, Dawn Haas, Theresa Meyer, Paula Rapp, June Scheunemann, Mike Bernsdorf, Howard Ketover, Wayne Gastfield, Maxine Bernsdorf, Kathy Schauer, Jill Feller

Meeting was called to order by President Rick Nelson.

Secretary's report was circulated and all members were given time to read it (it was also in the February newsletter). Dawn made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Wayne seconded the motion. Approved. *There is one correction: \$250 for trails was also approved for SE MN at the BOD meeting on January 14, 2006. Corrections to the November meeting were also discussed- these corrections will be forwarded to Jill by members who have them and the November minutes will be corrected.*

Treasurer's report was given.

\$19253.16 in the checking account

\$4921.56 in ICF savings account

\$2805.36 in trail fund savings account

Mary made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Max seconded it- approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

President Rick assigned board members to several committees that he wants to work with throughout the year. The following committees were formed:

- Ride Manager/Vet Handbooks: Theresa Meyer, Jill Feller, Roberta Harms
- Mentorship: Paula Rapp, Kathy Schauer, Maxine Bernsdorf, Bettina Koehn
- Trails Advisory: Joann Gernant (chair) and Tony Troyer
- Mileage Awards: Maxine Bernsdorf, Linda Jacobson, Joyce Mocilan
- Audit Committee: Wayne Gastfield (chair), Mary Mott, Rick Nelson
- Finance Committee: Jill Feller, Rick Nelson
- Ride fees/Vet Committee: Howard Ketover, Elinore Tonsor, Lori Windows, Jill Feller
- Protest Committee: Mary Mott (chair), Tony Troyer, Charles Phillips
- Rules Committee: Theresa Meyer (chair), Tony Troyer, Joyce Mocilan
- Legal & By-laws: Art Priez, Theresa Meyer, Jill Feller
- Membership Media/Advertising: Peggy Brush, Mike Bernsdorf, June Scheunemann, Joslyn Seefeldt
- Sponsorship Committee: John Sturm, Rick Nelson
- Points Committee: Joyce Mocilan, Tony Troyer
- New members packets and ride book: Roberta Harms, Theresa Meyer, Lori Windows, Jill Feller
- Insurance: Peggy Brush (chair), Rick Nelson, Jill Feller
- Education & Publicity: Lynn Reichert (chair), Elinore, Roberta Harms, Jill Feller, Lori Windows
- Executive Committee: Rick Nelson, Mary Mott, Jill Feller, Peggy Brush
- Awards Committee: Joyce Mocilan, Dawn Haas, Dianne Schmidt
- ICF/Silent Auction: Elinore Tonsor (chair)
- Technology: Peggy Brush, Dale Lunde, Mike Bernsdorf, Joyce Mocilan, Joslyn Seefeldt

- Budget committee: Jill Feller, Rick Nelson, Howard Ketover

A suggestion was made by Lori Windows that we get more people on these boards that are not on the BOD. The committees will be listed on the UMECRA website and any interested members can contact the chairperson for more information. Committee reports will also be published in the newsletter.

Rick Nelson reported that John Sturm is working on getting sponsorship with serious money who would sponsor our completion awards for all UMECRA rides. John will be the chairperson for the Sponsorship Committee.

Discuss was held on the purpose of these committees. Goals and objectives will need to be created for each one.

Theresa Meyer reported on the Bylaw update from January. There was discussion about the approved bylaws where it states "Louise Reidel was granted a lifetime membership". Since Louise is no longer with us, we should be able to just remove this from the by-laws without the general vote. Rick was going to call Art to discuss this. *Rick did talk to Art and Art agreed that this could be removed without vote because the person involved is not longer alive.*

Theresa also has the ride manager/vet handbooks with her and handed them out after the meeting.

Mileage Committee report:

They did not have any information from 2005 as Joyce had a computer crash and couldn't retrieve the information.

The 1000 mile horses and top ten mileage horses are now corrected and are listed on UMECRA website.

Maxine reported on a plague for the 1000 horses. The place where the originals ones were bought is no longer available. Maxine will shop around and get some ideas to present to the board for approval. The cost is approximately \$12-13 @

Maxine also suggested purchasing vests with the UMECRA logo. These vests could then be used to sew chevrons on. Max had several sample vests from both Dianne Schmidt and Joyce Mocilan for the board to review. The vests cost approximately \$40 each. The idea would be to give a vest out to new members when they get their first chevron. The vests would also be available to other members if they want to purchase one. June made the motion to award a vest with the first chevron, Lori seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Joyce is going to chair a committee to study what this program would cost UMECRA. She will look at past years and get an estimated cost. This was tabled until the fall meeting.

Restricted mileage for Juniors:

This award was not given out for the past three years by error. There were nine juniors who would have been eligible for this award. Theresa made a motion and Mary seconded it to go back and give out these awards. Passed. The awards committee will review the past awards and come up with an award within the price of \$25-35.

Vi Bradl – the senior high point award is named after Vi and this was not announced this year when the award was given out. This needs to be announced at future awards.

The family award should also be the **Jan Scott family award.**

Insurance update:

The cost is \$3076 for 48 dates and 29 additional insured at \$20 each. Theresa reported that MN rides were able to get a cheaper rate and they were told that smaller groups might get a better rate as there is less liability. Joyce reported that Diane Leshner from Equisure was going to see if UMECRA could piggy back on the AERC policy. *Joyce has heard since the meeting that this is not possible.*

It was noted that ALL rides that are not using the UMECRA insurance need to be sure the UMECRA is covered by their policy. **Each ride needs to send 'proof of insurance' to Jill Feller before their ride or the UMECRA sanctioning will be pulled.**

Sanctioning Report:

The ride booklets were sent out by March 10th. There will be a note in the newsletter to contact Jill Feller if you did not get a ride book so one can be sent.

Audit Committee Report:

Tony said the audit committee was finished with the books. In the future, the audit committee will do an audit every year at the convention. The committee will choose 5- 6 checks that will need to be reviewed for accuracy.

Top Ten Mileage Award:

Dr. Beecher and John Sturm would like to sponsor the top ten mileage awards in honor of Louise Riedel. Motion was made by Mary and seconded by Dawn to allow Dr. Beecher and John Sturm to sponsor these awards. They will be named "Louise Riedel Top Ten Mileage Awards". Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Several people donated money in memory of Louise. Do we want to establish a memorial fund or put this money in the general fund? Motion made by Mary and seconded by Max to establish a memorial fund. Motion passed. A memorial fund committee was created to oversee this account. The committee consists of: Mary Mott (chair), Dawn Haas, Kathy Schauer, Rick Nelson and Howard Ketover. The money will be put into a savings account.

Newsletter costs will increase, as a new printer was needed; however the new printer does more of the work (folds and stamps).

AHA sanctioning was discussed. Each event would cost \$20/event; each rider fee is \$100/year. Shows only pay \$75/weekend. This money all gets put into a fund. If there is money at the end of the season after expenses, the money is split between riders. The AHA website has the full story on why this sweepstakes program has changed. Joyce will be the representative for AHA and AERC- all decisions will have to go through Joyce. Joyce suggested that Tony Troyer be the UMECRA representative since he is aware of the situation. This will give UMECRA two voices on the AHA committee. Anyone with good suggestions for the new sweepstakes program should talk to Joyce or Tony.

UMECRA Brochure:

Theresa reported that she talked to someone about doing the artwork for a brochure and the cost was around \$500 to set it up. If any UMECRA members have this type of knowledge and are willing to help, they should contact the education and publicity committee. Lynn Reichert is chairperson.

Elinore passed around the MDDA handbook for the BOD to review. This was in a small three-ring binder with pictures and lots of information. It was very nicely done. The committee will look into different ideas. Any members with ideas should contact this committee: Lynn Reichert is chairperson.

Jill Feller suggested creating a form that would cover UMECRA insurance and sanctioning. Currently there is no sanctioning form so it is easy to forget to do this. This form would be in the newsletter in fall for ride managers to use in the 2007 season. Approved.

A discussion was held about advertising costs for the website. Should members pay less than nonmembers? Several prices were discussed. Joslyn and June will do some more investigating into prices on other websites and send the information to the BOD website for approval.

According to the 2000 minutes, no grants from the trail funds can be awarded unless there is over \$2500 in the fund. Discussion was held as to why this amount needs to be maintained. Motion was made by Wayne and seconded by Dawn to lower this amount to \$500. Grants can be awarded as long as \$500 remains in the fund. Motion passed.

Howard asked why a budget was not created for the organization. Joyce made a motion and Kathy seconded it to create a budget. Howard, Jill and Rick will create one.

2007 Convention:

A request was made to spend \$700 on the speaker for the convention. We will need to put \$200 down now to reserve the speaker. June made motion, Bettina seconded to approve speaker. Passed.

The entire hotel is reserved for the convention. Vendors will be available also.

2008 Convention:

Joyce Mocilan and Tony Troyer volunteered to do the 2008 convention in Rockford, IL. Approved.

Wayne Gastfield asked permission to have more than 20 miles between vet checks on his Shore-to-Shore ride. Wayne is holding a 50-mile competitive ride and he will not be able to have 20 miles or less between checks. Wayne said there will be water provided on the trail which will be considered 'natural' and can be used for sponging and drinking. This is approved for the 2006 ride only.

A discussion was held about providing Art Priez with a lifetime membership for his legal advice to the organization. Other ideas were also discussed, such as a gift certificate. Rick will call Art and discuss this with him. No action was taken at this time.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Jill Feller
UMECRA Secretary/Treasurer