

Back Country Horsemen of North Georgia
Board of Directors Meeting
August 22, 2019
Conference Call Format

Attendees: Bob Wagner, Melinda Wagner, Martha Fillingham, Kathleen Corcoran, Linda Richards, Billy Long, Molly Campbell, Sandy Stephenson

Absent: Chuck Panter, Kelly Mathis

Excused: Dewey Campbell

The meeting was called to order by President, Bob Wagner, at 7:20 PM, because of a glitch in the access code of the conference call toll-free number.

The Secretary, Kathleen, called the roll.

Bob asked if anyone had not read the minutes for the last three meetings, May 23rd, June 27th, and July 25th. Hearing no response, he asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Kathleen said she had received an email change to the minutes of July 25th; that the new Webmaster did not create the East Tennessee page, they were just looking at it as a model. Kathleen said she was changing the minutes accordingly. Molly made a motion to accept the minutes; Martha seconded the motion which passed.

Linda gave the Treasurers Report. She said there was \$4,506.69 in the checking account. She questioned a \$20.00 deposit, which Melinda said was a donation from the trash can at Jacks River Fields Campground. There was also an unreconciled check for \$285.00 for KeysWeb.Info. Linda said that on 7/31/2019 the balance in the checking account was \$4,791.69. Kathleen made a motion that we accept the Treasurers Report and Sandy seconded. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

- Committee Chair Changes – The position of JRF Leader has been accepted by Melinda Wagner. The Cottonwood Patch Leader will be Angie Patterson. The new Christmas Party Chair will be Melinda Wagner. Bob was looking for a sub-committee of Membership, responsible for recruiting new young members. He wanted to get this up and running so they could hit the ground running in 2020.
- Status of Equipment Grant – Melinda put the grant request together in one day because the deadline was sooner than anticipated. BCHNG requested a trailer and mower for Cottonwood Patch maintenance. She has not heard from the AQHA STEP program, however they did acknowledge receipt of the grant request and said we did meet all the criteria. We asked for \$9,000 in our request, but we'll see. It will go

before the review board then we'll get an answer.

- Kiosk rehab update – Bob is looking for suggestions for the display board in the kiosk. One suggestion was a Yield Sign, “hikers and bicyclers yield to horses.” Another was an explanation of what to do with your manure when leaving.
- Raffle ticket update – Members need to get on it, sell the tickets and tell people that it is for a worthy cause and if they win and don't need a pack saddle, we can guarantee that we can sell it for more than they paid.
- Jack's River Fields work schedule – Melinda said they had been mowing every 3 to 4 weeks. On September 16th, Kelly Jo would be mowing, on October 7th, Billy and Kathleen would be mowing, and on October 28th, it may not need mowing. She's still trying to get volunteers for trash pickup, it needs to be done once a week. Also, a solution needs to be found for manure, you can't just throw it behind the corrals.
- New Website – It will be under www.bchng.org. The website will be ready for the September meeting and will be live by October 1st. We are creating a whole new website so the old one will just go away.
- Possible fuel reimbursements for volunteer packers. Justification: Saws gets paid from the time they leave their point of departure till they return. Our packers are not close and fuel mileage mounts quickly. We need to discuss this as a budget item.
- 2020 Budget – The budget is due by the November 2019 meeting. All committees are to submit their budget requests to our Treasurer, Linda, no later than October 1st.

NEW BUSINESS

- Spring Agency Ride/Cookout – We should offer riding as an option because some agency people don't ride. We need to set a date for this, how about April 15th if it doesn't conflict with the National Board Meeting.
- Rendezvous Committee – We need three gifts/donations for the Silent Auction at the Rendezvous in September.
- Nominations Committee – There are 3 volunteers on the Committee, Martha, Kathleen and Melinda. Bob would like to see some of the Cottonwood Patch people on the board. For the 2020 Ballot there are no officer positions available, they were voted in for a two-year term last year. There are several director positions available; Billy Long should be on the ballot, Chuck Panter should be on the ballot and Melinda should be on the ballot. The seat Lakota had is open, the

seat Sharon Burke had is open, and the seat Linda Richards had is open because she moved up to Treasurer.

- Christmas Party – Melinda is the new chair for the Christmas Party. She has secured the Senior Center in Blue Ridge for the evening of **Saturday, December 7th** for the party.
- New Board Members now or wait? 3 Chairs open, Chatsworth needs representing – reference #3.
- Meeting requested with Forest Service for NEPA. Bob explained that the FS is behind in their NEPA work and has no money for it. Bob is looking at a) asking for a categorical exclusion, or b) paying for the NEPA study with BCHNG funds, as up to \$1,000 has been designated for this purpose.
- Next meeting Location and Time – Bob asked if a conference call was good or bad? Billy stated that it was good sometimes, when people were having trouble getting together, but not always, he liked the face to face meeting. There was discussion about morning meetings, evening meetings and conference call meetings. Because the next meeting was scheduled the day before the Rendezvous, Bob asked that the next meeting be held on **September 19th at 7:00 PM as a conference call.**
- Bob said that our Dahlenega Trailfest booth was being put together with a Leave No Trace display for September 7th and 8th.

Bob adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.