

NYSHC, Western Chapter, Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

A Board Members Only Meeting of the NYSHC, Western Chapter was called to order at 7:00 PM on June 28th, 2018 at the Hillview Restaurant in Depew, NY by Peter Tarnawskyj, President.

Board Members Present: Peter Tarnawskyj, Patricia Burch, Barbara Cunningham, Ann Czapla, Barbara George, Charles Kettner, Sharon Kettner, Megan Mangold, Barbara Moore, Mary Szarek, Linda Tarnawskyj, Larry Thurber

Board Member Excused: Phyllis Jensen, Nancy Reeves

Board Member Absent: Cheryl Palmer

Quorum was established

Acceptance of Minutes:

Minutes of the April 24 meeting were reviewed and questions arose as to the detail of several exchanges between the members. Secretary will review her notes and add detail about the exchanges, for approval at the next meeting. Minutes of the January 23rd meeting approved on a motion by Barbara George, 2nd by Barbara Cunningham. Approved on a voice vote. Minutes of the Annual Meeting were approved on a motion by Larry Thurber, 2nd by Patricia Burch. Approved on a voice vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Ann Czapla reported Accounts as follows \$1,000.00 in M&T account

\$26,019.20 in Key Bank Account

The treasurer said all bills she had received concerning Equifest have been paid and there are no unpaid bills in her possession.

Megan Mangold informed the board that she had personally paid hotel bills for several persons who were connected with Equifest however, she was not looking to be compensated for these expenses.

Old Business

Investigation of Suspended Members:

Peter turned meeting over to Charlie Kettner who chaired the investigation committee. Mary Szarek requested that her lawyer be admitted to the meeting and Peter restated that it was a closed meeting and her request was denied. Charlie Kettner had distributed by email to Board member the several pages of questions, responses and the committee statements which constituted the committee report. The committee made no recommendation as to the action to be taken.

Barbara Moore expressed her concern that the investigation committee was not impartial. She cited the initial vote to suspend as basis. Mary Szarek wanted time to read as she said she had not received the committee response sections.

Megan Mangold vehemently expressed her opinion on the committee's investigation, board leadership, operation of Equifest, and the report in general. Peter asked her how she came to be manager of Equifest as indicated on Facebook. She replied that she was indeed manager of the **Facebook Equifest page** as a point of clarification.

Charlie went to questions in detail and discussion continued. Barbara Moore gave her recollection of the pre-event meeting at the Fairgrounds. She stated her personal dedication to the event and did tell Jessica Underburg that they wanted to reserve the date to stay away from St. Patrick's Day week-end. She did state that they wanted to continue Equifest if for some reason the Chapter did not.

A motion was made by Barbara Cunningham as follows:

Whereas, the leaders of the current Equifest committee and Board Members: Barbara Moore, Mary Szarek and Phyllis Jensen, have not provided to the Chapter Board of Directors, the information requested related to the Equifest finances and whereas, these board members have attempted to have other parties including themselves operate WNY Equifest, an event owned by the Western Chapter, without consent or approval of the Board of Directors.

Whereas, these 3 board members have acted in a manner injurious to the welfare of the Western Chapter,

Therefore be it resolved, that Barbara Moore, Mary Szarek and Phyllis Jensen be removed as Board Members of the Western Chapter and from all Committees on which they may serve.

Seconded by Linda Tarnawskyj.

Call for a secret ballot. Vote was 7 yes, 4 no, 1 abstain Motion carried.

Peter asked that all related Chapter materials especially Equifest materials be returned to the Board and then called a recess at 7:43 until Barbara Moore and Mary Szarek left the meeting.

There was considerable back and forth concerning payments for the website.

Ms. Szarek and Ms. Moore left.

Peter reopened the meeting at 7:58

Linda Tarnawskyj made a motion to have the Chapter President and Vice President to work on developing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Erie Co. Agricultural Society, the NYSHC and the Western Chapter to manage the WNY Equifest going forward. Seconded by Barbara Cunningham. Discussion was extensive as to the pros and cons of this idea. Barbara George amended the motion that we have an attorney review the document as well assure that admission and parking remain at no charge. Second of amendment by Ann Czapl. Both amendment and amended motion passed on a voice vote with one abstention.

Activities for 2018:

Mounted Police Competition in October. Ann Czapl was asked to send our contribution of \$500.00 to them. This had been approved at a previous meeting. Larry Thurber wanted reassurance that his judging at this event would not be a conflict of interest. The Board concurred that since he was an accredited judge, there would be no conflict.

Western Dressage Clinic Scheduled for September 29 and 30th in Corfu, NY

Pat Burch moved that the Chapter sponsor light refreshments for meet and greet on Friday, September 28th, the evening prior to the Clinic. Seconded by Barbara Cunningham. Passed by voice vote. Pat will contact Amy for publicity for this event.

Megan Mangold left the meeting at 8:23

No other clinics are planned at this time.

There are no plans for a St. Jude ride in 2018

Committees:

Barbara Cunningham volunteered to Chair the Equifest Committee. Larry Thurber also volunteered and Pat Burch said she would help as well.

Financial Management:

Peter reported that he has had several communications with the IRS looking for more clarification on donations made to the Chapter thru Equifest.

There are three officers designated as signatories on the Chapter accounts; Treasurer, President, Vice Pres.

Ann Czapla passed around the initial Quickbooks reports she has generated from the records.

Newsletter:

Barbara Cunningham moved that the Newsletter be restarted by Peter and Linda Tarnawskyj. 2nd by Barbara George. Approved by voice vote.

Peter had not received a response to his letter to Deanna Fleetwood.

Peter said he has five stories ready to print. He wants to profile the advertisers so they get a bit more for their advertising dollar.

Website:

Barb George moved that going forward our website be connected with and web mastered by the same person who takes care of the NYSHC site. 2nd by Charlie Kettner. Approved by voice vote. Barbara Cunningham knows Brad and will reach out to him to accomplish this.

Bylaws Review Update:

Barbara George will send the last revision out to all Board members with a request for each person's input and suggestions for changes or additions. Plan is to publish proposed bylaws in the newsletter prior to a vote of the membership at the annual meeting.

Final resolutions: Barbara Cunningham suggested that a Letter requesting Chapter owned materials be sent to Barbara Moore, Phyllis Jensen, and Mary Szarek, individually, by Return Receipt Requested.

Ann Czapla moved that she reconcile with Liz O'Donnell the sale of Tops Cards for the usual donation to the Town of Aurora for Knox Farm Equestrian maintenance. Larry Thurber 2nd. Approved by voice vote.

The next meeting of the Western Chapter Board will be scheduled by the President.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:02PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara D. George

Secretary

Minutes approved at 8/28/18 WCNSHC Board meeting