



Equine Advisory Committee

Meeting February 7, 2012 at 7:00 PM

Advisory Committee Members Present: Ruthe Riehle, Leah Leising, James Leising, Jim Little, Len Brainard, Amy DeTine, Terry Crisafulli, Steve Lord, Melinda Nichols

Advisory Committee Members Absent: Judy Dalton, Veronica Weber, Annie Widger, Thomas Livak, Luke Brainard

General Attendance: Crystal Abers, Director of the Department of Economic Development, Planning; James Isaacson, County Senior Planner; Holly Perry; Becky Smith; Rick LeFeber and Linda Murphy

Call to Order at 7:05 PM

Approval of Minutes

Len Brainard made the motion to approve the December 6, 2011 minutes, Melinda Nichols 2nd all in favor, carried.

Amend the Agenda - Rick LeFeber expressed his interest in selling the Pat McGee trail to the County and would like to see the Equine Advisory Committee to support this transfer in ownership. He will let us know when he will need a letter of support.

Membership - Holly Parry will be official Feb 8, 2012. Linda Murphy will also be appointed in the near future to the Equine Committee. She is a member of the Creek Side Round Up in Franklinville.

Election of Officers - Steve Lord made a motion to let the Officers stay as is, 2nd by James Leising. Jim Little made a motion to close the elections. Secretary cast ballot.

Chairman - Leah Leising

Vice Chairman - Len Brainard

Secretary - Ruthe Riehle

Advocacy Chairman - James Leising

The meeting nights will be the 2nd or 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Trails** - Chairman will be Luke Brainard. Remarking of the trails will start in the spring due to the fact logging has taken the trail markers down in Little Valley.
- **Marketing/Tourism**
 - New Brochures for the Counties Equine trails and Pine Hill are being completed.
 - Horse Education classes are being offered in Gowanda.
 - Harwood Lake ---new campground for horses was mentioned.
- **Advocacy/ Horse Resource/Education**
 - James Leising will be the new Chairman.
 - NYSHC had a meeting in Syracuse.
 - Noted pending Legislation was one topic discussed at the meeting.
- **The Horse Resource** - Terry Crisafulli reported
 - A meeting was held with state vet, Mark McConnon in January. His support and information was very helpful with the continued growth of the HR.
 - The 2nd Annual Tack Swap/Auction will be held December 1, 2012 at 10 am in the Allegany Community Center. \$20 to rent a table for the day.
 - Tips cans will be distributed around to area stores to generate more funds.
 - Will be working with the Counties CART and start building a network of horse people who would be interested in helping with Equine emergencies.

Old Business

- Horse Owners Essentials Education program, Gowanda School, 4 week course 2 hours each on basic horse care. The classes have been set for March 13, 20, 27 and April 3, 2012, 7pm to 9pm.
- Equifest 2012: Leah, James, Ruthe and Bobby will man the booth.
- The Equine Affair will be held April 12 – 15, 2012. Cross Patch paid for one booth while the County paid for another so we have a larger booth this year. Need donations for basket Giveaway.
- The Catt/Chaut grant - Work will start in the spring at Pine Hill.

New Business

Neighbor Farmer Dinner will be held April 25, 2012 in Ellicottville. Venders and Businesses are all welcome to participate.

A motion was made by Ruthe, 2nd by Amy that the Equine Committee will set up a table. All in favor carried.

Catt County Horsemen's Association

- Horseman's Association gave \$200 towards the Horse Essentials classes.

Next Meeting

May 8, 2012, 7:00 PM in the Legislative Chambers (third floor) of the Cattaraugus County Center, 303 Court Street, Little Valley, NY.

Adjournment - 8:30 pm

Motion made by Len Brainard, Seconded, James Leising, all in favor, Carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Ruthe Riehle, Secretary

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED 5/8/12.