

PA 4-H Horse Program Development Committee
March 28, 2007
State College, PA

Minutes

(pending approval at the next meeting)

Attendance: Kirsten Dubbs, Jim Sharp, Bryan Dickinson, Tammy Eichstadt, Dave Gallaher, Lori Benner, Andrea Graeff, Pat Comerford, Duane Duncan, Sharon Jodon, and Donna Zang

Tammy Eichstadt called the meeting to order. Pat introduced Andrea Graeff, newly hired extension associate.

The Development Committee membership list was circulated for corrections as needed.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to accept the November 2006 minutes as presented. It was, moved, seconded, and passed to accept the February 2007 minutes as corrected.

The treasurer's report was presented and reviewed. Moved, seconded, and passed to accept the treasurer's report as corrected. Transportation checks have been distributed to the counties. Counties are asked to report back to Duane that they have received the checks in the county office.

It was moved and seconded to approve \$8,000 reimbursement to the districts. It was suggested, that in the future, the committee budget for the district reimbursement in advance so that districts can consider this in their annual budget. Districts are required to submit an annual financial report as support documentation for the district reimbursement expense. The financial report is required before the district reimbursement is distributed. Motion passed.

Pat reported that Daney Jackson asked for financial reports and audits/reviews for the committee in response to the proposal for the 4-H program assistant position. This includes proof of independent audit and a detailed accounting report for the review period. Duane will work with Roger Martell to complete this.

Pat and Donna participated in the 2007 AYHC Symposium and will submit expenses to Duane. The committee had previously approved up to \$1,000 in support of committee members' travel to the symposium. Jodi Lenhart was recognized as the 2007 AYHC Student Leader. This is the first time that this award has been presented. It was suggested that the Development Committee help support the family's travel to the symposium. Bryan will contact Westmoreland County to help the committee determine an appropriate amount. No action taken. Tabled until the May 2007 meeting.

Connie Garman has requested that Brenda Campbell be asked to help out as assistant show secretary and as a back-up to Connie for show secretarial and entry work. Connie will determine what she needs Brenda to help with. Pat and/or Connie will then follow up with Brenda. Additional discussion on a stipend for pre- or post- show work by Brenda was tabled until the May 2007 meeting and a report from Connie.

There was discussion on liability insurance for the state 4-H horse show and the overall horse program. Jim Sharp will look into special risk liability insurance, including participant liability, and get a quote on coverage for comparison with current coverage and rates.

Lori Benner and Jackie Simon are completing their terms on the committee in 2007 and will serve as the nominating committee for new elected members. The committee should provide a slate of nominations and a written ballot for the Advisory Committee meeting on April 16, 2007. One volunteer and one extension educator will be elected at that meeting. Suggestions for nominees should be forwarded to Jackie. Lori will follow up with Jackie with suggestions for nominees from today's meeting.

A draft of the responsibilities of committee members was discussed. It was suggested that a statement regarding appropriate conduct be included. Kirsten will prepare a statement to add to the description. This information will be provided to nominees and committee members.

Pat updated the committee on the meeting with Daney Jackson, Terry Etherton, and Roger Martell in regards to the proposal for the 4-H program assistant position. Daney is supportive and feels that the proposal is innovative. Daney will follow up with the Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences for approval to proceed with the process for considering the proposal. He also would like to meet with committee representatives and the regional directors to further discuss the proposal. There was discussion on alternatives for funding. The suggestion was made that counties be assessed a fee based on number of 4-H members in horse projects. The position is currently budgeted at \$10.00 per member. Counties would be able to determine how to raise the funds within their county. Bryan and Donna will work on the wording for an explanation of how funds will be collected.

Donna and Pat reported on the 2007 AYHC symposium. Overall, the program was very good and provided useful information. The 2008 symposium will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Pat reported on the PA 4-H Horse Forum. Enrollment numbers were down this year. Evaluations were generally very positive. Pat asked the committee to consider what should be done for future programs. It was suggested that we include this on the Advisory Committee agenda for discussion. It was suggested that this also be discussed at the district meetings. We need to hear what people want in the way of a program. What would they come to hear? How much are they willing to spend? Should we consider opening the forum to other groups? After further discussion it was determined that a recommendation would be made to the forum committee to hold the program in 2009 and invite other youth horse associations to participate. If a program is to be held in 2009, dates for facilities will need to be booked soon.

A list of events and activities was distributed. There have been many requests to have a Horsemanship Skills examiners clinic at Penn State at the Ag Arena. Pat will talk with Patty and Donna to determine if dates are available to do this. Dates for 2008 were also announced: Judge's and Horse Show Management School – February 15 to 17, 2008; AYHC Symposium – February 29 to March 2, 2008; and Winning Ways Clinic – March 15 and 16, 2008.

It was suggested that a computer record keeping session be added to the Horse Show Management portion of the Judge's School. Bryan Dickinson will ask Brenda Campbell to conduct a computer session. A session on Filemaker programs for qualifying shows should also be offered.

The Penn State Quarter Horse Sale is scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2007. The PAQHA tack sale that was originally scheduled with the Winning Ways Clinic will be held in conjunction with the sale. There will be a Horsemanship Skills Level 1 and 2 information session and demonstration held at the Ag Arena on Sunday, April 29, 2007. Sharon Jodon will conduct this clinic.

There was discussion on the Horsemanship Skills program and the need to review the skills required in each level. This was a recommendation to the Advisory Committee and was also discussed by participants at the Horse Forum. Tammy, Donna, Kirsten, Lori, Dave, Sharon, Pat, and Patty will look at the skills to discuss revisions. Patty will be asked to chair the committee. If Patty is not able to chair, Tammy is willing. Tammy will contact Patty. Therapeutic and driving skills need to be considered as well.

Kirsten reported on the leaders guide that she is working on. Designed as a resource for volunteers, the guide summarizes key information that pertains to the 4-H horse program. A survey of extension educators and volunteers was conducted to help determine what topics to include. Based on the survey, most volunteers would like to have a hard copy in loose leaf format. A subcommittee is needed to review the guide. Bryan volunteered to help with the review. Patty Kelly, Joann Logan, and Brenda Campbell were also suggested as possible subcommittee members. If Patty is not able to help, Kirsten will ask Joann if there is another Westmoreland County volunteer that would be willing to help review. The approval for purchasing and printing of the Ohio State safety publication is on hold until the cost can be determined. Christy Kohler is working on this. There have been several minor updates to the project record books in recent months.

Pat distributed the current guidelines for the production project. Is the project meeting the original objectives? There was quite a bit of discussion on the project at the Horse Forum. Issues that are surfacing include pairing young children with young horses, foals being shown at a very young age, and stallions in the program. It has been suggested that foals be born by April 1 to be shown during the current year. It was further suggested that the new age requirement be phased in by 2009 and noted in the 2008 rule book. It was pointed out that other associations do not permit youth to show stallions. Should we continue to permit youth to show stallions? These items, along with other concerns and suggestions, are on the Advisory Committee agenda for further discussion. We need to determine what we want the purpose of the program to be, make appropriate changes to the project, and make changes to the regional production shows to reflect changes to the project.

There will be five regional production shows in 2007. Pat and Connie will be meeting with show chairpersons to discuss show check-in times and other show management items.

There has been no further word on insurance approval for the shared horse program. Pat has again requested a ruling on this. Betsy Ullrich is working on recreation activities/project and will have information to present at the Advisory Committee meeting.

Tammy will prepare a list of questions to present at the Advisory Committee meeting for discussion on a youth advisory committee. Tammy will get input from Bryan, Lori and Patty. A youth advisory committee needs to have a specific purpose. It is important for youth to be involved in an appropriate

manner. It was suggested that the youth function as a part of the Advisory Committee. Further discussion tabled until the May meeting to include action from Advisory Committee.

2008 4-H Horse Show Rulebook (follow up on items tabled from 2006 meetings)

Distances for the Clover Leaf Barrel Race – It was moved, seconded and passed to change distances for the pattern to be consistent with AQHA rules as follows: The distance from the arena walls/rail must be a minimum of 18 feet from the first and second barrels and a minimum of 36 feet from the third barrel to the end of the arena. A distance of 30 yards between the first and second barrels and 35 yards between the second and third and third and first barrels is required with the following exception: If the arena space does not permit regulation distances, the distance between barrels may be reduced in five yard increments. The timer should be set 20 yards from the line intersecting the first and second barrels.

It was moved, seconded, and passed to leave the mini driving rule regarding attendants as currently stated.

Clarification of proper dress for aides in therapeutic division – it was moved, seconded, and passed that under the clothing and equipment requirements (pg 62, item a), a statement be added that states: “Aides should be dressed in workmanlike attire; long pants or skirt, shirt with sleeves, and appropriate footwear as noted below”.

Dave and Tammy reviewed the scorecards for novice reining and western riding and recommended adding the penalty points to the novice reining score card. The score cards will be posted to the website.

Patty and Sharon will be asked to develop a scorecard for jumping classes in accordance with our guidelines. The 2008 rule book will be reworded to note that in Working Hunter and Hunter Seat Equitation over fences there will be minimum eligibility requirements for advancement to district and state shows. The rules will be revised to reflect the scoring system. Guidelines for over fences classes will also need to be revised accordingly.

State Show issues were tabled until the May 2007 meeting. Recommendations for changes to the computer program should be forwarded to Vince Verbeke.

Pat and Donna updated the committee on the Identification project for 4-H project horses in selected counties. This project is funded through a USDA grant. A team of people funded by the grant will work with this. Helene McKernan is coordinating the 4-H project and is working with Pat, Ann Swinker and the ID project committee. Helene is coordinating details with extension staff and volunteers in the selected counties. The project will include microchipping horses and follow up at check –in at selected 4-H qualifying shows.

The next meeting of the Development Committee is scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2007 at the Ag Arena conference room.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Zang, Secretary