

Minutes of Meeting for
Fort Harrod Back Country Horseman
March 5, 2009
Called to order at 7:15PM

Directors' Roll Call: Pat Warner, Essie Rogers, Bob Cairns, David Rule, Dennis Blackburn, Greg Mason, Emily Dennis, with Dana Nelson and Carol Conover excused.

Dennis Blackburn made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 5, 2009 as read by Pat Warner, with a second by Greg Mason, motioned carried.

Financial report read by Pat Warner with motion from David Rule to accept and a second by Dennis Blackburn.

Introduction of Cynthia Higgs, Equestrian Partners Coordinator for Equestrian Land Conservation Resource (ELCR).

Cynthia requests that FHBCH join the ELCR explaining the many benefits for a cost of \$100.00 per year. Benefits listed included 4-5 news letters per year, educational conference calls with well know and knowledgeable speakers all with a common goal of sharing information regarding ways of conserving land for equine purposes. Conservation of land for equine endeavors on federal, state and local levels requires partnerships at all levels. At present there are 104 members of the ELCR, varied in interest and most are actively participating members. There was discussion of the legal language needed for easements on private lands and that liability is a huge issue for land owners. Also the need for more horse friendly communities with an example of Lexington, Ky given as "The Horse Capital of the World", but yet not horse friendly. Other benefits are discounts on various publications. Changes in the future may include a name change and mid-line contributions to accompany the basic and premier partners.

John Bates reminds that the ELCR provided the contact information for the National Parks Service, River, Trail and Conversation Assistance Program that is now offering assistance with Eagles Nest.

Dennis Blackburn offers that the Salt River Trail will pass through numerous private tracts and the ELCR can offer assistance in information of other models that are successful including Mountains to the Sea and the Palmetto Trail.

Motion on the floor to join but concerns regarding financial abilities was discussed.

Essie Rogers reminds that our dues to the BCHA will be due in 2010.

Emily Dennis states that because we are a 501c3 organization contributions can be accepted. The hat was passed with the collection of \$103.00.

A motion by Don Hubbard to become an Equine Partner with the ELCR with a second by Thomas Demond and all in agreement.

Report from Trail Boss Bob Cairns: 15 hours of trail clean-up on Shawnee Run Trail completed and a ride planned 3/7 at 1PM to evaluate the remainder of work needed on the Shawnee. Bob recommends one day per month for “as needed” trail clean-up at Shaker Village. John Bates asks Bob if FHBCCH can be involved in the planned expansion of trails. Bob to have a meeting with Don Pelly regarding further assistance in the planned south side trails.

Reminder to all to keep their volunteer hours and report these hours to Greg Mason the Volunteer Hours Director, either per event if large group or individually and reporting at years end.

Greg Mason, Cynn timer Bates, Drew Dennis and Nicole Roca volunteered 6 hours with the Woodford Hounds trail cleaning at Shaker Village.

Dennis Blackburn trail boss report on Eagles Nest: Scheduled for March 21st if weather permits. Plans are for Oxen team to assist with pulling the approximate 60 tires and clean the heavy storm damage. If needed we will return on Sun at 1PM to continue with the clean-up. The plan is to meet at the pavilion and use as few vehicles as possible to transport to the back side of the property. Pick-up time at

the pavilion is 10AM, Lunch scheduled for 1-2:30, After lunch further trail work planned with Greg Mason and Bob Cairns taking teams to locations for chain saw and lopper clean-up. John Bates reports that Mike Conover is concerned that the ground may be too wet. Carol Conover request that no live trees are cut. Plans are for standing Sunday workdays at 1PM until all trails are open.

Cynthia Higgs has offered to photograph the Eagles Nest clean-up.

3/8 1PM meeting at Dennis Blackburn's home with transport to Eagles Nest to clear route for oxen.

County wide day for tire disposal not available to Mercer County for 2 years.

Brodhead tire disposal is available at \$1.25 per tire, with the possibility of donation of the chipped tires back to FHBCH.

Donations of gloves, wire-cutters, limb loppers needed for work day.

March 14: Taylorville Lake clean-up to assist TREK, Spencer County group, Notify Brenda or Jerry Hancock. Bring chainsaws, ATVs, No Horses. John Bates to coordinate with work to start at 7AM.

Public Land Issues: John Bates reports that plans continue for the Salt River Trial.

John Bates also reports that Michael Conover has had a chance to look over the Eagles Nest map and agrees with the use of post to mark the trails as opposed to marking the trees.

Dennis Blackburn informs that there is room for 2 persons from FHBCH in the upcoming chainsaw certification class. These persons must be certified in basic life support from the American Red Cross, have chain saw chaps, helmet and safety glasses.

FHBCH annual meeting is June 11th from 7 to 9PM.

Riding for the Son tack sale 3/7 10AM to 5PM.

April 18th 1PM Riding for the Son ride at Eagles Nest.

Ashbury College Game Day 4/25.

Introduction to Driving Day 3/28.

4th Annual Trial and Pleasure Summit 4/3-5 at Dale Hollow State Park.

Emily Dennis gives the President's report: FHBCH will have affiliate approval with BCHA at their annual meeting which is the last weekend of April. 501c3 application is in final stages with Cynthia Higgs and Carla Perry's help in the application process.

There is a conflict with having the annual meeting of FHBCH on June 6th in that this is also the date for the Beef Festival as well as National Trails Day. The date has been changed by the Board of Directors to June 11th from 7 to 9 PM.

Greg Mason and David Rule give update on Beef Festival: Events start June 2nd and will be at the fairgrounds. FHBCH will provide pony rides and possible Oxen rides. There are concerns regarding the need for insurance. Ale Mueller made a motion that the BOD has the power to decide further events in regards to the Beef Festival with a second by Greg Mason. Pony ride are to be a fund raiser for FHBCH.

Bob Cairns mentioned a Poker Run during the Beef Festival as a fund raiser.

Speaker Brian Rogers gave an educational presentation on the training and uses of oxen.

Greg Mason motioned to adjourn at 9:30PM.