

Minutes AERC Bod meeting 11/10/14

President Michael Campbell called the AERC BOD meeting to order at 9:04pm Eastern Time.

In attendance were Lisa Schneider, Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Connie Caudill, Peter Hommertzheim, Skip Kemerer, Nick Kohut, Stephanie Teeter, John Parke, Duane Barnett, Susan Kasemeyer, Julia Lynn Elias (joined the meeting a little late), Roger Taylor, Olin Balch, Randy Eiland, Susan Garlinghouse, Mike Maul, Bruce Weary, Michael Campbell and Kathleen Henkel.

Susan Kasemeyer made a motion to accept the minutes from the 10/13/14 meeting. Bruce Weary seconded. Motion Passed.

Bruce Weary made a motion with Susan Kasemeyer making the second; To excuse from the meeting- Rusty Toth- teaching, Tom Bache – family issue, Paul Latiolais- conflict on timing of call, Forrest Tancer- out of the country, Monica Chapman- traveling, Terry Woolley Howe if she couldn't get on the call as she was in Moscow, Russia. Motion Passed.

Andrew Gerhard and Sue Keith were also not on the call.

Kathleen Henkel provided the BOD with the Membership Report.

Membership as of 11/8/13 5125

Membership as of 11/7/14 4595

Membership for 2015: 705

Membership for 2016: 115

Rider fees 11/7/2013 \$75,643.47

Rider fees 11/7/2014 \$82,379.21

Sanction fees 11/7/2013 \$15,060

Sanction fees 11/7/2014 \$16,000

New members as of 11/8/13 611

New members as of 11/7/14 678

Kathleen also announced that McKamey Kimbler had won the USEF Sportsmanship Award this year.

Connie Caudill reported that the Sanctioning Committee had approved a new Pioneer ride in the Mountain Region, Antelope Island to be held April 10-12, 2015 and were seeking approval from the BOD. The ride was then approved by the BOD. Also the Committee was seeking approval of a new SW region Pioneer ride, Indian Springs Ride to be held February 6-8, 2015. The ride was approved by the BOD.

Roger Taylor made a plea to the BOD that the January 9-11, 2015 Indian Springs Pioneer ride also gain approval even though the ride didn't meet the required time restraints. Roger said that he was at fault not the ride manager for the delay in getting the request to the Committee. Discussion was held. Skip Kemerer made a motion to accept the Indian Springs January Pioneer ride. Motion was seconded by Pete Hommertzheim. Motion passed.

Mollie Krumlaw Smith reported on the financial status of AERC. According to the finances AERC should end the year within the budgeted amount of (-\$13,000) or slightly favorable. Even though the membership numbers and ride fees were down, our budget is on target, due to the office staff and Endurance News coming in below targeted budget.

Committee expenses were down, as were the trail grants and Trail Master classes.

Cash reserves are \$730,000. Membership dues make up the majority of our income. Of the expenses the largest is the payroll and office, ride insurance and awards.

Northeast region is up in membership. It was felt that the NE Region's growth was due to the grassroots effort that Patti Stedman was spearheading.

The Finance Committee is budgeting a 3% decrease in membership for 2015 but most the other line items will remain flat. They are budgeting a \$5,000 profit on the 2015 convention (2014 had a \$2,000 profit) with hopes that the new marketing person will do a good job with promotion of the convention. This year we only had \$1800 in sponsors so we are hoping to do better in 2015. Budget for 2015 will include a loss of \$38,000. Using some of the reserves on the hiring of the new marketing position (\$20,000) and also on the startup of a supporting organization (\$20,000). These are new one time expenses that should benefit AERC greatly in the future. We will finalize the 2015 budget during the convention BOD meeting.

John Parke reviewed with the BOD, the Radu Ciubuc protest against the Lead Follow or Get Out of the Way ride manager, Stephanie Palmer-DuRoss. Discussion was held. Randy Eiland abstained as he felt he has a conflict of interest being friends and neighbors with the Ciubucs. The BOD agreed with the P&G Committee that the Mr. Ciubuc did not follow the instructions of the ride manager. The appeal was denied.

John then reviewed with the BOD, the Tom Hutchison protest against the FITS ride manager, Gail Ransco. There was a lengthy discussion. The majority of the BOD agreed with the P&G Committee ruling that there was cause for the refusal of entry. The appeal was denied.

Julia presented the Motion from the Welfare of the Horse Committee.

Rule 1.2.5 No horse and/or rider may compete, or be awarded completion, points or placing in the same AERC sanctioned ride distance more than once in a calendar year.

Discussion- Is it clearly understood that riders could enter two 25 mile rides in the same day? When is the horse in competition? Once vetted if the horse was injured during the night could the rider start on a different horse? Rules committee felt the way the rule was written was acceptable. Olin Balch made a motion to amend the wording to – No horse and/or rider may be awarded more than a single completion in an endurance ride or limited distance ride. The motion amendment died due to lack of a second.

The original motion which came from committee was then voted on and also failed to pass.

Many on the Bod felt the wording needed clarification while others felt the rules already state that horse and rider need to be present at the start and no extra rule was needed. Regardless of the vote, the BOD wants it to be known that they do not accept the concept of dual entry in the same distance.

Susan Kasemeyer made a motion to adjourn. Bruce Weary seconded. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 11:23pm Eastern Time.

Submitted by Connie Caudill (Substituting for Monica Chapman)

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AERC Board of Directors MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name : Endurance Clinic “Seed Money” Program

Proposing Committee: Education Committee

Date of Motion: November 14, 2014

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy)

Request for Education Committee Reserve Funds

Proposed Motion (use exact wording)

We propose that AERC provide financial support to AERC Endurance 101 / 201 / Beyond the Basics Clinics, providing \$500 of Education Committee Reserve Funds as “seed money” to clinic organizers/facilitators to cover expenses associated with conducting such clinics.

Background, analysis and benefit (describe the problem this motion is solving)

Endurance clinics are beginning to flourish all across AERC. They have proven to provide a solid educational base to increase the likelihood of success of participants and thus their initial and ongoing participation in our sport.

One of the challenges of conducting clinics is the “seed money” for travel/accommodations for an experienced facilitator as well as other expenses associated with conducting a clinic (administrative costs, facility/equipment rental, meals, etc.). This motion for “seed money” is intended to ensure clinic facilitators/organizers are not ‘out of pocket’ to conduct clinics, and can be utilized to keep clinic costs reasonable, or in some cases free.

Those applying for clinic funds will be required to complete an application, utilize AERC insurance or provide proof that the clinic is insured, be approved by their Regional Director and the application received at least thirty days in advance of the clinic date to allow for advertising and marketing of the clinic through AERC website.

Applications will be reviewed and approved on a first come, first served basis and the “seed money” program will be promoted to members immediately upon approval through the AERC website, members’ forum, Facebook page and Endurance News. Applications will be posted on the Education tab, under Endurance Clinics.

Budget effect/impact (Attach spreadsheet if appropriate)

We are requesting that up to ten (10) clinics receive “seed money” of \$500 on a first come, first served basis during the 2015 budget year for a potential total of \$5000.00 of Education Reserve Funds.

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC Organization

Provides and promotes educational opportunities for riders seeking information and/or information about successfully competing in our sport.

Clinic organizers will be asked to provide a discount for attendees who are AERC members, and to distribute and promote AERC membership materials to attendees who are not AERC members at the time they sign up for the clinic.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

The office staff will be instrumental in the following:

1. Answering questions about Endurance Clinics
2. Facilitating insurance for those conducting Endurance Clinics (ongoing based on previous motion)
3. Development with the Education Committee of a Clinic Seed Money Application Form
4. Reviewing and approving clinic application and issuing checks.
5. Promoting Endurance Clinics on the webpage and in Endurance News
6. Providing resource materials via CD/DVD, and promotional items (bumper stickers, bags, riders' handbooks, decals, Endurance News magazines) to clinic organizers (ongoing)
7. Funneling new or potential new members to clinics within their region/area.

Budget Impact

We are requesting that the AERC BoD provide up to \$5000 to contribute to the insurance for the clinics.

Committees to be consulted and/or affected

Education Committee

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

The application can be drafted within days of approval of this motion and distributed and communicated to the membership immediately thereafter.

Supporting materials (List of any other documents and/or spreadsheets)

Background information re: AERC's ongoing Endurance Clinics can be viewed at:

http://www.aerc.org/Endurance_Clinics.aspx

pcs, 11/14/14

MOTION PROPOSAL

Motion Name Finger Lakes NY Project Name: Backbone Trail Repair

Proposing Committee TRAILS AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Date of Motion (Date to be presented to BOD) 1/12/15

Classification of Motion Request (new, change, add, delete, by-law, rule, policy) - NEW

Proposed Motion: The Trails and Land Management Committee moves that AERC, using designated Trails Grants funds, grant \$3,000 to the Burnt Hill Rides Association (applicant) to help facilitate drainage by excavating existing boggy footing, laying geo textile fabric, and resurfacing the trail with crusher run gravel in the Finger Lakes National Forest which comprises abandoned farmland taken over by the federal and state governments during the Depression, and many features of the farms survive. Backbone Horse Camp is managed by the NFS. It is the hub of all horse traffic, used to capacity by riders throughout the region, and it is a gateway to our longer distance trail extensions. Because of the horse traffic through the camp, the NFS has committed funds to re-excavate the pond that supplies water for the horses and to install a hydrant near the trailhead. This project would extend the reach of that improvement.

Budget effect/impact - None

FUNDS FROM DEDICATED TRAILS GRANT FUND

Benefit and/or Impact to Membership and/or the AERC.

The AERC Hector Half Hundred Rides would utilize this area and its trails; it would make a significant improvement to the 50-mile ride. And most importantly, it WILL STRENGTHEN THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL LAND MANAGEMENT.

Impact on AERC Office (Work load, budget)

MINIMAL

Committees consulted and/or affected

TRAILS AND LAND MANAGEMENT

Implementation plan (Schedule, resources, financial)

(US Forest Service contact): Tim Noon, Natural Resource Specialist

Address: 5218 State Route 414

City, State, Zip: Hector, NY 14841 Phone: 607-546-4470

Email: twnoon@fs.fed.us

Backbone Trail Improvement

Budget

Costs and contributions to renovate approximately 600 feet of trail.

Expenses: \$7,020.00

Geotextile fabric, 2 rolls @ \$600 \$1,200.00

Crusher run gravel,@350/foot	\$2,200.00
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Equipment rental	\$600.00
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Burnt Hill Assn. labor (80hrs@\$22.25)	\$1,780.00
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Forest service labor (salaries pro rata)	\$1,240.00
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Burnt Hill/USFS Contributions:	\$3,520.00
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Burnt Hill starter money	\$300.00
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Forest service geotextile on hand	\$200.00
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Burnt Hill Assn. labor	\$1,780.00
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Forest service labor	\$1,240.00
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Requesting \$3,000.00

Supporting approvals (proposing committee, participating committees) - TRAILS AND LAND
MANAGEMENT