

Minutes AERC Board meeting 10/9/17

Meeting was called to order at 9 pm (EST) by President Paul Latiolais

Kathleen Henkel took roll call with the following Board of Directors present: Mollie Krumlaw-Smith, Michael Campbell, Monica Chapman, Connie Caudill, Jan Stevens, Mary Howell, Stephanie Teeter, John H. Parke, Duane Barnett, Barbara Reinke, Roger Taylor, Andrew Gerhard, Jody Wyatt, Olin Balch, Robert Marshall, Michael Maul, Heather Reynolds, and Paul Sidio.

Roger Taylor made a motion to excuse Sue Keith and Christoph Schork, and Susan Kasemeyer second by Mary Howell, motion passed.

(Paul L was trying a new to AERC face to face Blue Jean meeting program which some of the Board members reported that they were not able to get on the call while others were able to get on in the listen mode only)

Connie Caudill made a motion to accept the Board minutes from the 9/11/17 meeting with one correction to add Heather Reynolds as being present. Second by Roger Taylor. Motion passed

Connie Caudill made a motion to accept the 9/5/17 AERC International meeting minutes - *** below Roger Taylor second. Motion passed

Steph Teeter and the Junior and Young Rider committee put in place their young rider board representative Lily Turaski.

Kathleen Henkel gave the Membership report for October 2017

Membership as of 10/7/16: 5102; as of 10/6/17: 4972. Sanction fees as of 10/6/16: \$16,095; as of 10/6/17: \$16,147. Rider fees as of 10/6/16: \$69,247; as of 10/7/17: \$67,402. New members as of 10/7/16: 641; as of 10/6/17: 566.

John Parke updated the Board on the ongoing lawsuit. The trial date has been set for Oct 1, 2018. The process will start with the written discovery. The depositions will start in January or February to get the witness statements. John will call the lawyer to let him know the witnesses names. This will be a very slow moving process and very expensive.

John Parke updated the Board on the supporting organization. He has an appointment on Oct 10 with our new attorney, Thomas Shaver. Then he will file.

John Parke has sent an e-mail to the ADA attorney asking for a meeting.

Special Sanction venue and date change – Best of the Best ride - new date and location: August 15, 2019 for the 25/50 and August 17, 2019 for the 100, Cindy Simcox remains the ride manager (previously

sanctioned during April 2016 board conf call). Date change was approved by the Sanctioning Committee. Passed by the Board.

Motion – Crewing motion from the Rules Committee - Lisa Schneider

The Rules Committee felt a new rule was needed due to many complaints about crew members doing things that are not acceptable. Ride Managers don't know what to do and has asked for help. This rule will give the ride manager more control over the crew members.

The motion will go into the Endurance News for member discussion and input before being voted on in a future meeting.

Trails – Monica Chapman didn't get much input from the Bod. Steph Teeter suggested that we may need some time to look at her plan since the Bod had only received it earlier in the day.

Implementation Plan: Trails Preservation

Mary Howell- Membership Implementation plan

Mary stated that half of all new members fail to renew within the first two years. So retention is the goal of the committee. Originally the goal was to have 7500 members within the next five years but instead there was a loss of 20% of members from 6000 down to 5000. The core of AERC are diehard members that ride a lot but we need to retain the new members that don't ride as much. The membership committee is hoping that having the Green Beans becoming an AERC program will help on retaining these new members over the long haul. Kathleen has worked with the group in getting it integrated within AERC. All elements (rides or clinic) of the Green Bean program must be sanctioned or approved by AERC. January issue of Endurance news will discuss the program in depth.

The committee wants to get more educational clinics and events for each region. Patti Stedman has an online endurance educational program that she offers to the Green Beans at a discount. Susan Garlinghouse's education videos has been an ongoing success.

The committee would like to make an online test- How well do you know the rules?

Mountain Region director Jan Stevens will be searching for a regional director appoint in place of Janet Tipton who resigned earlier this month. Kathleen will be checking to see who was runner up in the previous Director At Large election. This person will take the of Susan Garlinghouse who recently resigned.

Steph asked for an update on the Young Riders Division. Kathleen said the computer program has not be able to update at this point to include the division in the programing. She is planning on giving our some awards to the Young Riders but it will be a while before the computer can be updated to accept the division.

Kathleen made the Board aware that the rider cards had been slightly changed in order to recognize they are AERC material.

The entire Board wanted to recognize and publicly thank Susan Garlinghouse for the time she has spent serving AERC. We will miss her energy, enthusiasm and work ethics greatly.

The Board also thanks Janet Tipton for her service.

Motion to adjourn made by John Parke and second by Roger Taylor at 9:45 pm (EST). Motion passed.