

NORTH COUNTRY HORSEMEN - Monthly Meeting - October 22, 2015

Meeting was called to order by President Sue Helm.

Secretary's Report: Meeting minutes from September's meeting was read by Kristi Westlund. A motion to approve as read was made by Shirley Horien and seconded by Ronnette Anderson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Mardy Anderson presented the following balances on hand:

General account: \$3134.52

Arena account: \$393.21

TTT grant fund account, no updated information at this time.

Old Business:

Sue Helm gave an update on applying for tax exempt 5013c status with IRS. She stated that NCH received a ninety day extension to October 25, 2015. The reason for the extension was to review and adopt a resolution from the IRS.

The resolution requires the following adjustments to TTT's grant program:

1. TTT's grant application would require written evidence that the requestor has met "financial need qualifications" in order to receive a grant.
2. NCH's directors, officers, members, and volunteers, "insiders", their family members, friends, business associates, and others they share a close personal, business, or financial relationship would not be eligible for a TTT grant.

Mardy Anderson stated that according to what is required; becoming a tax exempt would change what our grant program was founded on. There have been on-going discussions with those that are involved with TTT fundraising and TTT's committee members. It appears that NCH's officers and the TTT committee members are leaning towards not adopting the resolution from the IRS. However, the final decision will come from NCH's Board of Directors. NCH's Board of Directors will meet after tonight's meeting to vote on whether to proceed or withdraw NCH's application.

Committee Updates:

Cancer Ride Committee: No updates at this time.

Arena Committee: Discussion on the progress of building a shed to store our equipment; Steve Bierman and Mardy Anderson both stated that this project will not start until next spring. For now, all machinery will be stored at the Anderson's.

Food/Fundraiser Committee: Sharon Holmstrom said that the clean-up of the food shack is done. The extra cans of food will be stored at Anderson's.

Trail Ride Committee: Trotting the Trails Program, Shirley Horien reminded everyone to turn in riding log sheets to Marcie Fisher by Nov 30th.

Show/Games Committee: Kristi Westlund reported that the Goosefest game day was a huge success! Thanks to all who volunteered throughout year! The show committee is meeting on October 26th to discuss next year's show dates.

Clinic Committee: Ronnette and Kristi are working on scheduling clinics for 2016.

When Sue asked for any further old business or committee updates, there was interest in hearing more about "that's my pan" fundraiser that Tanya Peterson has put together. Sue will ask Tanya to update everyone at the annual meeting.

There also was discussion regarding NCH's Youth Sponsorships for members that are going to the state fair; we are going to ask for more information on where and how these kids have volunteered during the year. Updates to the application will be made soon.

New Business:

The MR legion has been booked on February 6, 2016 for NCH's annual meeting. All committee chairs are asked to send agenda topics to Sue as soon as possible.

Ronnette Anderson made a motion to adjourn and Sharon Holmstrom seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Kristi Westlund, NCH Secretary

Note: NCH Board of Directors; Sue Helm, Pres, Ronnette Anderson, VP, Kristi Westlund, Secretary and Mardy Anderson, Treasurer met briefly on October 22, 2015 to decide whether to proceed or withdraw NCH's 501c3 application to become tax exempt. There was a unanimous decision to withdraw NCH's 501c3 application. Sue Helm will send a letter to the IRS withdrawing our application.