

Central Plains Dressage Society
Meeting Minutes

Fun, Friendly, and Forward

December 8, 2019 Valley View Equestrian Center

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 2:00 pm. Nancy Eytcheson, Chris Cashel, Robin Hessel, Christina Harmon, Stacia Wert Gray, Lee Ann Alf, Janelle Williams, Annie Houchin, and Kathy Maxwell were present

The minutes from the November meeting and AGM were approved. Motion made by Stacia Wert Gray, and seconded by Christina Harmon. Passed.

Introduction by Chris Cashel:

Thanks to Lee Ann Alf for taking over the newsletter, and to Janelle Williams for taking on the webmaster job. Kudos to Amy Mullins for her help with the newsletter and doing the volunteer ornaments for the AGM. Shows were very successful this year, attracting many riders from out of state. We need to try to keep shows to a reasonable length and be stricter about accommodating ride time requests.

Committee reports:

Treasurer

*Stacia Wert Gray reported that the strategy of the club is to run through the money and provide services to the members rather than hold on to it and accumulate it. Currently have \$342 on hand, and about \$2200 in the account to fund insurance for next year.

*Hoping January show will generate 1500 so ribbons for the whole year can be order when they are on sale.

*Request putting into the newsletter a blurb about designating CPDS as a recipient of Amazon Smile donations. Lee Ann will add to the next newsletter.

Membership

*CPDS currently has 69 members already submitted for the 2020 year. Christina Harmon has received complements from Region 9 for efficiency in paying up and submitting members online.

*Membership applications from 2017 will be shredded.

*Did the drawing for the CPDS tee shirt from people who submitted memberships early. Anne Stephens was the winner.

*Tamera Mayo has volunteered to do a roster, probably about April when all memberships are in.

*Suggested putting a reminder in the newsletter, as well as an email blast, to remind people to join or renew in time to be included in the roster.

Newsletter

*Lee Ann Alf has ideas to update the newsletter and add personal things like Meet the Rider and Trainer's Tips.

*Add Fun, Friendly, Forward to the newsletter

*Keep the newsletter with no paid advertising.

*Add a list of medalists in CPDS. Christina Harmon will send the list to Stacia to check, then to Lee Ann and Janelle to publish

*If you have thoughts or ideas for an interesting story, please contact Lee Ann at leeannalf@gmail.com.

Website

Janelle Williams will be sending newsblasts on anything we are doing: upcoming shows, clinics, auditing information for clinics and any other activities. January 1 newsblast will have the 2020 schedule.

Shows

*Winter Series shows, January, February, and March, will be a schooling show on Saturday and Working Equitation on Sunday.

*Discussion about livestreaming and if it should be continued for next show season. Consensus was yes, but that we needed to advertise this service much more.

*Looking for a new EMT locally to work all the shows, schooling and recognized, for \$150 a day. Nancy Eytcheson will try to find someone.

*Discussion about replacing AED batteries and pads. Chris Cashel will research and get back to us.

New Business

*Tack Sale at the March 28-29 show, recognized and schooling. Set up on the 27th. Committee is Robin Hessel, Amy Mullins, Nancy Eytcheson and Kathy Maxwell.

*Discussed summer AGM on August 29. Robin Hessel will ask Jay Craig to speak during the dinner before the meeting. Format proposed: Catered picnic dinner in the pavilion, followed by freestyle rides. "Dinner and Dancing"

*Special Events and Symposiums: Discussion led by Annie Houchin. We are hoping to increase our Western Dressage participate by providing leadership and education in Oklahoma to grow it here. Annie is exploring grant opportunities and possible symposium topics and presenters. Robin Hessel is working on a possible symposium with Betsy Stiner in May.

*Board meeting schedule. Discussion about having most meetings on Zoom the second Sunday of each month at 5 pm. About every third month or so we can meet face to face in Stroud at 5 p.m. Chris Cashel will research a location.

*Welcome letters to new members. Kathy Maxwell and Amy Mullins will be in charge.

*Fundraising: Discussed needs, to include a new sound system, speakers updated outside and in the pavilion. Robin Hessel will get estimates. Another need is Big Ass Fans. Because they are a sponsor of USEF, a discount is available. Fundraising idea discussion, to include new teeshirt sales, 50/50 guess your score game at shows, barn basket challenge at the end of the

year AGM, raffling off an item at each show, holding a live auction at a fundraising dinner, and soliciting donations or money or items for the raffles or auctions.

*Annie Houchin will send out to all board members a copy of the sponsorship letter to request sponsorships for show classes or divisions. Requesting that each board member gets donations from five people. Kathy Maxwell and Christina Harmon will organize a letter writing campaign soliciting donations from business large and small, near and far, for money or items.

*We will add the names of people who donated extra money to CPDS when they paid their memberships, to the newsletter to encourage others to do the same. Nancy Eytcheson will send out thank you notes.

*Please send any information for the newsletter to Lee Ann by Tuesday so she can include it. LeeAnn will also add the links to USDF and USEF, as well as the Region 9 website so that members will have them.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm. Motion to adjourn was made by Janelle Williams, seconded by Christina Harmon. Passed.

The next meeting is via Zoom on January 12 at 5 p.m..