

Provincial Equine Advisory Committee (PEAC) Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2009

Provincial Building, Stettler, AB

Jimilee called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m. Introductions and signing of attendance sheet took place.

IN ATTENDANCE: Yvonne Yaremicio, Janet Kerr, Ashley Eckel (4-H Office), Karen Allen, Lana Graham (NE), Linda Gooch, Marylou Tainsh (Calgary), Trudy Andrews (South), Bernard McGowan, Jimilee Chostner (EC), Beth MacGougan (EC & AEF.), Lee Carothers (EC & PC), Jodee Hawley, (Peace), Ken Schmuland, Corine Verbeek (NW), Connie Kluczny, Ruth Maciborski (WC).

Agenda Additions:

#5 – Equine Games & #6 – Regional Instructors added under New Business. Date of next meeting corrected to read Wednesday, June 3, 2009. Lee Carothers moved that the agenda be adopted as amended. Seconded by Linda Gooch. Carried.

Minutes of Previous Meeting (September 6/08)

Jodee Hawley moved that the minutes be adopted as circulated. Seconded by Karen Allen. Carried.

Handouts

- Members participating in horse projects in the system
- Farm business communications
- 2008 Provincial equine leaders forum – evaluation
- PELF session timetable/schedule
- Calgary Stampede 4-H Rodeo brochure

Regional Reports (Condensed)

CALGARY – Organizing & planning 4-H on Parade held May 29, 30 & 31. Regional casino dates are February 16 & 17. Calgary Stampede Rodeo will be held on September 26 & 27 (see pamphlet). The regional horse show will be held July 24, 25 & 26 at Olds. Busy getting riders ready for the Leader Assessment Clinic on March 7 & 8th in Olds.

NORTH WEST – Has a lot of new leaders in their region. Planning “Focus” in July at Drayton Valley. Working and planning regional clinics for the new leaders.

PEACE – Regional winter camp held in Fairview Feb 6-8. Peace Regional Fun Days will be held in Valleyview at the Ag-Plex, June 26-28th. The next casino for Peace is in the fall of 2009. Working on possibly having a Regional 4-H Rodeo. Their region has shown great interest in the summer games proposed for this summer and would like information ASAP.

EAST CENTRAL – Regional meeting February 7. They will once again be holding four rodeos in the region. Having a polocrosse clinic on the May long weekend and regional days will be held in July.

SOUTH – Held a Leader Assessment clinic with Muffy Knox last Nov. Had a tough time getting commitment from 10 people for the learning day so it has been cancelled. Regional days are Aug 9, 10 & 11th.

NORTH EAST – Had a good turn out of horse leaders at Leader's Conference. Regional horse camp is August 5-8th in Vermilion. Feed back on DVD has been excellent with numerous requests for copies to purchase.

WEST CENTRAL – Organizing the 26th annual regional show to be held in Red Deer, May 29-31st. Committee members/leaders very excited about the horsemanship DVD and felt it will be of great help to them all.

Provincial Council (Lee Carothers)

Last Provincial Council meeting was held November 29/08. Nova Scotia held their 4th Horse Classic in 2008.

Saskatchewan 6-8 year old members learn to develop a strong sense of safety around their horses. Units 1-4, Young Horse & Rodeo projects are all designed for older members. It is important that all Leaders, especially new Leaders are aware of and are familiar with the policies governing the horse projects. Please encourage clubs in your Region to make sure this is happening. Henry Wiegman is now working for the 4-H Foundation and not the 4-H Branch. Next P.C. meeting is in March.

Young Horse Incentive Program

Clinic planned for last fall, fell through. Spring clinic is tentatively planned for April 18 & 19. Terry Anderson will teach the farrier work and they are still confirming the other instructors.

Standardbred Project (Bernie McGowan)

A great Track Day was on January 17. Five members toured the barns, judges' booth, announcers booth and talked to the trainers and then allowed to go out on the track and ride with the trainers. They gave the winner presentation at the end of the day and are planning another track day. Bernie expressed concern as to "who exactly is in charge of the "Standard bred" project" and would like the names clarified for future reference.

Horse Classic (July 29-31)

Ashley is currently working on the clinics, so far has a trail clinic and drill clinic planned and would like ideas for a couple more clinics. Any suggestions or ideas can be sent to Ashley. One suggestion was "Derrick McGougan" for training police horses.

AEF Report (Beth McGougan)

Reviewed the "Green Certificate Program" as part of 4-H's obligation to education section.

New Livestock ID and Commerce Act – one thing it states is that you NO longer need to fill out a manifest each time you transport – just if you are shipping to slaughter or sale (to prove ownership).

A new Animal Health Act deals with number of things including measures that should be implemented if Bio-Security is a threat and also Premise ID Program (also to aid in locating animals in case of a disease outbreak).

There is a new "Alberta Bits" magazine, which is free to AEF members (income comes from the ads). The first issue will be in March and then quarterly. There is also a new Business Directory (2009) for those that don't fit in the Associate or Affiliate membership categories, priced at \$80.00/year.

Membership with this gives access to Online Business Directory listing with AEF, with a link to the Businesses' website. AEF website gets approximately 200 hits per day.

News on Equine Venereal Disease – CFIA discovered, prior to Xmas that semen is being brought into Canada that tests positive for CEM (Contagious Equine Metritis – a type of venereal disease). New

certification was introduced for semen and embryos coming across the border. Also ALL horses coming in to Canada require a US Veterinary Health Certificate, except those for direct slaughter. No horse can come across that has been on a CEM positive premise. Nine Stallions have been confirmed CEM positive – 3 in Indiana, 4 in Kentucky, 1 in Wisconsin and 1 in Texas. Signs of CEM are vaginal discharge in 40% of mares, abortion and infertility. Stallions show no signs and both can be carriers. It is spread by mating, AI semen, contaminated instruments and equipment.

SPCA quarterly report (ending Sept 30) shows 138 investigated cases of neglect/abuse for horses.

AEF has been active in promoting the “Alert Line”, where suspected cases can be reported (step prior to SPCA) and volunteers investigate, talk with owners and try to establish reason (if any), educate and solve potential SPCA claims, AEF sponsored booklet “Humane Handling of Livestock Guide” has valuable information.

AEF are key players in Horse Welfare Alliance and Biosecurity, they are also trying to develop carded officials and judges for Alberta competitions. AEF is currently looking for people to sit on Executive Board or and Individual Directors. For nomination forms contact Sonia Dantu – execdir@albertaequestrian.com.

The executive board meets 6 times per year, with the entire board meeting 20 times per year (meetings are at Red Deer). Deadline for nomination is March 17/09. AEF Annual General meeting is March 21 (Red Deer Lodge). AEF is looking for two more people to work Calgary casino on Feb 20 & 21. Contact Sonia.

Those who have volunteered at Casino's, Trade Shows, etc. can fill out an application for casino funds for \$1000.00 for group or \$500.00 for individual. Non volunteers can apply for \$500.00 for group and \$250.00 for individual. AEF website is www.albertaequestrian.com.

Beth will be resigning as the (PEAC) AEF representative at the next meeting and her position needs to be replaced anyone interested?

Ride The West – Spokane Washington

*Change in date to **May 22, 23 & 24th** & Location - FAB Quarterhorse Ranch

Deadline to reply to Yvonne is **March 15**

PROVINCIAL CLINICS:

1) Provincial Assessment Clinic – March 7 & 8th in Olds

Allowing 2 participants from each region. Currently have 11 participant and 12+ spectators enrolled. Deadline is February 25.

2) YHIP Informational Clinic

Planned for fall of 2009 in mid October. Make sure that Leaders are aware that members are enrolled in the YHIP project. Leaders and members need to participate and attend the YHIP clinics to learn nutrition, farrier, record books, handling, etc. Leaders need make sure that members enrolled in this project are attending the clinics.

3) Quarter Horse Association has a series of clinics at a reasonable cost, 16 and under and spectators are free. Check Q.H. website for more information.

4) Dave Elliott – Bits & Biting Clinic

April 3, 4 & 5th at Ken Schmuland's arena. Must attend Friday evening theory session in order to ride on Saturday and Sunday. Clinic is open to 4-H and public.

5) Deb Bennett Anatomy Clinic

August ? (3 day clinic) at Ken Schmulands arena. More information to follow.

There is \$1000.00 available to each region for clinics this year (limited to \$500.00 per clinic).

Video Update

Huge appreciation coming in from as far away as Kentucky. People are also interested in the Resource Manual and Level Assessments. Produced a very high quality video, but need charts to go with the video (Ashley). The next printing of the Assessment Manual will be updated to be more compatible with the video.

Standardized Tack Book(s)

Committee has met and have a draft copy ready. Their goal is to have the book ready by mid May and work is still ongoing.

Introduction to Horse Showing – 35 pages

For people who are new to horse showing, do we want to produce a booklet from the website (?) being sure our rules match the document rules (using a summary of our rules that are constitutional though out the 4-H regions)? Janet will look into this further.

Sale of Horse Reference Manual

We are receiving an increasing number of requests for manuals from 4-H Leaders, general public, etc. This manual has never been sold, but shared with other Provinces or swapped for information and a discussion was held with regards to “selling” the materials and to whom. In the past we had a “gentlemen’s agreement” with 4-H Leaders outside the Province in that they had to go through their Provincial organization to acquire material so that they are aware of what individuals or clubs were using. It was felt that we should charge enough to cover cost of production, shipping and a profit and send only one copy to other 4-H and youth groups and see if they are willing to reorder, etc.

Training for Tack Store Attendants

We need to look at ways to address this issue, possibly looking at partnering with AEF because the issue is broader than 4-H. It was felt that we need to target people who work at tack stores and new horse owners.

It should cover good basic understanding of bit types, actions and materials, leathers, helmet & helmet fitting, etc. This could possibly be done as on line or DVD training and having huge instructional charts that could be sold to tack stores which show the sponsors names, logos, etc. It was felt the access to the training should be free for people. We could use “4-H “recommended” or “accepted” and print out certificates for people who use the program and have a list of names of the stores using the DVD and charts and offer the resource to 4-H people the same as other project material. Janet will come up with an outline of what we might cover in the tack training. There is funding available through other sources that other companies can access easier than us.

Level 1 Equine Training (Workshop for 1st time Leaders)

This would be developed to offer “horse” related information to people who are new 4-H Leaders to make it easier (cannot be the same throughout the Province) and introduce the Provincial Equine

Projects and basic 4-H survival tips. It should be provided regionally with the specified information applicable to the region. It could possibly be made a part of "Level 1 Training". We need to decide if this is worth pursuing and committee members will send in ideas (things you think should be included in the program) to Yvonne by May 1st.

In the event we go ahead with the Level 1 Training, the regional workshops would be eligible for \$500.00 grants.

Golden Clover Award

A discussion was held on whether the PEAC committee could be nominated for their work in developing the Horsemanship DVD, Assessment Manuals, Horse Classic and PELF, etc. It was agreed that each region would submit a letter selecting three projects they would like to see included in the nomination. Committee will talk to Dwayne Grover to see if and how the nomination can be procured and will be discussed at the next meeting.

PELF 2010 (February 19-21)

Committee members reviewed the 2008 PELF Evaluation and discussed who to book as a keynote speaker as well as session topics, lengths, etc. It was agreed that we would bring back Dave Elliot for a longer session(s), possibly even having him do a full group session on Friday evening or a Saturday morning group session or follow up session at the arena. Ken will talk it over with him to see what works best.

Other session speakers that committee members will contact and get prices for prior to the next meeting were;

Judy Wardrope – Conformation (?), Dan Martin – Osteopathy & Tara Gamble – Judges Point of View (Corine), Kevin Tash (Ken), Introduction to Ranch Roping (Jimilee), Muffy Knox - Trail (Linda), and possibly a Level 1 Equine Training session. More scheduling and session ideas (keep it basic) are to be brought by committee members to the next meeting. Do we want entertainment and if members have any ideas, bring to the next meeting as well.

Mane Event Booth (April 24 -26)

A schedule for working the booth at the Mane Event was passed around for all members to choose a day & time to work in the booth. Attendants for the booth were needed for; Friday 11:00 am – 9:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am to 9:00 pm and Sunday 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Changes to Horse Manifest

As outlined under the AEF report.

Equine Games

AEF is not willing to organize the games, therefore there will be no games this summer.

It was felt that we could try to incorporate the games with some other 4-H event and/or try to keep them going as a team competition for 2010 in a more central location. Committee members are to discuss this matter with their regional committees and report back at next meeting.

Regional Instructors

As Muffy Knox is booked solid, it is hard to get her for all the training events we would like to have. An idea to help solve this problem was to possibly pick 2 or 3 people from each region to go to Muffy to learn the 4-H horsemanship skills and bring that knowledge back to their regions. Linda will talk to Muffy about training some 4-H Leaders to do the 4-H Horsemanship levels and get her input on how to select the region representatives

Website for International Association of Equestrian Education

Committee members are to preview their website at <http://www.iaeeconnect.com/> and let Yvonne know what they think of the website.

Next meeting date is Wednesday, June 3/09 at 10:30 am in Stettler.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

- Actionable items are highlighted throughout the minutes