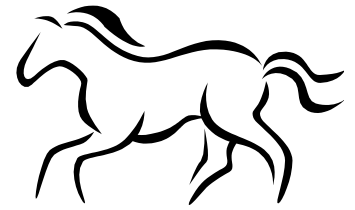




St. Joseph County, MI
4-H HORSE COUNCIL



Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 3, 2015

President: Diane Zinsmaster (Desperados)
Vice President: Julie Bruce (Town & Country) - absent
Treasurer: Tereasa Hufstedler (Competitive Trail)
Deputy Treasurer: Pam Cook (Cloverbuds)

Secretary: Cindy Sigman (Sauwauseebee)
Club/Specialty representatives:
_____ representative: _____
_____ representative: _____

Buckaroos: (Tereasa Hufstedler) **Desperados:** (Diane Zinsmaster) **Sauwauseebee:** (Cindy Sigman) **Stirrup Fun:** Patti Adams **Town & Country:** Connie Miracle, Scott Miracle, Brianna McNees (teen) **Trail Blazers:** Lisa DeLeo, Vickie Sutton **Tumbleweed:** Norma Switalski, Andrea Littlefield

Eva Beeker, MSU 4-H Program Coordinator

Guests: Katie Truckey, Jean Truckey, Paige Truckey, Peggy Beruszka, Tia Geruszka, Gary Lehman, Scott Kline, Brenda McNees, Danielle Sackrider, Will Ammun-Watts, Michelle Todd

SPECIALTY AREAS:

Cloverbud Representative: Pam Cook	Competitive Trail: Tereasa Hufstedler, Lori Bowdish
Dressage: None	Driving: Bobbi Jo Newland
Gymkhana: Shirel Hart	Horse/Judging Bowl: None
Jumping: Kelli Trail	Reining: Kasara Yoder

- **CALL MEETING TO ORDER/PLEDGES:** At 6:33p.m. Diane Zinsmaster called the meeting to order. Pledge of Allegiance and the 4-H pledge was recited.
- **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion to accept was made by Kelli Trail, second by Shirel Hart. Motion was carried.
- **INTRODUCTION OF VISTORS:** Katie Truckey, Jean Truckey, Paige Truckey, Peggy Geruszka, Tia Geruszka, Gary Lehman, Scott Kline, Brenda McNees, Danielle Sackrider, Will Ammun-Watts, and Michelle Todd
- **Approval of October 6, 2015 HC Meeting Minutes:** Connie Miracle 1st. Pam Cook 2nd motion carried.
- **SECRETARY'S REPORT: Correspondence received,** Two Thank you notes were read, from Paige Truckey and Morgan Walton.
- **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Monthly Financial Report was given by Tereasa Hufstedler, beginning balance \$5,951.87 October interest .11 Expenses were from adjustment from payback totaling \$269.35 with and ending balance of \$5,682.63. **New Bills:** \$45.04 Copies for Fair, \$6.35 to Diane Zinsmaster for Ziploc bags, \$12.30 to Marcia Shelhammer. Shirel Hart made a motion to approve and Connie Miracle 2nd, motion was carried.
- **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Danielle Sackrider brought up that there is no safe place to practice driving before showing at the fair. Or exercise driving animals in general. HC listened and will look into this, and see what could be done for next year's fair.
- **LEADER COMMENT:** Pam Cook commented on the Thank you notes that were written by our 4-H members this year, saying that the ones she got were very well written, and she got 10 or 11 of them, and that this made her very proud of the 4-H kids. Andrea Littlefield, would like to see about some training for the running of the shows for next year. She feels this will help make it easier on our volunteers' so they do not feel so lost when helping out. She was wondering if maybe the HC could take some time at a meeting and teach some of the leaders what they need to show the volunteers'.
- **BOARD COMMENTS:** None
- **DISCUSSION / WRAP UP FROM 2015 SJC FAIR:**
 - **Judges:** Shirel Hart was not very happy with the gymkhana judge, she comment that next year we need to make sure we do not hire a dressage judge to judge gymkhana. There was a comment made on how much the judges are paid, there is only so much money given to us to pay the judges the rest hat to come from the HC, to supplement the pay. Patti Adams said this has happened for years to get the judges to do the job. HC wants to work on getting them there money sooner also because a lot of judges complain on how long it takes them to get paid. Andrea Littlefield said she brought in a list of the

judges in Michigan that we could go over and see which ones we might want to get for next year. Kelli Trail made a comment saying that maybe if we gave the judges a copy of our rules before the show day for them to look over, that maybe the judges would understand our rules and what is expected of them.

- **Show Days:** It was brought up that maybe if we could let the kids have like 5 to 10 mins meeting with the judge before the day starts to go over rules, what they are looking for and maybe ask some questions. It was brought up that the show day on Sunday is too long. Shirel Hart had an Idea of hiring two judges all day since we have 2 arenas, problem being is where the kids would practice. It was brought up to uses part to the Megan Holt arena for showing and the other half for practice. We were told this would not be a problem and has been done before. Also that none of our classes are very large anyway. Diane Zinsmaster, and Eva Beeker said this is something that could be looked into. Costume Class went very well in the Margie Tien Arena and the only problems was needing a better sound system.
- **Cloverbud:** Pam Cook said the CloverBud project went great this year. She said small but good, but that is to be expected for the first year for showing horses and rabbits. Some had problems with the rabbit show & equitation was at the same time. Eva Beeker said it was a pilot program and will be evaluated. Patti Adams asked that possibly w might consider a walk trot class, because a lot of the children can do this already. Diane Zinsmaster suggest us giving out an email address where people planning on doing cloverbuds could give us some suggestions, that maybe Pam Cook could help with this.
- **Sportsperson:** Bobbi Newland and Shirel Hart liked that the specialty areas were added in this year. Also a comment was made that it was nice that it was announced on the first Saturday at the required meeting. That it was nice that all the kids got to see who the sportsmen nominees were before the fair started. Brianna McNees said she like the fact that they had the interviews before fair, because it made it easier to do.
- **Other:** Kelli Trail suggested and overall health evaluation before the fair, to cut down on horses being brought in to the fair that have health problems. Diane Zinsmaster stated that a veterinarian is hired to check the animals on the Saturday that they come into the fair. The veterinarian is the one who decides if a horse in not healthy enough to stay at the fair not the leaders. Andrea Littlefield commented that branch county gives a body evaluation score to the horses before the fair and again at the fair. Andrea Littlefield suggested that every leader have a binder with all the kids' sign-up sheets for the classes at the fair. The original ones they filled out along with the ones that were entered into the computer. That way if there is any confusion the paper work is there.
- **Volunteers:** Shirel Hart commented on the need for more volunteers for the fair. That we need to find a way to get more people to want to volunteer. "Maybe some incentives to want to help?" Shirel suggested.
- **Fair Points for Awards:** Katie Truckey wondered if there was any way that the fair points be posted before Saturday night awards. Diane Zinsmaster commented that it is way too time consuming and this would not be possible. Shirel Hart said she has seen how the points committee does their job and they are very professional and do a very good job.
- **LEADER COMMENT AND SPECIALTY AREA COMMENT:** Gymkhana, Shirel Hart said she has been ready to quit because she was not getting any help but this year Peggy Geruska and Gary Lehman have volunteered to help with the gymkhana program. Andrea Littlefield had a suggestion to try and get more kids interested in coming to workouts and 4-H shows and to learn to get to know one another better. She suggest a team concept that teams are picked randomly to work together for points.
- **EVA'S UPDATES:**
 - Fair Association meeting November 9th 6pm at the fairgrounds. Its \$25 a year to be a member.
 - Eva said we need to get more youth at the HC meetings, and that they want youth on the HC board and on committees. This is a youth program and that more youth should be participating at the meetings. Eva asked if the leaders can bring up to the kids to the HC meetings.
 - Eva wanted to remind the leaders that the mandatory leaders meetings are and organizational leader meeting November 12 at 6:30pm at the extension office. Also one on December 15 at 6:30pm at the ISD and January 14 at 6:30 at the ISD.
 - Eva also needs some suggestions on what to sell for 4-H fundraiser. 1) Suggestion was made that Kalamazoo County does an auction.
- **ADJOURNMENT:** At 8:35 a motion was made by Scott Miracle and second by Tereasa Hufstedler motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Sigman, Secretary

NEXT MEETING DATE: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 6:30P.M.