

UTAH DRESSAGE SOCIETY

October 1, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: Millcreek Library, 2250 E Evergreen Ave, Salt Lake City, Utah

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Carol Kounanis, President

Lucy Knorr, Secretary

Alison Child, Treasurer

Cathleen Torlina, Director of Events,

Sari Stevens, Director of Communications,

Lara Oles, Director of Education,

Eva Adolphi, Special Advisor

ABSENT: MJ Babcook, Vice President, Christine Celestino, Director of Membership, Corinne Cody, Director of Competitions

SPECIAL GUESTS: none.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:32 p.m.

A motion to approve last month's minutes with corrections was carried.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS

1. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Alison Child provided the financial report to the board. UDS stills owes the Wasatch Events Center for Dressage Days about \$4,000, but we haven't received bill yet. We will wait as long as possible to close out the books so we can earn the interest. Carol Kounanis will let Alison know when she sends check to the Wasatch Events Center. Income will come in with new memberships and the Omnibus. UDS made about \$1,500.00 on the Dressage Days show. After discussion, the board decided to send out an email blast with the budget.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

In absence of Christine Celestino, Carol Kounanis reported that membership is at the same level as last month with 200 members.

JR. YOUNG RIDERS REPORT.

Carol Kounanis let the board know that they went on trail ride for September and the Halloween event up next. Tiffany Felix has suggested to young riders that they create service projects for donations for the silent auction.

SPECIAL ADVISOR REPORT.

Eva Adolphi attended the Nampa show and they had a vendor cleaning tack and polishing boots that would be a good idea for Dressage Days. The board discussed that

it might be a good project for the Jr. Young riders to do it instead of having an outside vendor, provided they received training on proper cleaning.

OLD BUSINESS

1. USDF INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION COURSE

Attendance. Carol Kounanis reported that the first meeting went very well and was attended by Sydni Ottesen, Morgan Bastow, Annie Sweet, Cassie Benson, Trisha Kerwin, Trisha Kerwin, and Christie Erickson. Marlo ViVenzo, Lindy Kinsman and Lindsay Wagner let Carol know that they would not be able to make it, but are very interested in participating in the program as well.

Timing and number of workshops. Carol Kounanis reported on suggestions from Stacy Williams and Tisha Green, both of whom are in the process of completing the program elsewhere. Stacey Williams had good suggestions based on her participation in the program and Tisha Green discussed the problem of having to wait for openings in other groups holding the classes which has delayed her certification. The meeting participants would like to complete the certification in one year and they would like to hold the first in Feb. UDS can keep costs down by getting facilities to host for free and by putting two workshops back-to-back over four days. In that way, there would be less flight expense for the instructors. There are three workshops including lunging, teaching, and riding. There is also a pre-cert class in addition to the certification testing. The workshops are limited to eight participants and there are ten who are interested. It was discussed that the first preference would be to UDS members on a first paid, first served basis. The second workshop will be scheduled for late March/early April and the pre-certification workshop will be after regionals in Oct with testing in January 2016 so that it can be completed in less than a year. It was recommended to have the lunging session last because it's so nitpicky.

Costs and execution. Test fees will have to be paid, but USEF will pay for the officials who conduct the test so that UDS wouldn't be out money and would just have to host the clinics for a total of five events. The people wishing to participate in the instructor certification course will have to carry the ball and fill the volunteer needs who will then report to UDS for their assignments at clinics. Action items were given to the group to review facility requirements and let Carol know which would be best. They also talked about ways to keep costs down using Dressage Foundation grants, Adolphi funds (we still need to get the banner re Adolphi Funds made), etc. Carol said that she will offer her home for instructors to stay in to offset hotel fees and there is a possibility that Gerhard Politz might do the lunging session for free. The board discussed the possibility of also establishing a new scholarship fund so that the participant's clients and friends can donate to the funds. UDS would give it back to the participants. UDS can also charge for auditors to help offset costs.

2. REGION 5 UPDATE.

Carol Kounanis will submit news of UDS's Short Tour, Freestyle clinic, Biting Clinic, Jr. Young Riders involvement, scholarships, and bid for instructor certification.

3. ELECTIONS.

Sari Stevens told the board that she has had some responses for board positions. We need to have nominees by October 6th and send out the ballots by October 13th. Carol Kounanis said that she is holding off on publishing October's newsletter so we can include the nominee bios. The board discussed that people should run for positions that they really want without worrying about conflicts because everyone was happy to have people who are interested in positions and there are always volunteer opportunities. The committee is actively recruiting nominees. Eva Adolphi clarified that nominees can only put their name in for one position.

4. BANQUET UPDATE.

Carol Kounanis will check with MJ Babcock to determine what the cost per ticket will be for the banquet. Cathy Torlina has received the championship pads. She will send Carol Kounanis a copy of invoices so that Carol can confirm the orders. Cathy would like to take all of the orders to the person we used previously for embroidering in Heber. There are a couple of ideas for food changes to help with costs. Cathy will talk to Becca Tolman to see if she would be willing to photograph the banquet at no charge. Before the banquet we still need to nominate the other award positions. The board agreed that Stacey Hornsby should be named as the Volunteer of the Year. Cathy and Carol will work on the paperless post. The Jr. Young riders are donating items for the silent auction such as a pony ride birthday party, a horse related picture done by a young woman. Carol is donating a bit warmer, and we have the horse barn and Shadbelly outfit. Carol will write about needing more silent auction items for the newsletter. Lara Oles offered to bring the toy horse barn to banquet. The board discussed bid options and decided that people can submit sealed bids and send text bids. Lara offered to be in charge of the text bids.

5. END OF THE YEAR SCORES.

Sari Stevens suggested that we send an email blast to remind people about the October 15th deadline for submitting scores and following the proper procedure.

6. PARTICIPATION IN THE HORSE EXHIBIT AT NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF UTAH:

This Saturday Carol Kounanis will be the guest presenter at the museum. Lucy Knorr is preparing two braiding photos for the session.

7. BITS AND BITTING

Both Lara Oles and Carol Kounanis will write about the bit and biting clinic for the newsletter.

NEW BUSINESS

1. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Carol Kounanis learned that Corinne Cody has been selected as Volunteer of the year this year so it will be announced in the UDS Newsletter. UDS didn't win on other submissions, however the article by Lucy Knorr received some good marks and Eva Adolphi said that she received an email about our newsletter and we were close. We didn't submit for a photography award and need more submissions next year. The photograph must be one that is published in the newsletter and taken by an amateur.

2. BUDGET: Alison Child presented the proposed budget for 2015. She took projections for this year and extrapolated them for next year. \$4,000.00 was added to the instructor certification program, but it still has the same goal that it will be a net program.

a. Omnibus. The Omnibus is basically a break even project. There is a slight overlap for income and outgo between the years. Carol Kounanis' friend has kept the Omnibus templates and will help produce it again next year again so the set-up cost should be a bit less. We didn't sell as many ads this year, but it still served its purpose well. UDS also saved on mail costs for the Omnibus because of the reduced size and hand deliveries.

b. Web site design will be less this year. Many of the web related expenses are paid for up to 5 years so we won't have those for a while. Sari Stevens mentioned that the Jot Forms will be a part of next year's expenses. Alison noted that she increased some of the miscellaneous budget to cover some of the things like Jotforms.

c. Alison will clarify membership figures so that they show what we have to pay USDF for Group Member dues/fees.

d. Insurance. Corinne Cody negotiated insurance for a set group of events, members and officers. She negotiated separately for any added-on events.

e. Trailer expense includes insurance, repairs, storage, and licensing. \$494.00 is for trailer insurance. The sound system really added to the insurance. The board discussed not insuring the sound system in light of its age and that the board hopes to sell it.

f. Carol Kounanis told the board that she was able to lump her flight for the convention in with a business trip so that expense will be less.

g. Timing of budget presentation to the membership. The board agreed that it always seemed as though there wasn't enough time to vote on the budget by putting it out at the Annual Meeting. Alison Child motioned that UDS present it in email prior to the Annual Meeting. Lara Oles seconded the motion and it was carried.

h. UDS also saved on tax preparation.

3. SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS.

UDS received applications from four adult amateurs, two Jr. Young Riders, and one Open Rider. One of the applications didn't meet the criteria as fully as it could have and after discussion, the board voted to approve it as acceptable because it contained the essence of what was required. Lara Oles motioned that UDS re-write the scholarship application form to make it more clear and the motion was carried. Sari Stevens liked Eva Adolphi's suggestion that the application include questions for the criteria so that the board can evaluate them easier instead of having free form essays. Carol Kounanis read the essays to the board. After discussion and consideration of each application's

merits a motion was carried to give scholarships to Lisa Jackson, Christy Erickson, and Lauren Celestino.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:09 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: November 5th at 6:30 p.m. Location: Millcreek Library, 2250 E. Evergreen Ave, Salt Lake City.