

MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

September 22, 2013

On Saturday September 22nd, Central New England held the fall Regional Council meeting during D Rally at the Groton Fairgrounds in Groton MA. The following members attended: Stephanie Patrick-Chalfant, Karen Marcotte, Donna Lapierre, Laura Menard, Megan Gardiner, Shelly Patrick, Lisa Hellmer, Lisa Doyle, Laura Smith, Judi O'Neil, Andrea Nelson, Vicky Lochiatto, Beth Platt, Wendy Johnson, Lelo Reeves, Sue Hanna, Cynthia Van Zandt, Jim Rollins, Amanda Ellis and Liz Hoyt.

Beth began the meeting by reminding DCs to schedule their club annual meetings as soon as possible, and to be sure to have their nominating committees in place, notices sent to members and sponsors within the 30 day time frame, collect sponsors fees, and adhere to the membership guidelines.

The Minutes of the March 30th Council meeting were reviewed and approved.

Curtis was not able to attend the meeting but he provided a copy of the Actual Budget and the account balances. It was noted that the receipts from the regional Pay Pal account were not included so that will reduce the deficit by about \$3000. In general Beth felt that the rallies ran at a break even point, the HB paid for itself and we lost some money on the UL rating and the regional camp.

Karen Marcotte reviewed the success of the regional summer camp. We had good attendance with about 22-24 attendees each day. An HM track was offered for the first time and next year she would like to expand the track and bring in more UL members to help with instruction. Feedback from the participants was excellent and Beth observed that the instructors were very good and it appeared that some of the kids had major breakthroughs during the week. The schedule was accommodating and flexible for the most part. Next year's camp will be held a little earlier, June 29 through July 2 to accommodate the early festival dates. Stephanie suggested we look into reserving a block of rooms at the local Holiday Inn Express in Durham.

Amanda Ellis reported on the UL rating which was held at UNH. Due to last minute drop outs by some of the participants from out of region, we did have lost revenue. We need to find a way to collect the regional facility fee ahead of time so we don't end up losing money. We also want to see if we can collect money from other regions with participating candidates to cover hosting expense.

Wendy Johnson spoke about the HB program. We had an excellent group of candidates and 100% passed the test the same day. She would like DCs to let her know how many candidates they might have interested in attending the preps next year.

Next on the agenda was Championships and Festival. Since Champs will be held earlier next year we need to try to be more proactive in determining competitors. After qualifying, a member's commitment and paperwork must be processed right away. Communication will need to improve. Lelo is looking into hotels for the Region and also details on renting RVs at the park.

Beth asked DCs to speak to their qualified members regarding National Youth Congress and National Youth Board. Each year we can send a qualified member to the Annual

Meeting, this year to be held in Portland OR. Anyone with an interested member should check online for an application and contact Beth as soon as possible to meet the deadline. It really is a great learning experience.

We next spoke briefly about the tentative rally schedule for next year. Quiz Rally is tentatively scheduled for April 26th. Dressage Rally and Show Jumping Rally may be held together at UNH on June 14-16th. Wentworth Pony Club is interested in hosting the Games Rally, possibly at Green Acres. Eventing Qualifier will probably be offered at the Valinor Horse Trials. The regional education program is hoping to hold a conformation clinic on December 14th.

Finally, Squamscot Pony Club has a number of donated items including tack, other equipment and clothing. If anyone is in need they can reach out to Stephanie. There was discussion about having a tack swap at Quiz in the spring. Also, we will try to provide perfect tack and turnout certificates next year for all the rallies and possibly have each club donate an item for a drawing at the end of the year for all qualifiers.

The Regional Annual Business Meeting will be held at 10:00 at Beth Platt's house on Saturday November 2nd. The regular council meeting will follow immediately. An invitation to the Annual Business Meeting and an agenda will be emailed to DCs shortly.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 12:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Johnson
Regional Secretary