PNFPG Meeting

April 30, 2016

4:00 @ Ivano’s restaurant

Attending:

Linda Stevenson Sherrie Dayton Fred & Barb Lynch Ben & Holly Finnoe Susie Sabatini

Deana White Judy Dobbins Shirley Anderson

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Minutes from the fall meeting:** Barb made a motion to accept the fall meeting minutes as published in the newsletter and on the website. Motion carried

**Storage Shed**: Sherrie has communicated with Lincoln County re buying the shed but they have no money. It’s in a fenced area. At this point it is considered a loss and likely to remain on the grounds. The club had built it only for the cost of supplies and used it for 20+ years. It was suggested that if a member would like to go get it at their own expense they could have it for free or for a donation to the club. They would need to notify Lincoln County to get gates opened. Shirley will talk to Oscar to see if he wants to go get it at his expense. Barb made a motion that if a club member is willing to go get it and is a current member of the club, they can have it for optional or no donation. Second by Holly. Motion carried

**Binder of Officer’s Duties:** We think descriptions of officer duties is extremely valuable, especially where passwords are concerned. Each officer needs to write up their job description and get it to Linda Stevenson by the end of May. Linda will accept the descriptions and get them to whoever will be doing the binder. Linda will send out a reminder by mid May to anyone who has not yet sent theirs in. We may distribute and discuss these descriptions at the next meeting.

Barb has been unable to access the vice chair email; password doesn’t work. Holly was able to create a new password for her during the meeting.

**Family Fjord award**: Ursula did get hold of the Cook family and they are happy to take the original award back. In its place we will purchase small 5” fjord statues (miniatures of the original award) made by Henning that can be engraved. These can be purchased for about $125 plus s/h. Shirley made a motion to order 6 of these as long as the total with shipping and insurance does not exceed $900. Second by Holly. Motion carries

**Patty Peterson award for winner of the novice to drive class**: Sherrie didn’t follow through to contact the family. However we already agreed to have individual plaques for this and Sherrie will send the original back to Patty’s family with a nice letter. Hodges Badges (ribbon supplier ) can provide these plaques. Shirley made a motion that we continue the award and date the plaque each year and whoever is in charge of ordering ribbons each year will order this as well. Motion carried.

**NFHR Forum**: Eric sent emails re this, the content of which is too much to include in the minutes. The gist is; would PNFPG be willing to commit some funds (suggested $1500) for reserving the Nordic Heritage museum at the NFHR member forum. Forum agenda and topics are still open and the forum includes a trip to the Nordic Heritage museum. Forum will be held in Snohomish, WA in January 2017. The PNFPG has already informed NFHR that we would host this event. Gretchen, Karl, Gary, and Eric are the committee to put this together but none of them were at the spring meeting to help us understand what they need. Ben was able to receive answers from Eric via email on some of his questions but we still had others such as:

* Is NFHR financially responsible for this event?
* If PNFPG is hosting it, are we going to be financially responsible in any way?
* Generally members were uncomfortable with committing $1500 until after the annual show to see how the club stands financially.
* We would like to get one of our members on the NFHR Forum committee.
* Shirley made a motion to offer $500 to NFHR for the forum now plus a letter of support and re-evaluate if we can offer any additional funds after we see how we stand financially after the horse show. Second by Holly. Motion carried
* Linda will write the letter to go with the check and send it to Eric. Address it to NFHR and Eric
  + Run the draft by Ben before mailing

**Club Stuff & Trailer**: we still need a trailer to store the clubs event items which are currently in the Finnoe’s trailer and really in the way. If we sell the sound system, we don’t need a 12’ trailer. Ben recommended a 5X10, one axle trailer. If we have to haul 12’ logs or jump poles they might go on the roof. The club already authorized Finnoe’s to review the club items and get rid of anything we didn’t need. Used trailers are just about the same cost as new. The club has already authorized $2500 for the trailer purchase. Everybody please keep your eyes open and notify Finnoe’s if you find something. Ben has offered to cover the cost of adding roof racks.

**Old Meeting Minutes Scanned**: Gretchen & Kim still working on this

**Officers Reports:**

* Chairman: no report
* Vice Chair: needs volunteers for new treasurer and chairman. Sherrie is willing to do a second term as treasurer. Ben is too busy to serve a second term. Barb will put a request on facebook for volunteers for chairman and then call some people if no volunteers come forward. Volunteers or draftees will be put forward for a vote at the fall meeting.
* Fred recommended that people jot down some things they’d like to see changed in the by-laws so they can be taken care of them all at once
* Treasurers report:
  + Beginning Balance - $11,945.37
  + Income from membership dues $1,713
  + Expenses - $3378.06
  + Ending Balance $10,280.11

Discussion of some of the expense items followed distribution of the financial report

1. The newsletter is a tremendous expense. The amounts listed ($990) were for two newsletters. The membership dues for 1 year are swallowed up by the cost of two newsletters so a different solution needs to be found.
2. The Horse Expo in Albany-question re amount that was larger than what was initially approved due to extra tickets purchased for volunteers. We need to re-evaluate what PNFPG will pay for next year. Attendee’s need to pay their own stall fees when they are advertising their own farms. Just needs re-evaluation. Do we receive any benefit for the club from promoting the fjord at this event? Not necessarily but this club exists to promote the fjord, not the club.
3. We gave Gary a check to get our Fjord horse show listed in The Oregon Horse Country magazine and we have not received confirmation from Gary if this has been done. Needs follow-up.

Shirley made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report as written. Holly seconded. Motion carried.

* Secretary’s report: Sherrie and Linda have worked together to make sure all past and current dues have been recorded correctly and they are confident in the current records. We have a lot of past members that have not renewed. Currently there are only 52 active paid memberships for 2016. These are a mixture of single and family memberships. By including the active membership list in the newsletter we were able to correct some misconceptions of some members who thought they were paid for 2016. Some people who were used to paying their membership with their horse show entries have not yet adjusted to the fact that membership has changed to a calendar year and expires Dec 31st. Linda has started sending “welcome to the club” emails to every member who joins or rejoins. She recommended having something like a bumper sticker or decal or small goodie package to send to new members.
  + The idea of having something to send to new members and possibly all members upon joining/rejoining was agreed upon by all. Linda will research some possibilities.
* Promotional: Gary was not available at the meeting and did not provide a report. He is having some health issues so we might need a new promotional person but Ben will check with him first.
* Newsletter editor: Gretchen needs to resign from doing the newsletter but is still willing to maintain the website and facebook page as well as email blasts. She submitted an email with several suggestions for something other than a newsletter to keep members informed and entertained. She suggested a flier and the need for a debit card to cover the expenses of printing and mailing. Everyone agreed the time and expense of the newsletter is outrageous. In fact the membership fees for a year get sucked up by the newsletters.
* Holly recommended a smaller flier type format for 3 issues and the fall format could be a regular newsletter. Everyone agreed we need to change the format to make it easier for the editor because most info is available on Facebook and the website.
* Sherrie recommended a letter to the membership about what we discussed and that we need a volunteer to be the editor. A flier can be done simply in Word. Shirley has the capability to do a three-fold but lacks time. She volunteered to do a three-fold until we find an editor but we need to find an editor in time for the fall issue.

Shirley made a motion that we revise the newsletter to a 1-2pg flier for each of three quarters with a full newsletter for the Fall issue. Barb seconded. Motion carried.

Barb will try to find a volunteer/draftee and will post the need on FB

* The Show committee is responsible for supplying show info for the fall newsletter. If a new editor is not found in time, the show committee will commit to producing the newsletter.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**May 17th Sytendai Mai Parade in Ballard, WA**: Eric is in charge of PNFPG participation in this. We will set up in the parking lot of the Heritage Museum and the parade is in the evening. He has 6 guaranteed horse participants and would like to have 8. Anyone interested should contact him immediately. His number is on the list in the back of the newsletter.

**Sandpoint Show:**

Things are on track for the show. Holly will post the show packet very soon. There is a lot of interest in the club and in the community. We must have a big club member participation in the show so everyone is encouraged to come. Unfortunately the date is in conflict with another event in WA that some members had already committed to. In the future we may have the opportunity to pick a different date but this is what opened up an opportunity to get in the door at the best venue yet. We still have a few positions to fill:

* Still need food vendor
* Need ring stewards and gate people
* Need helpers for Greg. Holly will ask boy scouts

**Fall Meeting Location and date**: Saturday Nov 5 will be the date. Time and location to be decided by board members and announced. Lynch’s and Finnoe’s will scout for a place.

Meeting adjourned 8:30