PNFPG SPRING MEETING

MAY 5, 2018

CONFERENCE CALL 6:00pm

Welcome from Ben Finnoe and some technical adjustments for callers as they sort out hearing and audible issues.

Conference Call attendee’s: Ben & Holly Finnoe, Michael & Susie Sabatini, Sherri Dayton, Barb & Fred Lynch, Linda Stevenson, Shirley Anderson, Dea White

Approval of fall meeting minutes: Minutes are posted on the website and it was agreed that the reading of the minutes could be waived. Sherrie motioned to accept them as posted. All approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Revamping the by laws

Ben asked where we are with that as volunteers from the fall meeting were supposed to read and discuss the by-laws and suggest some updates. Sherrie advised that nothing has been done regarding the by-laws. Ben said that needs to be moved forward to get it done. Shirley suggested a point person to set up a meeting. Sherrie suggested everyone review the by-laws and make notes of ideas of things to change and then meet in Ritzville to discuss the lists. She will make sure volunteers get copies of the by-laws which should also be posted on the website. If not, Sherrie will scan and email to the volunteers; Shirley, Barb, Sherrie, Michelle

\*secretary note: a later search could not find the by-laws on the website

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Reports of Officers**

Chair: Ben has been way too busy to do a good job as president and needs to resign. We need someone to step up and take over the rest of his term effective today. As vice chair, Barb agreed to step up and take over the Chair position. Shirley congratulated Ben on a job well done, despite other obligations such as running two businesses. We will need an election for Chair and Treasurer at the fall meeting. Barb will run the next meeting.

Vice Chair: Volunteers willing to serve as Treasurer and Chair positions are needed. The by-laws are currently restrictive especially in length of terms possible which is one of the things that needs to be reviewed.

Secretary: We have 56 active members, 13 that are active but need to renew. Barb suggested sending everyone an email reminder as membership comes due. Linda will send emails to those that have expired and review memberships on a monthly basis to send out emails to any membership due to expire that month.

Treasurer:

The club currently has $10,296.39 in the bank.

The following report covers the time period from the Fall meeting in August 2017 to May 5, 2018:

Income:

2017 Sandpoint show $11,132.20

Dues $ 636.85

**Total Income: $11,769.05**

Expenses:

Website $ 168.49

2017 Sandpoint show $6,617.75

Decals $ 80.00

Insurance $ 765.00

Misc $ 64.70

2018 show deposit $ 500.00

**Total Expenses: $8,195.94**

Since the report was created we have received a refund of $72 from the insurance company which has yet to be deposited.

Sandpoint show summary: some of the expenses for the show were paid prior to the time period covered in the above report.

* In general the show made a profit of around $3,000
* We didn’t sell all the t-shirts.
* We had $5,000 from class entries
* We had $941 from class sponsors which was a huge help to defray the cost of the show

The move to have the show at Sandpoint has proved to be a great move. The show is growing.

Shirley made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report, Holly seconded, all approved.

**Other Events:**

Working Equitation Clinic report: This was a “Fjord only” clinic provided by Kelly Munroe at Grateful Pine Farm in Snohomish, WA April 27-29. It was very successful with a great turnout. Sherrie & Linda went to audit it and get some information for possible hosting of a WE event by the PNFPG in the future since this was one of the suggestions received after the 2017 show. Kelly provided everyone with a full rules book and cheat sheet of obstacles which included descriptions and measurements as well as a dressage test score sheet. There seemed to be a lot of interest in this sport which is similar to trail & dressage with three phases. Five people at the clinic indicated that they for sure will be at Sandpoint.

Sherrie is talking with Kelly to see what involvement she wants to have at the show before we confirm the extent of the WE introduction we can offer at the show in 2018. There was a short discussion of what’s involved with the WE sport. We learned that Wayne Hipsley, an NFHR judge, is also a WE carded judge, of which there are few, so he is a possibility for a judge in the future if we add WE to the show. Wayne’s fee is $450/day plus travel. It would be cheaper to pay expenses for one judge at the show rather than separately for a WE judge. An extra day for WE might not pay for itself but as long as we break even or come close that would be good. Since the sport is still in its infancy we might want to use someone else first like learner judge. The show committee can explore options. The next show committee meeting is May 9, 10am.

Report on upcoming events and the 2018 show: The Fall meeting was originally set for Friday night at the show. The show committee would like to move it to Thursday night in conjunction with the safety meeting so that we can have Kelly Munroe make a presentation to the group on Friday night to introduce them to the sport of Working Equitation and possibly have a demonstration in the arena. Ben suggested that the show committee follow through with educating & promoting this to members and see if there is enough interest to add it to the show in the future. A full WE is a three day event but we could possibly do it in one day but it would require an extra day (Thursday) in a future show where that was offered. We cannot do it this year as there wouldn’t be enough participation.

There was discussion of tentative plans for a derby type working equitation class on Sunday that uses the same obstacles as the driven derby but negotiates them like WE obstacles and then 4 additional obstacles just for the riders. Setup and time constraints require creativity. There will be comment cards at the end of the show to help gauge interest.

Possible second Working Equitation clinic: Solveig Watanabe is planning to do another clinic at her place this summer.

* Michael suggested a discounted clinic fee at Solveig’s clinic for current PNFPG members, subject to Solveig’s approval. PNFPG could underwrite it a little and promote it as a PNFPG event. Insurance would be involved but we have one unused day and Solveig also carries her own commercial insurance policy. Shirley suggested the amount the PNFPG pays to sponsor the event will be the total of the discount for PNFPG members. Holly will talk to Solveig about it when she sees her next week. We will get info from Solveig & Kelly and then vote to approve the final figures by email.

\*Shirley moved that we start the conversation between Solveig & Kelly regarding the clinic at Solveig’s farm and discuss with them a discount for PNFPG members not to exceed $40 each and that the PNFPG pay the discount amount as a sponsor of the event. Final figures to be approved by the board by email. Sherrie seconded. All approved.

* Michael asked the cost of additional days of insurance. Sherrie would have to get that info before we make any proposal. It would be a good incentive for the host and for attendees.

**Newsletter Editor & Webmaster:**

Newsletter problems**:** Rebecca was never able to get the newsletter out in 2017. No fliers have gone out either. Holly will try to get a newsletter out now and will contact Rebecca to see if she can send us what she has.

Webmaster: We do not currently have a webmaster. Linda has been posting things as they come up but is limited in her knowledge of the system. It was suggested to contact Gretchen and see if she wants to do it again and/or be a member. The board has changed their mind and decided the webmaster doesn’t have to be a member.

* Michael commented on the web page because there is not a lot on it. Do we still need it with the use of Facebook? FB membership is higher. Or should we require PNFPG membership to get access to our FB page? Barb said we wanted FB open to other people for fjord exposure. Shirley said we need to do a better job of promoting the group on FB. Ben said there are really two issues: how do we promote membership & how do we promote the fjord? Membership is down but fjord interest is up. Closing FB to a private group would be counter-productive.

**Officers and other positions to fill:** Barb will call people and post the request for volunteers on FB.

Regarding moving the fall meeting to Thursday instead of Friday at the show. It was agreed that the Safety meeting will be held first with the PNFPG meeting to start at the conclusion of the Safety meeting. Times to be finalized by the show committee. Barb motioned to move the fall meeting to Thursday night at the show following the safety meeting. All approved.

**Other items**:

Dea White volunteered as announcer for the show (at least part time).

Shirley is retiring her 28 yr old driving gelding and is looking for a pair that a novice driver can handle.

Sherrie asked Ben what was the cost of a conference call. Ben pays $30/mo for a subscription on his business. He can have up to 51 callers. Ben is volunteering to be the official conference call host.

Sherrie made a motion to close the meeting. Barb seconded, all approved

Meeting adjourned, conference call ended about 7:30