

## **March 23, 2011 NTEA Board Meeting Minutes, Los Colinas Equestrian Center**

**Minutes taken by:** Allison Sumrow

**Call to Order:** 12:10 pm, with a quorum present

**Attending in Person:** Alison Freeman, Kim Willnow, Mica Pryor, Kim Brunson, Cheryl Olivier, Allison Sumrow, Leslye Shellam, Meg Johnson

**Guest:** Janet Taylor

### **Topics for Discussion:**

**Minutes from February meeting:** Motion by Kim Brunson to approve as written, seconded by Cheryl Olivier, unanimously approved for publication on website.

**Motion to ratify the actions of the 2010 Board:** Motion by Cheryl Olivier, seconded by Kim Willnow, carried unanimously

**Online Members' Survey:** As of 3/23, we've had 44 responses. Allison reviewed results to date and shared the summary report with the Board. We will leave the survey open for another week, Mica will send a reminder at the end of this week, and then we will close the survey. The results will be sent to the Board when complete, and a summary will be prepared for posting on the website/sending to the general membership.

**ICP:** Should NTEA sponsor another ICP clinic in the area? Linda Piepgras is interested in assisting. Consider a different format, with the assessment following the clinic. Is there a role for NTEA in this? Postpone to next year for NTEA involvement.

**Membership – as of 3/23/11:** Regular memberships 151, compared to 83 members at the same time last year. Business memberships 32, compared to 25 at the same time last year. 38 new members. 49 members from last year who haven't renewed – Terrie Hatcher is following up with non-renewing members. Kim Willnow will have membership applications at the events and will ask event organizers to make an announcement.

**Credit Card Services Dispute:** The company is maintaining that NTEA has a 12 month commitment to use credit card services, with regular debits from the NTEA account – this was not the agreement when the machine was rented (it was for night of banquet only). Mica sent a demand letter on behalf of NTEA and the bank account has been closed; a new account is being opened at a different bank. Mica, and Meg if needed, will pursue this issue with the company.

**Treasurer's Report:** We currently have \$18,800 in the bank. On average, NTEA carries a \$16,000 to \$20,000 balance. Discussion ensued about the correct bank balance to carry. Per Meg, we need at least \$8,000 to cover the upfront banquet expense, plus \$5,000 for emergencies, so we should keep \$12,000 to \$14,000 in the bank. No definitive decision was reached.

**Advertising/Promotion /Donations:** A lengthy discussion occurred about advertising in event programs versus sponsoring jumps, other ways to promote NTEA including banners, donations to Area V, Young Riders, and Adult Riders, other expenses for the 2011 budget. There was interest in donating a warm up

jump with the NTEA logo to each venue in lieu of buying advertising in event programs – this has more lasting value and gets NTEA's name out there. A separate jump sponsorship was re-approved for Greenwood, in order to help defray costs of the only FEI event in Area V. Alison Freeman will investigate the costs and viability of making green and gold planks with logo and website. Kim Brunson will talk to her jump builder as well. Leslye was directed to obtain a banner with NTEA logo, not to exceed \$100, to be transported to events.

**2011 Year End Banquet:** The banquet location team of Leslye and Kim Willnow presented information on their location search, and recommended K-Star Ranch in Mansfield off of 287. Date January 7, 2012 approved at previous meeting. The benefits of this location are the room size and quality and the sound system, as well as holding the banquet in a southern location this year to accommodate the locations of the members. The proposed date for the banquet is January 7, 2012. The cost per person will be driven by the number of attendees, but the anticipated cost is \$35 per person, based on 180 attendees. A motion was made by Kim Brunson to book K-Star Ranch, and was seconded by Meg Johnson. All voted in favor of the motion.

**Intro to Eventing Clinic:** July 16 at Willow Draw: A motion to approve \$400 for ads for Intro to Eventing was made by Kim Willnow, seconded by Leslye Shellam, and voted in favor of by all.

**Other Member Activities:** Ideas for kids – slumber party, ice cream social, trail rides, gymkahana; Ideas for adults - Adult rider events, trail rides. Lunch & Learn educational activities have been popular – approved for June 11 at Denton Creek; additional in the fall at schooling days.

**Category 1 Rule Changes:** Mica presented the draft revised Category 1 Rules. Discussion led by points keeper Janet Taylor regarding “out of area points” change? Consensus was that NTEA should award points for those who compete on a bigger stage (out of the area) but only up to two placings each year, so long as they also earn points in at least two Area V events. Discussion also about new FEH/YEH points. Meg Johnson made a motion to approve the changes to the points, Kim Willnow seconded, and all voted in favor.

**Licensing Agreement with Liberty Mutual:** Kim Willnow, Liberty Mutual agent, would like to offer 10% off of insurance through Liberty Mutual to NTEA members. Meg Johnson moved to accept and authorize signing of an agreement with Liberty Mutual for this member benefit, Cheryl Olivier seconded, and all voted in favor.

**Awards:** Cheryl Olivier provided information and costs on awards that will be needed for this year-end banquet. If we give a “Founders Award” this year, the estimated cost is \$51.27, The Al Smith award will have a perpetuall trophy, plus an individual trophy - the cost is \$7.50 to engrave the perpetual, and the matching plaque will be \$41.56. The CL McDaniel award would be spurs plus a small plaque, the same price as the keeper for the Al Smith award (\$41.56). These items will be included in the budget to be finalized before the next meeting. The last recipient of Al Smith Award (Cheryl Olivier) did not get an individual trophy – the board authorized this trophy to be purchased and given to Cheryl at year-end when we do the 2011 awards, in order to correct this oversight in 2009. The Scholarship & Awards Committee will recommend parameters for the Founders Award to be addressed with the Board at a meeting later this year.

**The meeting was adjourned at 2:20.**