

## ApHC Trail Committee Conference Call – April 4, 2017

### Attendance

*Board Members:* Ray Burchett, Jim Jirkovsky, Billy Ready, Sean Schembri, Lora Schuster, Dena Raggio, Tom Hodges

*Staff:* Steve Taylor, Pat Bogar, Keri LeForce

Ray stated that the purpose of the meeting was to inform the committee members about meetings he's recently held with the advisory groups.

- There was a recent conference call with the recreational trail ride advisory committee members. Some issues that were discussed include:
  - Cost of ride for non-riders and youth as compared with riders. Some feel there should be a larger difference.
    - The difference in price is only the cost of horse feed. All other ride services, meals etc. are the same.
  - Concern that new people don't understand the way the ride works.
    - Ray looked online and felt that the web page includes a LOT of information for prospective riders if they'll take time to review it.
  - Can the information get out earlier?
    - The ride dates have been listed since last fall.
    - The ride packet has been out since March and registrations are coming into the office.
    - Pat is working on getting an email packet out to everyone so that they will have the information more quickly prior to the ride and once the details are finalized. This will be much faster than a snail mail packet to which there are typically changes right up until the ride.
  - Suggestion made to talk to people who only come once and find out why they didn't come back the next year. Is the ride too long, too difficult etc.?
  - Question came up about how long you have to be on the ride before you can become a scout?
    - Pat stated that we try to put people in as a junior scout first before becoming a scout. There are other necessary skills that scouts must possess beyond longevity on the ride.
    - Can we get retiring scouts a belt buckle – Committee will talk about this again later.
  - Should we consider a family fee?
    - We'll look into this and get back to the committee.
  - Should we advertise the ride with the Nez Perce Pow Wow? Or advertise the ride's proximity to the Chief Joseph Days Rodeo?
  - Pat said that she has heard from several people who'd like to ride but they don't have a registered Appaloosa. However, their horses look like an Appaloosa but aren't eligible for registration? Pat wondered about a CJTR permit for these people and/or if the Board would consider discussing something like this? This is something that ApHC has done for participation permits. The committee said they'd talk at the Board meeting during round table discussions although there has been a lot of negative discussion surrounding this among current riders. But they will try and get some feedback from people.

- Ray thinks we should encourage more regional clubs to hold approved rides.
- There was a recent meeting with the endurance riders advisory committee members?
  - Loved ANCER last year held in conjunction with AHA.
    - This year's ride will be in Idaho in October. They would love to see Steve or a director at the ride! Steve is planning to go.
    - Next year the ride will be in VA.
    - Need to appoint some new advisory committee members. There are a few people who are not involved anymore or are unable to continue involvement with the advisory committee.
      - Lucie offered some suggested people. Ray asked for committee members to consider additional folks who are involved in this discipline and make suggestions.
    - Asked about seeing information about ANCER in the email blast.
      - It's been in last 2 email newsletters and has also been published in the magazine and on the ApHC web site. As more information becomes available, it will be updated.
  - Saddle Log – plan to discuss this at upcoming Board meeting to try and make some improvements.

Meeting adjourned.