

NATRC National BOD Minutes August 3, 2021, Zoom Monthly Summary

CALL TO ORDER by President Angie Meroshnekoff at 6:35 p.m. CDT.

ROLL CALL. Angie Meroshnekoff, Jamie Dieterich, Audrey Pavia, R2 Alternate, Lory Walls, Bill Wingle, Laurie DiNatale, Kim Murphy, Kris Gray, Esther Diaguila, Marla Stucky, John Zelif, and Sarah J. Smith, Executive Director. Honorary and Appreciation Chair Ruth Mesimer. Elaine Swiss absent.

DANGEROUS HORSE POLICY. Meroshnekoff. Review of proposed adjustments and board discussion. Comments and questions. Adjust language from protest to appeal since this is a policy versus a rule. Should we include reinstatement, and what is the definition of a dangerous horse? Previously, Denise Farris had pointed out that there is inherent risk with any horse, but that some horses display a consistent pattern of dangerous behavior. R2 believes that something should be done when an equine is a danger to others. Aggression rather than simply spooking should be considered. The R2 board disagrees that a reinstatement process should be included in the policy. There are enough safeguards in place, including an appeal process, to ensure a fair and thorough process in the event a horse is erroneously banned. The goal is to have this in writing before the next ride season begins. Suggestion: charge an appeal fee of \$50 similar to the protest fee.

FREE MEMBERSHIPS. Zelif. The membership committee positively recommends continuing them into 2022. **Motion by Zelif to continue free memberships in 2022; second by Wingle. Motion carried.**

RIDE OFFICIALS/JUDGES. Wingle. A ride official (secretary) can't double as an LeD judge; what is the background on this? Sometimes it is challenging to get volunteers; you have to be flexible and wear more than one hat. We have smaller pools of volunteers. In the past, the issue was more or less conflict of interest, and when people were wearing more than one hat, it was harder to reduce the perception of impropriety. Some jobs, such as ride secretary, don't present much conflict. **Consensus is that sanction committee and judges committee can evaluate situations on a case-by-case basis, similar to using a guest veterinary judge.**

ADVERTISING IN REGIONS. R3 has acquired funds dedicated for banners. Questions on regional banners, local branding, and requirements for national branding. Discussed the national booth in a box design and banners. The main issue is consistency from region to region in both appearance and message. Regions should be cautious to not include information that is too specific or that could become easily dated. Any designs should be run by our marketing and branding team.

LET'S RIDE SEMINAR. Wingle. Working with Patsy Conner on a potential seminar and has some other ideas in the works.

VIRTUAL CHALLENGES. Gray/Wingle. Standings for the first round of obstacle challenges and mileage challenge updates are almost ready to post.

FUNDRAISING/CUSTOM INK. Gray. Working to get the new items lined up. Some of the original choices were going to cost too much; she's working with the company on alternatives to share with the board soon. Need photos of people with their new items from the most recent fundraiser. Discussion about ornaments for October purchase.

DECALS/PATCHES. Zelif/Smith. The Inventory is low on the small decals. They are not being sent to new members. **Consensus that membership chairs in each region could send out welcome letters with 3" decals to new members.**

COVID. COVID procedures remain in place since a variant is on the rise. Manager can do written briefings so riders don't have to attend a physical briefing. We have a COVID waiver. R3 folks are signing the waiver but they are more relaxed with public gatherings, especially since all of their socialization is outdoors. R3 continues to have low case numbers. In R2, Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve has additional COVID restrictions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.