

EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – July 20th, 2010

The Tewksbury Township Equestrian Committee met on the above date in the Municipal Meeting Hall, 60 Water Street, Mountainville, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Patty Clucas (PC), Don Broughton (DB), and Ilaria Borghese (IB). Todd Brooks (TB), an avid equestrian with several horses at Hart Farm on Burrell Road, has been approved as the newest member of this Committee.

Absent: Dana Desiderio (DD).

Public: No one from the public was in attendance.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT

Opening Meeting

DB opened the meeting. TB was welcomed as a new member of the Committee.

Topics Discussed at this Meeting

Annual Budget

DB informed the members that there is no annual budget available this year for this Committee. Initially, this Committee's funds were absorbed by the Parks Committee when these two Committees were united. When the Equestrian Committee was reinstated, it was understood by the Committee members that the funds would be transferred back but, to date, no funds are available for this Committee. The Committee members will continue to ask the Township for funds for a variety of projects, including the maintenance of the jumps at Christie Hoffman Park which, if not properly maintained, could prove dangerous. It is strongly felt by the Committee members that proper jump and trail maintenance is necessary for public safety. The Township informed this Committee that jump and trail maintenance will be performed by DPW and/or volunteers.

Additional Committee Members

DB stated that Kristen Schmolze of Everbreeze Farm (Rt 512), a top event rider in our Township, submitted an application, and is awaiting approval. DB was under the impression that the maximum Committee size was 7 members, but was recently told that it was 5 members. DB will try to increase the size of membership for this Committee to include Kristen.

Equestrian Committee Brochure

The Equestrian Committee Brochure underwent some final changes, and has now been unanimously approved by the Committee. DB will bring this brochure to Shana to copy for distribution throughout the Township. In addition, IB will e-mail a high-resolution

PDF version of the brochure to Shana. TB suggested that the Township have this brochure available as a downloadable PDF on the Township website. IB will follow-up with Shana about the possibility of posting the brochure on the Township website.

Christie Hoffman Park

The “water jump” has been drained, cleaned, and filled, thanks to PC, DB, Hayden Hull, and several volunteers. In addition, PC personally purchased additives needed for proper water maintenance. More additives will be needed to reduce algae but no Committee funds are presently available for this needed expense.

The Committee members discussed moving some of the jumps around the park for greater accessibility. Specifically, the “table top jump” will be moved from the upper field to the front field. PC will ask Scott Clucas to move this jump prior to the Tewksbury Trail Pace in September.

Hayden Hull told PC that the DPW can help to maintain the trails and jumps, but that volunteers from the TTA and this Committee are requested to assist.

Miscellaneous

TB will research equestrian committees and similar organizations in other townships and states to look at ways in which they are representing their equine communities. IB will research this Township’s horse owners and try to gather information on numbers, interests, and concerns of this population. This Committee will begin to look at ways to connect with the Township’s equestrians in order to build community rapport.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. by motion of DB and seconded by PC.

The next meeting of the Equestrian Committee will be September 21st, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ilaria Borghese