

**TEWKSBURY EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES for  
Tuesday, February 4, 2014**

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 7:42pm, a roll call was held and a quorum was established.

**Present:** Loren Spiotta-DiMare (LSD), Ann Rotunno (AR), Patty Clucas (PC) and new member, Melissa Caikoski (MC)

**Public:** No one from the public was in attendance.

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETING ACT STATEMENT**

At future meetings, LSD will open the meetings by announcing that adequate notice of the meeting had been provided by posting a copy thereof on the Police/Administration Building bulletin board, faxing a copy to the Hunterdon Review and the Hunterdon County Democrat, and filing with the Municipal Clerk.

**Flag Salute**

Those present stood and pledged allegiance to the American flag.

**Reorganization**

As a new term has begun for township committees, nominations for Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary were made and voted on. PC nominated LSD as Chair, AR nominated PC as Vice Chair and LSD nominated AR as Secretary.

**Meeting Schedule**

All members present voted and approved that **all future meetings will be held monthly** (with the exception of July and August) **on the first Thursday of the month** and that a 48-hour notice of cancellation be made if there is not a quorum or due to inclement weather.

Remaining 2014 calendar:

March 6th	September 4th
April 3rd	October 2nd
May 1st	November 6th
June 5th	December 4th
July ... no meeting	
August ... no meeting	

There was discussion and agreement that more publicity is needed for the Equestrian Committee; both to raise awareness of the committee's existence and purpose. The Tewksbury Times is a 'must' and LSD will continue to work with Edwin to get information published.

## Space for Notes

### **Christy Hoffman Farm Park - Overuse**

The committee discussed using C.H.F.P. more regularly to promote the Equestrian Committee and our horse-friendly community. PC expressed that it would be prudent to publicize the park but not *over*-publicize it as overuse would cause wear and tear on the trails and jumps and, in general, overpopulate the park. AR disagreed by stating that it *is* a public park and as such we should welcome equestrians from surrounding areas.

The conversation grew into discussion about how the committee can encourage riders to more courteous ... to other riders, to landowners along the trails and passing vehicles on the roads. Additionally, frustrations were expressed about how to get drivers to slow down in the presence of horses on the roadways.

## Space for Notes

### **Brochure**

LSD suggested we might want to change-out a few of the photos in the current Equestrian Committee brochure to feature local riders, horses and landscapes. Possibly change two 'western' photos to those in and around Tewksbury. AR said she will provide a general pasture and a fox hunt photo, MC said she would look into getting a hunter/jumper photo and PC will get a driving photo.

## Space for Notes

The committee expanded the brochure discussion to include what types of locations to place our brochures and how far away from Tewksbury the brochures should be distributed. The following was suggested: PNC and Peapack-Gladstone Bank in both Tewksbury and Califon, the General Store in Tewksbury, Califon and Pottersville, Tewksbury realtors ... Turpin, Weichert, Leaf and Bill Landesman with Coldwell Banker, and equine veterinarians Running 'S', W.B. Furlong and the Califon Animal Hospital.

## Space for Notes

### **Welcome Bucket *Letters***

The committee agreed that a Welcome Letter be included in the Welcome Buckets given to new horse-property owners in Tewksbury. LSD will write a Welcome Letter. (Items included in the Welcome Bucket ... bucket, salt lick, hoof pick, horse treats, welcome letter, Equestrian Committee brochure, Thank-You to Horseman's Outlet and any free, local horse publications from the area.)

## Space for Notes

### **How / Where to Find New Horse-Property Owners**

In order to deliver Welcome Buckets to new horse-property owners the committee needs a timely source of property sales information. AR will ask Cathy Foster (Membership Chair of the Tewksbury Trail Association) how she is made aware of new 'horse people' to send membership information to. AR also asked Shana Goodchild at the township office and Shana suggested checking monthly deed records at NJ.com.

In addition to Welcome Buckets for horse-property owners, AR suggested the committee draft and send a Welcome *Letter* to all new Tewksbury residents. This letter would advise new residents of the likelihood of horse presence on the roadways and courteous ways to drive when sharing the road with horse and rider. The letter would also advise homeowners of whom to contact at the township for any equine-related questions or problems.

Everbreeze Farm ~ 141 Fairmount Road West, Califon, NJ  
Brian Hansen and Charlotte Bech-Hansen

**Sally Ike**

Sally was a founding member of the Equestrian Committee in Tewksbury and recently suggested that the committee create an information booth to be used at local events such as the Harvest Festival, the Oldwick Flea Market and the Tewksbury Trail Pace. The committee thought this was a good idea and will proceed with with planning.

Space for Notes

**CHFP Water Jump**

PC brought up the need for ongoing maintenance at the water jump. Last summer PC coordinated a clean up with members of the Pony Club. PC will give Hayden Hull, Public Works Superintendent, a list of other needed jump improvements in the Spring.

Space for Notes

**Need for New Committee Members**

AR suggested Louisa Sargent as a potential new member for the committee. Louisa will fill out an application and submit.

**Budget**

Brochure – printing/distribution .....	\$300.00
Equestrian Warning Signs	\$250.00
Trail and Jump Maintenance @ CHF .....	\$2,750.00
Welcome Baskets (for new horse property owners)	\$350.00
Miscellaneous .....	\$200.00

**Equine Emergencies**

The committee agreed to reignite conversations of creating an Equine Emergency Protocol that the township and committee can distribute to the public.

Space for Notes

The next scheduled Equestrian Committee Meeting will be held on:  
Thursday, April 3, 2014 at  
7:30pm

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m. by motion of LSD and seconded by AR. All were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Rotunno  
Secretary, Tewksbury Township Equestrian Committee