

Southeast Endurance Riders Association, Inc.
Members' Meeting Minutes - ZOOM
March 27, 2021

Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Lara Worden at 9:04 a.m.

- This meeting is being conducted in accordance with the organization's Bylaws.
- This meeting is being recorded and the link will be posted on the SERA website should someone want to hear it.

Old Business

- Lara Worden asks for a motion to approve the 2019 minutes from the members' meeting held in 2020.
- The motion was made by Susan Kasemeyer, seconded by Kim Williams and passed by unanimous vote of the members present.
- Old Scales
 - Lara Worden
 - The old scales are malfunctioning and their accuracy is off by approximately 10%.
 - A new wooden platform is needed.
 - TrueTest is the manufacturer of the electronics portion of the scales. They say that our electronics are obsolete but likely are serviceable, however, TrueTest requires that we send the electronics to them for evaluation and possible repair.
 - It will cost \$750 or more to service the electronics, not including the cables or the load bars. The load bars are \$1,500 new.
 - The likely overall cost to repair the old scales is approximately \$1,000.
 - SERA is not in a position to manage 2 sets of scales.
 - The BOD approached SEDRA to see if SEDRA would be interested in sharing the cost of repair in exchange for keeping the old set of scales in Florida to be used at Florida rides.
 - SEDRA declined the offer.
 - SERA would like to offer the old scales to the Old Dominion Endurance organization on the same basis, with the old set of scales staying in Virginia. Lani Newcomb, who participated in this Zoom meeting, stated that OD was interested in discussing.
 - Lara Worden will send the proposal to Lani to begin discussions.

State of the Organization

- Ride Numbers – Lara Worden
 - 2018 – 31 rides
 - 2019 – 29 rides
 - 2020 - 20 rides with 10 cancellations due to COVID, resulting in a huge hit to sanctioning fees
 - 2021 – 21 rides to date
 - Introductory clinics – there were several in 2019 and none in 2020
 - We need to be thinking about clinics and ways to push introductory events in order to drive membership.
 - Lani Newcomb – The Old Dominion had a bang up virtual clinic which was well attended
 - Convention
 - The Convention for the 2020 ride season was cancelled due to COVID
 - The Convention for the 2021 ride season has been set for 1/14/2022 and 1/15/2022 at Amicalola Falls
- Treasurer's Report – Tamra Williams
 - Total Income for 2020 was \$16,150
 - Membership fees increased by \$250
 - Sanctioning fees decreased by \$2,432
 - Donations were \$4,850
 - Auction income was \$2,150
 - Total Expenses for 2020
 - Meeting expenses decreased by \$7,100
 - Awards increased by \$900
 - Insurance remained the same at \$3,800
 - Miscellaneous expenses were \$2,500
 - Membership numbers

- 2019 – 290
 - 2020 – 287
 - 2021 – 261 (YTD)
 - Laurie Underwood made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report which was seconded by Susan Kasemeyer and passed by unanimous vote of the members present.
- State Representative Elections
 - Elections were held electronically (by email) due to COVID-19
 - The votes were tabulated by Laurie Underwood
 - The State representatives elected are unchanged from 2019:
 - Alabama – Ike Nelson
 - Florida – Kim Williams
 - Georgia – Jane Larrimore
 - Kentucky – Amy Whelan
 - Mississippi – Jack Price
 - North Carolina – Lara Worden
 - South Carolina – Patsy Gowen
 - Tennessee – Sudi Lenhart
 - Virginia – Dana Reeder

New Business

- New Scales and Blood Analyzer
 - Lara Worden
 - Is experiencing some difficulty in managing deployment of both the scales and the blood analyzer.
 - Has the new set of aluminum scales in her possession.
 - A new system is being implemented for scales delivery:
 - If a ride manager would like the scales at their ride, they need to email Lara Worden and make the request. Lara also needs to know about the transport logistics as she wants to know where the scales are at any given moment.
 - Scales and blood analyzer will be available on a first come first served basis, depending on ease of transporting them.
 - The recipient needs to know how to set up the new scales, which are more complicated than the old set.
 - Duane Barnett had the new aluminum scales made for SERA for under \$1,000 – but the full price would have been \$4,000 - \$5,000 without Duane's contacts.
 - As of the date of this meeting, Lara Worden, Tim Worden, Eric Rueter, Susan Kasemeyer, Duane Barnett, Nina Barnett and Bob Marshall know how to set up and take down the scales.
 - The scales will next be at the Longleaf Gallop.
 - A new system is also being implemented for the blood analyzer:
 - Duane Barnett currently has the blood analyzer, which he will deliver to DeeDee Huff at the spring Broxton ride. DeeDee will keep the blood analyzer for Yellow Hammer and Meadow Creek Mingle, and we will figure it out from there.
 - For the balance of 2021, if you are a ride manager and your treatment vet wants the blood analyzer at your ride, either you or your treatment vet need to contact Lara.
 - Two vet rule
 - SERA received a request from a ride manager asking that we rescind the two-vet rule to help smaller rides sanction with SERA.
 - The BOD revisited the issue and unanimously voted to keep the 2-vet rule in place.
- Stipend to AERC BOD members from the Southeast Region
 - Lara Worden
 - SERA typically gives a stipend to the AERC directors from the Southeast region to help defray the costs associated with attending both the AERC Convention and the midyear meeting.
 - The midyear meeting for 2021 will be virtual.
 - The AERC Convention for 2022 will be held in Reno, Nevada and will be an in-person convention.
 - AERC also provides a stipend to help defray travel costs.
 - Susan Kasemeyer thanked SERA for helping the directors represent the SE.

- Tamra Williams made a motion that SERA not provide a stipend to the AERC directors for 2021. The motion was seconded by Laurie Underwood, and passed by a unanimous vote of the members present. Lara Worden noted that the stipend can be revisited when we have the 2022 SERA meeting at Amicalola.
- AERC Directors Update – Tim Worden
 - AERC is moving forward with its bylaws revision. In February 2021, the BOD voted to approve the version which will be submitted to the members for approval. This revision has taken several years to complete. The bylaws which are currently in place were last revised and approved in 2003, and they have proven to be too specific to govern by. The ideas behind revising the bylaws were to simplify them and to bring them up-to-date with California law. There are some planned webinars to help explain the bylaws changes, and there will be articles in Endurance News. He is not sure when the ballots will be mailed to the members.
 - The 2022 AERC Convention will be an in-person convention in Reno, Nevada the first weekend in March. It will be AERC's 50th anniversary celebration.
- SERA Convention 2022
 - Live Entertainment
 - Lara Worden
 - In past years we have engaged Men of Soul to perform at our conventions.
 - The cost in 2019 was approximately \$1,000 plus rooms for the band members, food and beverages.
 - An alternative is John Crance, who is a singer and plays acoustic guitar.
 - What do the members want at Convention?
 - Tamra Williams – our meeting expenses have increased from \$3,800 to \$9,300 in 2019.
 - Various members discussed the pros and cons of each option. The consensus is that we should consider a change. Lara Worden will approach John Crance.
 - SERA Fundraiser
 - We will add an online auction similar to the one we had in 2018
 - Sudi Lenhart
 - We had fun doing the last online auction.
 - We had an online and an in-person auction, with donated items set up in the lobby at Amicalola.
 - We might be able to get Stephanie Langfeld to help with this again.
 - Eric Rueter also volunteered his services.
- 2021 Membership Drive and Raffle
 - Kim Williams set this up, obtained the prize donations and handled the drawing which was held in conjunction with our meeting. The names of the winners whose names were drawn at the meeting are:
 - Chris Littlefield – Trekk-Et Bag donated by Jaime Reid Ruff
 - Sherry Hanover – custom made gourd bowl donated by Sally Goll
 - Whelan Family – rump rug made and donated by Sabrina White
 - Kathy Blair – biothane halter bridle donated by Higher Mark Tack.
- 2021 Rides
 - Eric Rueter
 - The AHA Distance National Championship rides will be at Big South Fork this year. Six breeds will be recognized. There is a CTR on Friday and the 100 mile ride is on Sunday. The Ride and Tie folks will be there, and it is possible that this could be the venue for the East Coast Nationals.
 - Requests that SERA make a donation as it has in years past.
 - Theresa Valliant – Longleaf Gallop will be on 4/10/2021 in the Southern Pines area – no sand!
 - Lani Newcomb – The Old Dominion 100 will be held on 6/12/2021
 - Tamra Williams – the Big Foot 100 Mile Mentor ride will be held on 10/16/2021, and will offer an introductory ride, a 25, 50 and of course a 100.

Sudi Lenhart makes a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Susan Kasemeyer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m. by President Lara Worden.