

**Orinda Horsemen's Association**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**September 20, 2023**  
**6:30 -8:00 pm via Zoom**

Present (in order of appearance):

Board Members: Michael Bowen, Linnea Wren, Carla Scofield, Tanya Ericson, Heather McHugh

Non-Board Members: Holly Turner, Aliz Quay, Liz Strauss, Kusia Hreshchyshyn, Paul Burns, Nichole Davis, Lisa McLaughlin, Erica Braun

Called to order at 6:34 pm

1. Adoption of Agenda – Adopted as modified
2. Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes - Adopted
3. Consent Calendar - Approved
  - a. Admission to associate membership
    - i. Ona Barauska (Sponsor: Kim Zvik)
  - b. Admission to full (non-probationary) Proprietary membership
    - i. Kusia Hreshchyshyn
4. Member Comment
  - a. Lisa McLaughlin requested to change her membership status. The Board was not clear on whether she is currently requesting Associate or Honorary membership. See Membership section, below, for proposed action.
  - b. Liz Strauss asked if members are still required to obtain permission from the Board prior to making *any* purchases for OHA, or is the standard \$75 limit back in force?
  - c. Liz made the comment that she was not aware that Kim's Associate Member Ona had not yet been approved by the Board, as the Associate Member has been at OHA riding and caring for Kim's horses by herself.
    - i. Membership Committee acknowledged that they misunderstood communications and thought the proposed member had been approved by the Board (prior to this meeting).
  - d. Nichole stated that if a stall reservation system should be adopted, she would like to see some stalls designated for emergency use to ensure that stalls are available in time of urgent need. She also said pricing personal-use hay close to the price OHA pays is appropriate for a co-op, and she would not want to see hay priced significantly higher than what OHA pays.
  - e. Paul would like to see an expedited process for approving costs associated with necessary repairs at OHA. He asked for clarification on the process of requesting approval.
5. Annual Meeting
  - a. Agenda
    - i. Michael will send a draft agenda to the Board to review.

- b. Board Election
  - 1. Current list of nominees to date: Linnea, Mark, Alix, Nichole, Anna, Kim, Cheryl, Sally
  - ii. Instructions to Members
    - 1. Process for voting was discussed. A paper-ballot vote will be held at the General Membership meeting. Anyone who is not able to attend the meeting and wishes to vote should email the Board prior to the meeting and the Board will provide instructions for voting.
- 6. Planning Grid
  - a. Status
    - i. September
      - 1. All members' dues due on 9/15, late on 10/1 – Linnea will send a reminder to the membership.
      - 2. Renew auto/liability insurance – Michael will reach out to the broker.
      - 3. Hay carts and whips to proper pasture – Carts and whips need to be located, ensured to be in proper working order, and transported to the Pond barn by one of the truck feeders.
- 7. Committee Updates
  - a. Treasurer's Report
    - i. Line item expense authorizations – The Board voted to rescind the requirement for *any* purchase to require Board authorization. The longstanding rule of purchases of \$75 or more requiring Board authorization is back in force.
  - b. Legal Committee – No update
  - c. Membership Recruitment Advisory Committee
    - i. Holly reported that the membership committee has received additional applications and is in process of responding to applicants.
    - ii. Board voted to approve Honorary Membership for Lisa McLaughlin. If she prefers Associate Membership, she may let the Board know.
  - d. Board Liaison Report - None
  - e. EBMUD Liaison Report
    - i. Not directly related to EBMUD, but Michael reported that due to construction at the water treatment plant, there was a large discharge of material into San Pablo Creek. A clean-up effort is underway which will result in increased activity in that area.
    - ii. Michael requested a status report from EBMUD on the installation of a gate at the OSP/Bear Creek trailhead. Heather will contact EBMUD.
  - f. Communications Report - None
  - g. Pasture Reports/Herd Feeding
    - i. Feeding Guidelines – Carla suggested we circulate feeding rules and guidelines again. The Board agreed.
    - ii. Online Feeding Log – Links to a new online feeding log are on the OHA website, next to the feeding calendar. Thank you Kusia for creating it and monitoring its use.
      - 1. Speaking of using technology to our advantage, Kusia also explored methods OHA could use to record use of stalls, including Google calendar and an Excel

sheet with embedded calendar. No decision was made about implementing a system.

- iii. Hay Price – The Board set the price of hay purchased for personal use at \$30/bale. If OHA needs to purchase more hay during this year at an increased price, the Board reserves the right to change the price of hay purchased for personal use. As a reminder, hay must be purchased by the full bale.

- 8. New Business - None
- 9. Executive Session – Not discussed
- 10. Next Meeting Date – General Membership Meeting on Sunday, September 24, 2 – 4 pm, at OHA
- 11. Adjourned at 8:02 pm