

**Minutes Orinda Horsemen's Association Board Meeting
January 4, 2021 7:30 to 9:30 AM**

1) Consent Item -- Approval of minutes of prior meeting -- approved

2) Ongoing Business

a) Planning Grid items

Linnea will set up poll for horses to form an unfed herd in the Pond pasture on Jan. 17. Later than usual, encourage horses to join.

Budget to send out: Last year's totals, this year budget, this year to date

b) Capital Improvements Proposal for EBMUD - due January 15th

Invasive weed control – will update the hourly cost when we know it

Hours can be adjusted to fit our budget

To be discussed – make OHA wage rate for missed work hours match EBMUD rate (3 times minimum wage)

Boundary fencing: EBMUD does not consider maintenance of boundary fences to be a capital improvement, however, an exception was made last year, may not allow this year

We don't know how many feet of fence need replaced - Michael and Kate volunteered to walk fence line to estimate linear feet of fence that needs replaced.

Major trees are down in some places.

"Exceptional amount of work" due to Fuel Break project

Water line project – replace water line with above ground solid line – in Red Barn saddling area, from small gate into Pond pasture to El Toyonal

Change in supervision may mean more (or less) scrutiny on OHA projects

Perhaps emphasize that it "frequently leaks".

Replace water trough in Upper Sullivan – was damaged, has been patched

Can use the trough that was in the Dairy

Labor would be significant for the plumbing, including a shut off valve

Priorities – in order listed.

c) Membership Recruitment Committee

The 30-day comment period regarding the creation of a Membership Recruitment Committee has passed. The Board discussed membership of the Committee and selected individuals based on the skill sets necessary to do this work (such as marketing, ad writing, community outreach, personnel recruitment, etc.) and ability to work collaboratively with others. Board representation on the Committee was considered important.

The Committee will be Heather, Kate, Marina, Alix and Carla. The Board thanks those who volunteered to serve.

While the Board acknowledges that this is a difficult time to be bringing new membership into OHA, for the financial stability of the organization (to have the funds necessary to complete essential business) we need to fill the vacant memberships.

The Membership Recruitment Committee will be responsible for outreach and advertising. Members not on the committee are asked not to do community outreach or advertising on behalf of OHA. If you become aware of an individual interested in OHA membership, please encourage that person to complete an application and refer them to the Committee.

3) New Business

a) Retaining Counsel, Updating Legal Forms, etc.

This is a partly outcome of webinar with Hay & Hay, equine lawyer

OHA needs sound legal advice on a continuing basis – on retainer
Release Form very important issue – need to manage the risks of working with horses
two aims: manage risks, and deal with social atmosphere

What are the next action steps? Michael has spoken with 3 attorneys

Decide if this is what OHA wants to do.

Retainer is likely about \$7,000

Know deliverables: updated release, review rules, review by-laws

Special assessment: ask members if they share this priority.

estimate: \$10,000/25 members = \$400

Can also raise dues to pay for this over time. Or combination

Should go to full membership for a vote.

Michael and Kate: come up with scenarios: dues increase, assessment, or combination

Also how it would look if we had almost-full membership

Decide at next meeting what to put forward to the membership

- b) Review Riding Partner and Associate Memberships (tabled)
- c) Signage (tabled)
- d) Electronic Recordkeeping (tabled)

4) Associate Membership Interviews (All)

- a) Molly Pearson - Molly requested interview next month
- b) Michael Barglow – Was interviewed by the Board. The Board approved a modified Associate Membership, in which Michael may take lessons with Chris Ellsworth or another professional horsemanship/riding instructor without the supervision of an OHA Proprietary Member. Riding outside of a lesson must be accompanied by an OHA Proprietary Member. This modified Associate Membership is for six months, effective immediately, after which the Board will re-evaluate full Associate Membership.

5) Next meeting - Which issues from Board Priority List to discuss at next meeting (tabled)

- a) List of Work Needing to Be Done (Heather)
- b) BABT Grant Funded Project
- c) Spring grazing plan (Erica, Sally, others)
- d) Proposal from Anna for double gates across fire roads into pastures (Heather)

6) Date of next meeting : Jan 25, Monday 7:30 – 9:00 AM

7) Adjournment