

**Minnesota Distance Riding Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes, February 4, 2006
Big Lake American Legion, Big Lake, MN**

President Darlene Molitor called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM. Other Officer's present were as follows: Vice President, Dale Lunde, Treasurer, Sandy Noonan. Absent was Board Member, Missie Schwartz and Secretary, Holly Egerer. Filling in for Secretary was Theresa Meyer.

Secretary's Minutes from the last meeting were available for members to review; a motion was made by Suzy Warren to approve the minutes as printed, seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report, Sandy Noonan reported that the profits from the four MnDRA sponsored rides were up this year from \$3,618.57 in 2004 to \$4,481.76 in 2005, an increase in money difference of \$863.19. Membership dues in 2005 were \$1,047.00, down from \$1,134 in 2004. There were 69 memberships in 2005 with one dollar from each membership being designated to the trail fund. That money, along with the donations from Country Supply, has brought the trail fund to a total of \$258.60. As of 12/31/05, our checking account balance is \$6,382.02. Most of the 2005 year end awards have been paid for, with the exception of the embroidery charges. Sandy did note that the expenses for 2005 were higher due to the awards for 2004 were paid for in 2005 along with the 2005 award costs.

Motion was made by Dale Lunde to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded and approved.

Committee Reports,

- ❖ *Newsletter*, Suzy Warren reported that it has gone well sending out the newsletter by e mail but has had some problems with the USPS mailing due to not all members receiving it due to incorrect or not having an address for them. Sandy Noonan will send an updated list to her on a regular basis. Thank you to Suzy for continuing to do the newsletter in 2005.
- ❖ *Awards*, Dianne Schmidt has a new logo for this years awards, everyone seems to like it. She also commented that the more entries we get at the rides the better the year-end profits will be for putting into good awards.
- ❖ *Novice Rides and clinics*, Mary Lambert and Sheryl O'Brian put on a clinic at Cleary Lake Equine with volunteer's talking on Nutrition, Conformation, equipment needed and getting started. There were 25 people who came with 10-12 of those people attending novice rides. Also several people did join MnDRA. Mary and Sheryl are considering doing the clinic again for 2006. Sara Maas will be doing a clinic at Ft Ridgeley State Park also.
- ❖ *Horse Expo*, Chip Jack has the Booth reserved for 2006 and a sign up sheet for volunteering time at the booth is being passed around. Point Chaser has donated one 30 Mile ride entry for a drawing for helpers at the Expo. A motion was made and passed to have MnDRA donate one entry for a 30 mile Competitive to also be in the drawing. Entry value can be used for amount towards an endurance fee as well.
- ❖ *Annual Banquet*, Linda Goddard organized today's banquet, the location had to be moved to Big Lake due to the previous location at the Monte Club has been

sold and closed. Joan Thiel has agreed to arrange for the banquet next year, most likely it will be in Cold Spring, MN. There is a need to be sure that the location does not charge for facility, several years ago we had cancelled due to weather and they had charged MnDRA for the room regardless.

After discussion a motion was made by Ken Meyer to make an advertising and promotion committee with a \$50.00 expense for advertising with WSCA and the Minnesota Trail Riders Association to advertise the MnDRA rides. Paula Goligowski and Pat Swendson will be handling it for this year.

It was also noted during the committee reports that Suzy Warren had sent out a letter to the past 4 years of previous members who had not renewed memberships to encourage them to rejoin MnDRA.

Unfinished Business

Ride insurance is again available through AERC at no charge for the endurance coverage. The Competitive coverage will be available through UMECRA and there will be a fee for that coverage depending on what the individual rides needs are. The UMECRA meeting for January 2006 will be in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, which is located not too far from Green Bay. Bev Specht will try to arrange a bus to travel there if there are enough people interested to cover the costs.

The trail fund for this year was awarded to two parks, each getting \$100.00. Forestville and Sand Dunes will both get a check. There was \$120.60 received from Country Supply plus \$2.00 per membership goes into the fund. There was nothing donated from Ace Tack due to no sales.

New Business

Ride Schedule for 2006 was discussed and Paula mentioned that it is very important to get in your reservations early for Maplewood Park ride in June due to limited camping space this year.

It was also suggested to have a MnDRA meeting at Point Chaser ride on Friday night possibly.

Sharon Hahn will have a Silent Auction at the Mosquito Run ride in July to help raise more funds for MnDRA. Items do not have to be horse related.

Dr. Dean Peterson discussed the importance of consistence in rules and the interpretation and judging at the rides.

Ken asked that people take lots of pictures this summer at the rides and give copies to him and he will do a slide show at next years banquet.

Election of Officers

A vote was taken for each position for the same people to continue for 2006 and was unanimously passed.

Motion to adjourn meeting, seconded and approved.

Minutes recorded by Theresa Meyer and completed by Holly Egerer

Respectfully submitted by Secretary,

Holly Egerer

Secretary for MnDRA