

Square Butte Ranch Club
Minutes
July 22, 2021

Present: Maureen Heffring, , Kym Penner, Louis desalle, Hazel Sangster (via Facetime)

Meeting called to order at 10.05 by Chair Maureen Heffring

Motion to move items 2, 3, 5 and 7 to front of meeting so that Lori can then leave.

Hard to handle horses.

Lori filled Louis in on history with one owner's horses, two of whom are very hard to handle, have broken out through electric fence and chased and hurt other horses. Lori is working with them and they agree that two of them need to go out to a trainer, but trainers are all busy. They are in communication with one and hope to have an answer within the week. All members of the Board agreed that safety of owners and owners' horses is paramount and if a trainer cannot be found for the horses in question it was agreed to draft a letter and Lori and Louis will meet with owners and present it to them, asking that these horses be moved off the property,

Waterers

The waterer in the West Pasture has never worked adequately and has resulted in early, costly repairs. It is designed for cattle who drink more often. Lori has found a cattle ranch who would buy this waterer and we would replace it in a location where the solar panels would work more efficiently. Louis is working on a plan and price.

The waterer in the barn paddock has not worked for a couple of years which means a great deal of wrangler time is spent filling troughs as this paddock is in frequent use on farrier day, for quarantine horses, for sick or rehab horses. We will develop a cost estimate on this.

Ideally we would like to have one waterer straddling the quarantine paddocks above the barn. A cost estimate will be developed for this.

All of the above will be discussed with the Condo Board re cost sharing. In the past all infrastructure such as the waterers has been managed and financed exclusively by the Condo Board.

We would like to build a bridge over the stream in the Limit Feeding pasture (Fatso Corner). This could be done with volunteer labour (work bee) and Louis is working on pricing for this.

A shelter for the Gate Pasture has been approved and \$1000 assured and construction booked with Wildcat Shelters but they are committed until October. Lori will try and move this up.

Kelly will come out this weekend to discuss some of these projects with Louis.

Arena Footing. Maureen has forwarded a link from the Canadian Horse Journal on arena footing. The ideal depth of sand for dressage is 2-4" and for cutting 6-8 ". As our arena is currently used just for exercising horses we would suggest the lesser amount of footing. One owner likes the gravel and would like to add more. The problem with gravel is that it gets very hard, even with regular harrowing. Right now it is extremely hard-packed and it can lead to leg and hoof problems, in particular laminitis. The board's suggestion is to scoop off around 2" of the gravel (and keep it for use on our roads.) This has to be done very carefully without digging into the clay underneath (the arena is domed in the middle to allow for drainage (which is excellent) but whoever is removing the gravel has to be very careful. We would then add 2" of 7 mill unwashed sand. This will be expensive so this plan is at the wish-list stage right now. We will assemble the information and present it to the owners. There is an arena groomer in the bone yard.

Lori Board Liaison

Lori will present a brief report at the beginning of all board meetings. The board members expressed huge approval for Lori and all that she has accomplished with regards to horse and pasture care, and open communication with all owners. Thanks Lori and Erin!

Financials

Kym presented current financials with one owner in arrears over a longer period. We currently have \$19,142.63 in the bank account with some bills still to be paid. We usually sit around \$15,000.00 in the account at month end. Our books are fully transparent and owners can ask for a screen shot of the account at any time.

With some owners returning to the ranch and some keeping their horses at home we will be sending everyone a letter re the policies.

At the AGM, the majority of owners voted that all boarders (one abstention), whether boarding on own land or shared land pay the same amount (\$210/horse/month). Under the agreement with our Insurance Company, all boarders must sign the boarding agreement and the riding waiver. All horses must be vaccinated and de-wormed. We will copy this letter to the Condo board, Renaissance and all owners

Letter to Colleen Kanderka

Hazel will draft a letter of appreciation to Colleen for her leadership and hard work in getting the "new" Ranch Club off the ground.

Meeting with Condo Board

The next meeting of the condo Board is August 26 and we will request time to discuss the matters outlined above.

The Condo Board AGM is set for September 26.

Other

Louis questioned whether the Ranch Club should add a small handling charge to some of the external activities, for example, Moose Mountain Rides. These are set up by Lori and handled by Lori with no money coming to the Ranch. Louis and Lori will meet to discuss this with Neil with rides being paid (in a timely manner!) by the Ranch Club. All riders must also sign a Square Butte waiver.

Motion to adjourn. Kym/Hazel. Passed

Next meeting is July 29, 2021.