

Central Plains Dressage Society

Fun, Friendly, Forward

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2018

Vallarta's Restaurant, Mannford, Oklahoma

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 6:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Eytcheson, Christina Harmon, Janet Cagle, Tamera Mayo, Robin Hessel, Kari Nichols.

Minutes from the November 4 meeting were moved to be approved by Stacia Wert-Gray, and seconded by Tamera Mayo. Unanimous approval.

Committee reports:

Membership: Christina Harmon reported that we have over 70 current members and we expect to meet our membership goal.

Website: Janet Cagle and Stacia Wert-Gray reported the website is being updated to ensure accuracy and a plan is in place to add more pictures regularly.

- Whenever an update is posted on the website, it will send an email automatically.

- Plans to add an Instagram account for more CPDS pictures. Kari Nichols will coordinate.

Friends of Central Plains: Kansas and Arkansas GMOs will be sending their schedules for our website

- Scores from their shows will count towards our championships

- They may donate sponsorships

Awards: Chris Cashel plans to re-establish the Perfect Score award plaque

- All agreed that the more we publicize successes of all types, the more motivated people will be.

- Based on ideas from Janet Cagle's goal workshop in January, we would like to begin a Goal Getters award, inspired by the HEART program in Austin and KC. Janet and Nancy Eytcheson will work on this new committee, and on a new goal setting workshop in the Stillwater area. Visit the USDF/education/Heart website for ideas.

Newsletter: Agreed to rotate monthly the author of the opening statement for the newsletter

February: Janet Cagle to write about goals

March: Stacia Wert-Gray to write on prepping for show season

April: Robin Hessel

May: Annie Houchin

June: Chris Cashel

July: Nancy Eytcheson to write on successfully showing a quarter horse in dressage
August: Nancy Litsch
September: Robin Hessel and Kari Nichols
October: Christina Harmon to write on membership
November: Chris Cashel to write about wrapping up the season

Working Equitation: Tamera Mayo proposed schooling WE shows as part of the winter series of schooling shows, and the problems with securing L judges.

- B rated shows proposed for June 9-10 (Rebecca Algar judge) and September 22-23 (Doreen Atkinson judge)
- Education- Clinics will be added if there is an L judge for March, and probably for the B shows
- Ease of Handling workshop scheduled for September 8
- Proposed budget for the June B rated show was presented.

Treasurer: Stacia Wert-Gray purchased \$1300 of ribbons to last most of the year

- Insurance (about \$2000) and Porta Potty payments will be spread out over the year
- We expect to make about \$500 at the January schooling show.

Education: Nancy Eytcheson and Janet Cagle to chair

- Janet to host another goals workshop in the Stillwater area
- Unmounted workshops: Chris Cashel to coordinate a "Partners in Dressage" workshop for parents on how to be supportive during a show
- Christina Harmon will coordinate a workshop on trailer safety.

Items for discussion:

Discussed a new policy to hire judges for schooling shows who may not be L judges as long as they have been preapproved by the board. These judges will be listed on the website. Scores will count toward EOY awards.

Meeting schedule for 2018 will be proposed by Chris Cashel, essentially the second Sunday of each month

Establish a trainers page on the website for members who are professionals (shoers, vets, tack, boarding, other services as well as training) Propose continuing this discussion later in regard to creating classified ads, etc.

No executive session was called.

Nancy Eytcheson made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Chris Cashel. All agreed, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Central Plains Dressage Society

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Meeting Minutes

February 11, 2018

Vallarta's Restaurant, Mannford, Oklahoma

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 5:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Eytcheson, Janet Cagle, Tamera Mayo, Robin Hessel, Nancy Litsch

Minutes from the January meeting were moved to be approved by Stacia Wert-Gray, and seconded by Chris Cashel. Unanimous approval. Janet Cagle will double check that the minutes have been posted on the CPDS website.

Committee reports:

Membership: Christina Harmon submitted in advance a report that we have 102 current members. Rosters have been submitted to USDF.

Fund Raising: Robin Hessel reported on the Facebook Competition. The first month awarded a browband, and in March Majic Tack is donating a \$25 gift certificate

-Robin has been collecting sponsors, including a gift certificate from Jackson Jewelers to be used at the April show. Intention is to publish the business cards of our donors in the newsletters.

-Annie Houchin will be researching a grant or sponsorships for the adult camp in August and for the Janet Foy symposium to make it not too expensive for participants.

-Robin Hessel has an advertising idea of making a video to submit to Griffith Films who run channels 6 and 9. She will continue to research, to include finding a charity for the GMO to support.

Awards: Nancy Litsch brought a sample of the 40 canvas grooming carriers to use as end of year awards. Robin and Chris will see about a logo embroidered on them, or a patch created

-Discussed what we could do to make the two championship shows in October special in order to attract out of state participants. Agreed on neck ribbons and belt buckles, and will consider other ideas.

-Discussed helping out our show volunteers when they are working a long day by giving them more breaks and looking for more volunteers by calling for them in the newsblasts. Discussed an end of year thank you gift for all volunteers to be awarded at the November AGM.

Newsletter: Nancy Spring is doing a fantastic job on the newsletter! Tamera Mayo will resume the newsblast emails about two weeks after the newsletter comes out, as a reminder of upcoming activities and save the date announcements.

- Newsblasts will be sent out via Mailchimp to all members and people who have signed up for the newsletter, in order to be able to do analysis of how many people read it, how many readers then went to the website, etc. Tamera will send the newsblast to Janet Cagle, who will put it on Mailchimp for distribution.

- Article from a board member for the March newsletter will be written by Stacia Wert-Gray, probably on what memberships are needed from different organizations for showing this upcoming year.

- Stacia and Chris Cashel have written an article on our new GMO to be submitted to USDF. After it is published it will be reprinted in our newsletter.

Working Equitation: Tamera Mayo asked for certificate of insurance for the B rated show set for Sheridan Stables on June 9. Stacia Wert-Gray will provide.

- Plans were discussed to streamline the set up and clean up of WE equipment at upcoming shows.

Treasurer: Stacia Wert-Gray reported that there is about \$3200 in the account. We owe \$2000 for the porta potties for the year and \$1000 for insurance. Hoping to generate about \$2000 at the February show since there are 90 rides scheduled.

Education: Wellness Spa Day planned in conjunction with the March 31 show. Free lunch to be provided for owners who participate in services. Stations to be available include: shots, Coggins tests, dental services, chiropractic, acupuncture, saddle fitting, cranial adjustments, and a water treadmill. Robin Hessel is coordinating and scheduling.

- Annie Houchin is working on the Janet Foy New Test Symposium. Plan now is to charge auditors, but have lunch be included, and to have no charge to demonstration riders.

- Janet Cagle will be doing a Goal Setting workshop at Valley View on February 24. Discussed format and food.

Items for discussion:

- Stacia Wert-Gray asked for a discussion on having Breeders Challenge in hand and under saddle classes at shows in September and October to allow horses to qualify for Region 9 championships. If there is a Breeders Challenge at regionals, we will consider.

- Arab show has been scheduled for Sunday, May 14, with Ryan Bell "r" from Atlanta as judge.

- Discussed a policy on horses coming in to show who are showing signs of illness such as stranglers. They will need to be separated from all other horses in an emergency isolation stall.

- Summer AGM will be scheduled in conjunction with the adult camp in August, hopefully with Melissa Creswick.
- End of year AGM, awards and freestyle fiesta is scheduled for November 17.
- Discussed having a professional's page on the website, free as long as they are members. Links will be added to other GMOs.
- Discussed policies related to new activities to be added to the schedule, in order not to saturate the market. Decided to take them case by case in order to avoid calendar conflicts and overload.
- Discussed "Barn Angels" program, young riders to help competitors unload, groom, feed, etc. at shows in order to earn tips for their Junior Camp in June. Will make lanyards for the kids to wear, a sign at the check in table to advertise, and will need an adult to supervise and explain the program to competitors as they arrive.
- Discussed signs needed for competitors to remind them not to dump water in stalls as they leave, and to put hay out by the manure truck rather than leave it in the stalls.

No executive session was called.

Janet Cagle made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Nancy Litsch. All agreed, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Central Plains Dressage Society

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Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2018

Vallarta's Restaurant, Mannford, Oklahoma

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 5:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Eytcheson, Janet Cagle, Robin Hessel, Christina Harmon. Guest: Bud Patterson, dad of Chloe Patterson.

Minutes from the February meeting were moved to be approved by Stacia Wert-Gray, and seconded by Chris Cashel. Unanimous approval.

Committee reports:

Membership: Christina Harmon reported that we have 116 current members submitted, with six more from the last show to add. We are close to our goal!

Fund Raising: Suggestion was made to offer embroidered CPDS pads and shirts in an online store on the website. Stacia will work on creating a PayPal account for this as well as for online show entries.

-Discussion about other feed suppliers for show sponsorships, including the Mill, and asking Atwoods again for water for the summer shows.

Newsletter: Question: who volunteered to write the welcome letter for the April newsletter?

(The following is copied from the January minutes regarding the newsletter:

April: Robin Hessel

May: Annie Houchin

June: Chris Cashel

July: Nancy Eytcheson to write on successfully showing a quarter horse in dressage

August: Nancy Litsch

September: Robin Hessel and Kari Nichols

October: Christina Harmon to write on membership

November: Chris Cashel to write about wrapping up the season)

-USDF E Publications is looking for human interest stories

Treasurer: Stacia Wert-Gray reported that there is \$4,257.39 in the account. She gave a detailed profit and loss report as well as notes on the financials with typical expenses we will encounter this year.

-Rider Relief fund has \$32, and will be sent out at the end of the month.

-PayPal will be set up by Stacia Wert-Gray and Janet Cagle

Education: Wellness Spa Day planned in conjunction with the March 31 show.

-Parents and Partners meeting scheduled for April 16 at the Hideaway in Stillwater.
Four entries have already been received.

Working Equitation: no report

Awards: no report

Old Business:

-Stacia Wert-Gray reported that the previously discussed Breeders Championship for Region 9 probably not going to happen because we are in a different region for breeders
-Summer AGM is scheduled in conjunction with the adult camp on August 25 with Melissa Creswick.

-Discussed the Junior Camp on June 16. Annie Houchin has applied for a grant to help reduce costs for participants. Bud Patterson suggested contacting Dr. Cooper at OSU about a sponsorship. Trainers are being asked to volunteer to do a session, mounted or unmounted, meals and tee shirts to be provided to the kids. Suggested topics were discussed: Vaulting on Friday evening, Braiding, Groundwork, How to Become a Rider on the OSU team, Conformation, Constellations, and Fire Starting. Discussed a schedule, including one event on Friday evening, sessions all day Saturday, a riding test and an oral test on Sunday before the kids leave at noon (it's Fathers Day). Discussed options for food, including Robin Hessel asking Marta of Spot On if she is interested in catering. Can we ask parents to come the day before to help set up? How will we address kids with food allergies?

-Discussed "Barn Angels" program, with a launch plan for the April Recognized Show. Kids probably need to not be showing in order to have time to participate.

Items for discussion:

Bud Patterson had some ideas for CPDS to share:

- Grants are available in Oklahoma for us to explore, for example, education and enrichment programs for autistic kids, and from the VA for programs for PTSD victims
- A booth at the Home and Garden Show and at the County Fair to spread the word about us, manned by parents. Booths are at a reduced price if you are a non-profit
- Fund-raising – kids could sell food at shows paid as a donation so that a food handlers license is not required.
- Could we do an informational video blog, on a program such as Sun Up?
- Could we take a horse to FFA meetings or to science classes at schools?
- Could we partner with breed organizations? Scholarships are often available. Tie in to year end awards, which might draw donations. Discussed that this

would be a good long range project, perhaps to start next year, since our non-profit status is still unconfirmed for now. In the meantime, could we set up an escrow account to be applied when we are ready to start this program?

- Establish a youth board, with a representative to attend CPDS board meetings.

- Contact Tom Sturgeon, AQHA judge, dad of Tyler, to help on a number of fronts

No executive session was called.

Next meeting is scheduled on April 8, 5:00 pm. at Vallartas Restaurant in Mannford.

Janet Cagle made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Christina Harmon. All agreed, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Central Plains Dressage Society Minutes
May 13, 2018

Attendance: Tamera Mayo, Christina Harmon, Annie Houchin, Janet Cagle, Richal Flannery, Nancy Burba, Bud Patterson, Robin Hessel

Meeting called to order at 12:15 pm by Annie Houchin

We have the Grant for the Janet Foy Clinic

Membership...we have 135 members currently, with new memberships still coming in.

Minutes...waiting to approve. Will approve next meeting

Year-End Award Discussion:

Suggested to have 3 sets of Awards. Schooling Shows East, Schooling Shows West and Recognized.

Richal and Nancy Burba would like to sponsor some awards.

Going forward, there is discussion on how to calculate awards for next year. Ideas proposed were combining points and percentages, with weighted points per level based on the percentage score earned. Suggested using the Regional percentages for the weight).

It was discussed to develop a proposal to vote on at the annual meeting.

We can not change how the points are calculated this year.

It was also discussed to offer overall awards by breed. Christina and Stacia will work on securing awards from the breed associations. Stacia is tracking breeds by show.

Year-End Ribbons. Stacia is looking into the cost.

Stacia moves to modify year-end awards into Recognized, Schooling Show East and Schooling Show West, Overall and School Horse Awards. All were in favor, none opposed.

Junior Camp

June 15-17th. Have the camp finished around noon on the 17th

Friday Move-In by 2 pm

Mindy Roland would like to do a vaulting portion for the camp. Discussion regarding insurance and feasibility.

Nancy Burba will host the kids at her home. With dinner.

Format proposed:

Saturday morning-feed horses, breakfast, kids are responsible for feeding, stalls, etc.
Morning lessons. Nancy Burba has offered to teach along with Patty Couch.

Braiding demo and crafts were also discussed.

Once applications are in, a schedule will be announced.

Sunday—quadrille presentations, ride-a-test, etc} all to be determined

Trainers are volunteering their time.

Lunches-Breakfast and lunch at Valley View

Nancy Burba will do dinner. Pizza one evening and a bonfire another evening.

Richal moves to adjourn. Stacia Seconds.

Central Plains Dressage Society
Meeting Minutes
July 8, 2018
On-line meeting via zoom.com

Fun, Friendly, Forward

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 5:02 p.m. A quorum was present.
Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Eytcheson, Janet Cagle, Robin Hessel, and Christina Harmon.

Minutes from the June meeting was moved to be approved by Janet Cagle, and seconded by Christina Harmon. Unanimous approval.

Committee reports:

Breed Awards: no report

Membership: Christina Harmon will write an article for the August newsletter about membership, after also updating the membership application on the website.

Junior Camp: Debriefed the camp, which only had four campers, and discussed pros and cons to holding another camp next year. As of now, there will be no junior camp unless a good number of people express interest.

Education:

-AGM/Adult Camp/Clinic August 24-26 with Melissa Creswick. Robin reported on the tentative schedule: Move in Friday, lessons Friday evening. Semi-private or group lessons on Saturday morning. Lunch, AGM, fashion show put on by Horse of Course, yoga classes, all at First Christian Church in Stillwater. Melissa to speak at AGM on "How Did I Get That Score?" Clinic Saturday evening and Sunday morning. 18-20 riders, semi-private lessons. \$350 includes 2 lessons with Melissa, food, stabling and all activities. Janet to send an email blast tomorrow, and post on website and Facebook as soon as possible, and weekly till the clinic.

-Janet Foy Symposium at VV, October 20-21, 2018. USDF National Education Initiative Grant for \$1000 already received. To be a clinic format on Friday, new test symposium on Saturday, lessons on Sunday, schedule to be finalized when Robin hears from Janet Foy about her schedule. Plans will be finalized in time for the August AGM.

Working Equitation: no report

Awards: Chris Cashel reported that Nancy Litsch is donating \$500 for awards. We are still looking for award ideas to go with the 40 grooming totes we have. Looking for a variety of items for both English and Western divisions.

-Everyone who is researching information should send it to Christina Harmon or Nancy Litsch who will gather it all and organize to present at the August meeting to finalize decisions.

Fundraising: No report

New Business:

-**USDF Award nominations** are due to USDF by mid-August, small club category.

There is no general newsletter award, just awards for individual articles, program innovations for sponsored programs, and volunteer of the year. Discussed nominating the Freestyle Festival for the program innovation award, and several individuals for the volunteer of the year award. Suggested everyone to go into the USDF website to read the criteria, and Janet will start a chain letter to send to all of us to add our thoughts on volunteer nominations and rationale.

-**Volunteer awards** were discussed as a thank you at the end of the year. Chris Cashel will look for awards.

-**Board Nominations** were discussed and it was decided Chris Cashel would write an article for the newsletter looking for anyone interested in a board position or a committee of any one of a variety of topics. Do we have parents interested in forming a committee??

-**Program Evaluation:** Chris Cashel opened a discussion about evaluation all the programs we have run this first year to determine what works? What to keep? What to drop? Should we add anything new? Chris will send questions to the board for input on these to be able to report out at the AGM.

-**Show Schedule for next year:** To go out in August newsletter. Western Lite cannot be held 2 years in a row, so none next year. Will have 2 schooling shows in Jan and Feb that will be WDAA for points. Not enough attendance yet to have a recognized WDAA show. Janet Cagle will post on Facebook about the July Schooling Show

-**Region 9 wants show photos.** Stacia will send some, and ask Holly Luke and Nancy Spring for others

Next meeting is scheduled on August 12, 5:00 pm.

Janet Cagle made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Chris Cashel. All agreed, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.

Central Plains Dressage Society
Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2018
On-line meeting via zoom.com

Fun, Friendly, Forward

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 5:03 p.m. A quorum was present.

Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Eytcheson, Janet Cagle, Robin Hessel, Nancy Litsch and Christina Harmon.

Minutes from the July meeting were moved to be approved by Stacia Wert-Gray, and seconded by Janet Cagle. Unanimous approval.

Committee reports:

Working Equitation: no report

Membership: Christina Harmon reported that we have 144 members currently, and we discussed several ways to increase membership before the USDF deadline of November 30.

Breed Awards: Christina Harmon reported that she has heard back from the Morgan Association who will be sending an application, and has already sent Stacia a year end ribbon. Christina has been in contact with Oldenburg, Frisian and KWPN associations, but has not heard back yet. Still needs to contact Hanovarian association.

Awards: We discussed award ideas including the 40 grooming totes and 80 hay bags string bags, and neck ribbons. Chris Cashel had researched getting the items stitched with CPDS logo for \$4 each. Stacia believes we have sufficient funds in the account for year-end awards, including volunteer thank you gifts.

Treasurer: Approximately \$7500 in account to cover the September 1 recognized show, September 8 schooling show and year end awards.

USDF Recognition Awards: Chris Cashel sent out drafts of the proposals to the board. Asked everyone to please review and comment so they can be submitted.

CPDS Board nominations: Annie Houchin reported that there are at least four people who have made inquiries or have been approached to run for the board.

Education:

-Janet Foy Symposium at VV, October 20-21, 2018. Stacia did a flyer for the Board to look at and comment on as soon as possible. Janet Cagle will post to the website, and Robin Hessel will post on the Facebook page. Discussed live streaming the demo rides and how to possibly use them as a fundraiser through USDF or on our own.

Volunteer Thank You gifts: Chris Cashel researched canvas bags that could be embroidered with the CPDS logo.

Fundraising: No report

Show Schedule: needs to be nailed down soon to be included in the Omnibus. Stacia Wert-Gray to send out to the board ASAP.

Summer AGM: The 30 minute meeting agenda was discussed and will include the Region 9 report on the club achievements, a membership report, promotion of the Janet Foy Symposium and the Freestyle Festival.

New Business:

Website: Discussion on postings online for the website, emails and Facebook. Janet Cagle to investigate and make sure everything is current. There was no newsletter in August, so Janet volunteered to do a news flash about the Adult Camp, the AGM and the Symposium. Need an accurate count for the AGM luncheon, so it needs to stay out there.

Wellness Day: scheduled for September 18. Robin Hessel will send newsblast after meeting with providers.

Freestyle Festival/Winter AGM: Raffle for membership renewals discussed. Nancy Eytcheson and Nancy Litsch to coordinate. Christina Harmon to let members know so they renew in a timely fashion.

Next meeting is scheduled on September 9, 5:00 pm.

Janet Cagle made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Stacia Wert-Gray. All agreed, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Central Plains Dressage Society
Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2018
On-line meeting via zoom.com

Fun, Friendly, Forward

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 5:07 p.m. A quorum was present.
Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Eytcheson, and Janet Cagle

Minutes from the September meeting were moved to be approved by Annie Houchin, and seconded by Chris Cashel. Unanimous approval.

Committee reports:

Working Equitation: The November 3 show may possibly be canceled due to lack of entries. Discussed barriers to participation in recognized events, and possible solutions.

Treasurer: Approximately \$2000 in bank account and about \$2000 in the pay pal account. The symposium may lose a little money, and the schooling show made a little. Need more entries for the Recognized championships to break even. New and renewed memberships will boost the accounts next month. Need to push last call for entries for the recognized show. Annie Houchin and Stacia to do posts and arrange eblasts.

CPDS Board nominations: Annie Houchin reported that there is one nominee for the open position, so we will ask for nominations from the floor at the AGM, and then do a vote

Education:

Annie Houchin reported that the brochure looks great for Janet Foy Symposium. Only 15 paid auditors so far. Discussed possible improvements to communicating with our members.

End of Year AGM: Stacia Wert-Gray reported on the plans. The Freestyle Festival in the morning has 10 riders, then lunch and the meeting, and the awards ceremony. All awards are done and ready. Nancy Eytcheson reported that there are about 12 donations so far for the raffle. She and Nancy Litsch will continue to prep.

Membership: We need to push renewals! First roster of memberships need to be submitted to USDF by November 30, and others can be submitted when they come in. The process will be much easier for Christina Harmon this year for renewals if no information has changed! Breed awards: nothing new, just a Morgan award has come through.

New Business:

Safe Sport Training: Discussed reminding members to complete this requirement before they renew for USEF and USDF

Next meeting is scheduled on November 11, 5:00 pm.

Annie Houchin made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Janet Cagle. All agreed, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Central Plains Dressage Society
Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2018
Board meeting after the AGM

Fun, Friendly, Forward

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel . A quorum was present.
Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Litsch, and Amy Mullins

Committee reports:

Working Equitation: Christina Harmon, Annie Houchin and Den Burdette are working on a Working Equitation/Western Dressage low-budget educational event on the East Side.

CPDS Board: Officers for the coming year

Chris Cashel-	President
Annie Houchin –	Vice President
Nancy Eytcheson –	Secretary/Treasurer
Amy Mullins-	Communications/member at large
Nancy Litsch –	Member at Large

Education: Discussed hosting an AED/CPR class in January
-Discussed not having a junior camp this year, only an adult camp

Awards: Discussed various ways to streamline awards at the AGM next year.
-Majority of the members at the AGM were in favor of changing from the current point system for end-of-year awards, to a median/percentage system. Stacia will draw up so ideas for us to discuss at next meeting. Needs to be in place before the first show in January.
-Christina Harmon would like to get started on Breed Awards early in order to have more time to contact the breed registries.

Next meeting is to be determined, but Chris Cashel would like it to be a face to face meeting in mid-December.

Thanks to Christina Harmon for taking the notes for this meeting.

Central Plains Dressage Society
Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2018

5519 York Road, Stillwater, Valley View Equestrian Center

Fun, Friendly, Forward

The meeting was called to order by Chris Cashel at 5:20. A quorum was present.

Present: Chris Cashel, Stacia Wert-Gray, Annie Houchin, Nancy Eytcheson, Amy Mullins, Robin Hessel, Christina Harmon, Bud Patterson, Chloe Patterson

Minutes from November AGM and board meeting were approved. Motion made by Annie Houchin, seconded by Christina Harmon. Unanimous approval.

Committee reports:

Treasurer

- Stacia Wert Gray reported that the current bank balance is \$2196. A full report on the 2018 Profit and Loss for CPDS will be available on the CPDS website.

- The 503(c)(3) has been approved. Amy Mullins will add the information with numbers and W-9 to the website, and Stacia will update the Horse Show Consulting website.

Membership

- Christina Harmon reported that in addition to a good start on renewals, we have 23 NEW members. She is working on some challenges with the membership application online. Stacia Wert Gray and Amy Mullins will be helping out with clarifying the directions and links.

- Bud Patterson suggested investigating having a booth at the Payne County Home and Garden shows and County Fair to promote membership and generating interest in the sport.

- Creation of a new member packet was discussed as well as what to include. Addresses and directions to show and clinic locations, maps of amenities at show facilities (such as restrooms, water, office, etc), list of member professionals with contact information, board members and contact information, and possibly articles that will also be in the newsletter, such as "What to Expect at Your First Horse Show" and "How Volunteering Will Help You Learn How to Show."

Awards

- In response to member requests, the Year End Awards Program has been changed. Stacia Wert Gray gave a report on the changes, which include:

- *Awards are now based on a median percentage of the top seven scores in each category, rather than using accumulated points.

*Categories include recognized Dressage shows, recognized Western Dressage shows, east area schooling shows, and west area schooling shows.

*Scores are only to be earned at CPDS shows by CPDS members, although scores earned before becoming a member will count as long as the rider earns the scores by the new April 1st deadline.

*A minimum overall median score of 57% is required to earn a CPDS year end award

-Christina Harmon will again pursue breed awards, and Stacia Wert Gray will write an article for the newsletter on the AQHA point program already in place

Shows

-A full list of all the divisions in each category of show, as well as a full show calendar will be available on the Horse Show Consulting website as well as the CPDS website.

-Increasing the number of volunteers at our shows was discussed. Annie Houchin suggested a volunteer training day would be helpful as well as fun. Amy Mullins will get requests for volunteers on the CPDS website and a link to Horse Show Consulting entries. Places to request volunteers was discussed, including 4H, Girl Scouts, Block and Bridle, homeschoolers with a volunteer component in their program, and people requiring community service hours from the DA's office.

-Annie Houchin will coordinate a volunteer training day for the East, and Chris Cashel will coordinate for the West.

Newsletter

-Articles suggested include "What to Expect at Your First Show" (Nancy E), and "How Volunteering Will Help You Learn to Show," "What CPDS Can Do for You, and What You Can Do for CPDS," a recurring monthly article on Horse Health Tips and ordering information for club logo clothing.

New Business

-Discussion about judges' qualifications at schooling shows. Janelle Williams, Deryn Stewart, and Robin Hessel volunteer their time for the first three schooling shows. Janelle Williams is the only one not yet an "L" judge, but she is a FEI rider, and has donated her time for over ten years as a schooling show judge. A motion was made to grandfather Janelle as a volunteer schooling show judge, and to require all other schooling show judges to be "L" judges, by Chris Cashel and seconded by Amy Mullins. Unanimous approval.

-Chris Cashel will investigate a CPDS window decal with the Fun-Friendly-Forward logo.

-CPR training days were discussed. Chris Cashel will look into.

- AGM changes were discussed, including moving the Freestyle Festival (Dinner and Dancing Under the Stars) to a summer date, inviting the community to view. Winter AGM and catered End of Year Awards to be held at the Church in Stillwater where the

Summer meeting was held. Bud Patterson volunteered to be auctioneer for fund raiser donations.

Improvements and Changes for 2019

Areas discussed included:

- *AGMs
- *Awards
- *Shows, including Working Equitation
- *Summer Camp activities and format
- *Communications on the websites, Facebook, and the newsletter, to include a suggestion box
- *Newsletter article submissions to Nancy Spring need to be in for publishing the first week of the month
- *Board meetings: Amy Mullins will create a new Zoom account or something similar. It was decided to try to have a face to face meeting every three months. Meetings will be scheduled approximately on a 2nd Sunday of each month.

Chris will send out a new meeting schedule.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. Motion to adjourn made by Nancy Eytcheson, seconded by Chris Cashel. Unanimous approval.