

HCRC Board Meeting
3/19/2026

Italics = Not discussed in this meeting

Participants: Teri Bullis, Diane Merritt, Jennifer Peotter, Irina Scully, Diane Miller, Molly McCutcheon, Rory Flynn, Sherry Whitmore

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:

- February Meeting Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report:

- \$61.74 Membership fees income, \$10.00 Electric bill

Board Business:

- If we want to encourage higher attendance from members at Board meetings, we need a larger space - Meekins library could be used if an alternate day of the week is chosen, Diane Merritt will ask about availability

Membership:

- 37 Renewals in so far not counting a few board members.
 - 4 board members still need to renew - Teri will send reminder email

Survey:

- Board members reviewed survey
 - Obstacles still a favorite clinic choice
 - Pony club games had some interest for respondents - Board agreed it is worth getting information about dates and cost to determine if we want to add this to our events line-up this summer
 - Jen will resend link of demo
 - Jen will check in again about black out dates, price, and minimum space needed
 - Drill team clinic was also of interest in the survey
 - Jen will reach out to Peter for dates (Sherry will send her Peter's email) and then email Board members to set a potential date
 - Drilling a well on the grounds ranked high on list of grounds improvements, as well as grass removal, and installing lights
 - One of favorite activities to do with horses was to ride at home
 - 30 responded to the survey, Jen will pull one respondent for a door prize
 - Board agreed we will send out an email to summarize results of the survey (Teri & Jen)

Administrative Tasks (insurance, tax forms, etc.):

- None

Bylaws Committee:

- Teri will email committee members about scheduling a meeting for finalization of proposed new bylaws before the proposal is sent to the full Board

Advertising & Promotion:

- None

Grounds Business:

- **Porta-Potty:** Teri is taking the lead
 - Teri and friend/HCRC member Linda will scope out the 6x8 shed from the Heartwood School on April 4th to ensure maneuverability with a wheelchair
 - Goshen Health Dept requires completion of a 4-page checklist for installation of a composting toilet and their approval of this application before installation
 - Shed will require a gravel pad - Teri's friend Mike would be able to get that done fairly quickly once we finalize purchase of the shed
 - Neil from Heartwood School has someone to bring shed down/deliver
 - If the new shed and composting toilet are not in place in time for Clean Up Day, we can use a porta-potty from Carson's Cans
- **Grass removal from riding ring:** Rory can discuss with Tyler the potential cost but realistically wouldn't happen until Fall
- **Alternative options** for indoor clinic options and sand surfaces:
 - Ellen Feld offered sand area at her place but this is small
 - Carrier's Farm could be available but is small
 - Fuller's could be a potential host but parking is tight
 - Heritage farm could be an option
 - Teri will call Meg Dietner to ask about use of her ring
 - Starwind farm, now called Which Hampton (Melissa Elbert) may be a potential indoor for us to use
 - Teri will call Melissa Elbert to ask about use of her ring
 - Participants may need to pay an additional ring fee (on top of clinic registration) if we need to move event to indoor due to weather
 - Rory many have contacts for people who have done ring improvements to get further ideas about our options
- **Spring Grounds Clean Up:** *May 2nd approved as date with May 3rd as raindate*
- **Pavilion Tent:** *Diane suggested we consider purchasing a pavilion tent for the ground and put it up each season. Board members agreed this is a great idea and we should all keep an eye out for a used tent.*
- **Paint-the-Grounds Initiative** - *Could we sell sponsorship to local businesses and then hire someone to do painting?*
- **Secretary Booth Door:** *Door is ready to be installed - can be installed during our Grounds Clean Up Day*
- **Lights:** *Solar, mounted on 2x4's pressure-treated at least 8 feet tall (Rory's are mounted about 7 feet high), 8 posts?*

- *Would people use it if we made these improvements?*
- *Rory, Diane, and Teri met at Rory's and determined we will need to have lights mounted at least 9 feet high*
- *When we are ready, we might consider getting one light and see how well it illuminates and then make a determination about a lighting plan for the whole ring*
- *New sign some day? Sign at Route 9?*
- *Rental of our grounds - Make available for weddings? Board agreed we should discuss this further in future meetings*
- *Improvements: Pavilion? Fair Season Tent? Stalls?*

Past Events:

- None

Upcoming Events (Identify Point Person for each, use pre-event checklist):

- **Trivia:** March 27th (6:30-9:00pm) at Canal Lanes, Teri is lead
 - Date changed as it was only date available at Canal Lanes (kids are welcome and people can drink at the bar)
 - Teri will meet with Ash (bartender) to discuss set-up in advance
 - Team logistics
 - No more than 6 people on a team
 - Each team will have at least one adult
 - We won't have a kid's round
 - Raffle
 - Raffle Prizes
 - Free membership
 - Mcdonald's gift cards - Diane Merritt will bring
 - Club members can bring items as prizes
 - Diane Miller will find people to sell raffle tickets
 - Sherry will get raffle tickets to Diane Miller if she has them and we need them
 - Teri will check to see if she has tickets and bring colored paper
 - Bake sale items - Diane Miller will buy snack packs from Costco to sell at trivia and at games nights - she will be compensated
 - Diane Miller ordered cups as prizes for winning team for trivia as well as for games series - Many thanks go to Diane for donating the funds to pay for these!
 - Rory will repost the event on Facebook
- **Career Fair:** April 8 (6-9pm) at is at Stoneleigh-Burnham, Diane Miller is organizing
 - 21 booths (9 colleges the rest are vocations), 3 speakers (Faith Bisbee, Jay Quinlin, and Mckenzie Chauncey)
 - Location, parking, arrival time, TBD - Diane Miller will share info when known
 - Diane Miller shared it as an event on facebook
- **HCRC Spring Grounds Cleanup Day:** May 2, Teri is lead
- **Peter Whitmore Versatility Clinic:** May 16, Jen is lead
 - Rory will post a save the date for event on Facebook

- Teri will call folks with indoor rings to see if we can get a back-up option
- May bump price- we'll discuss minutia at next meeting
- **Chesterfield Gorge Ride:** May 17, Teri is lead?
 - Per Jamie K. communication with Teri, we must make sure this date is okay with Four Seasons closer to the date of
 - We should make sure everyone knows the parking fee is \$5 per trailer for this event
- **Hilltown's Misfits 4H fun day:** June 6, Sherry is lead
- **Gut Bucket Demo & Board Meeting:** June 17 7:00pm, Jen is lead
- **Fourth of July Chesterfield Parade** - July 4, Jen is lead
- **Games in Goshen** - Rory is lead (with help from Diane Miller)
 - Thursday nights = July 16th, 30th, and August 6th
- **Montague Plains Trail Ride** - July 26, Diane Merritt is lead
- **DAR Trail Ride** - August 23, Diane Merritt is lead
- **Northfield Trail Ride** - September 20, Diane Merritt is lead
 - Diane will call Northfield to confirm ride on the weekend of September 20th, and will look into the possibility of switching from Sunday to Saturday to increase attendance
- **Hawley Trail Ride** - October 25, Diane Merritt is lead?

Event Options yet to be scheduled

- **Drill Team Clinic with Peter Whitmore** Jen will get date options (see above)
- **Saddle Fitting Clinic with Lise** - Teri is lead & will reach out to Lise
- **Pony Club Games?** Jen is lead (see above)
- **Massage Basics for Horse Owners?** Teri has info
- **Setting Up a Trust for your Horse (or other pets) Seminar:** Jen reached out to an Easthampton insurance company specializing in pet trusts about offering a seminar
- **Seminars**
 - *What's in that hay? Poulin?*
 - *Diane Miller suggested we explore tag-teaming with Hess McWilliams vet talks*
 - *Jen noted that Massoud Hashemi at UMASS Extension office might do a talk for us*
- *PR Campaign to increase safety meeting others on trails and roads?*
- *Fall ride around property*
- *Haunted Trail Fundraiser*

Next Meeting:

- **April 15 @ 7:00 at Diane Merritt's**