**PNER Convention Board of Directors Meeting**

**January 15, 2023 Boise, ID**

1. **Call to order**

* 1/15/23 at 8:17 am MST by Vice President Cassee Terry
* Voting members present: Cassee Terry, Kristin Grace, Layne Lewis, Bianca Chevalier, Tani Bates, Carlene Benson, David Lewis, (quorum established), Donna Lacy Bacon, Suzanne Hayes
* Non-voting members present: Bobbi Walker, Kristy Butler, Jessica Huber, Lisa Cohen, LuAnn DeYoung, Greta Berner, Bentley, Lora Bannon

1. **Approval of minutes**

* Minutes for the 1/14/22 general meeting have not been sent out yet.

1. **Reports**

* **Treasurer – Darcy**
* So far, as for what has been brought in during Convention:
  + Tack sale $2500 & PNER’s portion of that is $261
  + Made $1800 from the vendors
  + Member signups not tallied yet
  + Banquet $385
* The Financial Committee voiced that there have been “serious concerns” going around about the sustainability of the organization & would like to see a more itemized budget
  + Darcy; before Convention there was about $10,000 in checking and $65,000 in savings
  + Layne asked if there were specific concerns they could address?
  + Darcy said she could do a more detailed budget if that is what the BoD wants
  + Cassee said for Convention there was approximately $7500 total that went out and $6500 so far that has come back in
* **President – Kristin**
* No report, Convention is going well!
* **Vice President – Cassee**
* Embassy Suites in Portland, OR is all booked and set up for next year’s convention!
* **Representatives**
* **BC - Katrene**; (not present)
* **ID – Layne**
  + Nothing to report
  + Thank you for coming to Idaho!!
* **MT – Suzie**
  + Nothing to report
* **OR – Bianca & David**
  + Bianca; Nothing to report
  + David Lewis; CTR topic & how PNER can get more rides
    - There was general discussion about how PNER could possibly put on rides as an organization & what that might entail/look like & if it would be feasible or not.
* **WA** – **Tani & Donna**
  + Tani; Nothing to report
  + Donna; Nothing to report
* **RM** – **Carlene**
  + Nothing to report

1. **Committee Reports**
2. **Technology – Stace**

* Everything is still running and he isn’t aware of any issues

1. **Awards - Jessica Huber**

* There are 2 awards that need to be discussed
  + 1) A type of “Passport Award” where PNER members would get awarded for completing a ride in each of the PNER states & B.C. This would be a lifetime eligible award.
    - Stace said it could be automated so that no nominations would be needed
    - Jessica said it would be a sponsored award so no funds would be needed from PNER
      * Open discussion was held and it was decided that Jessica would get the proposal for this written up as soon as possible and sent out to the BoD
  + 2) High Point CTR Horse award
    - Cassee; the intention is good, but it goes against PNER’s mission statement
    - Kristin suggested CTR could be made it’s own organization & they could do the award
      * Carlene wanted clarification on the difference between the two & the clarification was that CTR is *distance* rides & PNER is *endurance* rides
      * Comment was made that CTR could be considered for incorporation into Convention next year, but the BoD did not want to absorb it as an organization
    - LuAnn (CTR Rep) said she had withdrawn the award request at a previous meeting & the issue had been tabled
* Layne would like to see the mentor program beefed up to help with bringing up young riders & horses
  + David Lewis wanted to know what that might look like
  + LuAnn said she had previously made a list of member mentors on the website, but that list needs updated.
  + Marlene said the members need to be more proactive (to reach out to new members) & the website could be re-done to make PNER more proactive (to more easily identify new members needing assistance & to prompt mentors to reach out to them)

**iii. Marketing**

* David pointed out that there currently wasn’t anyone on the Marketing Committee
  + Kristin pointed out that was because there were no volunteers to run it and they need someone
  + David volunteered to solicit people for the Marketing Committee

**iv. Juniors/Young Riders – Greta & Bentley**

* Bentley gave a funds report & expressed the young riders’ desire to have a “Super, Super Sponsor” award/ Ride Manager of the year award that the juniors could vote on
* Greta & Bentley expressed other areas of interest including possibly organizing a trail project and networking with other young riders somehow
* They made $50 on the dress sale for the banquet night
  + LuAnn suggested maybe they could do something next year during Casino Night to raise funds as well, possibly something people could wear

**v.**  **Elections - Cassee**

* Ride Manager rep will be going out under Election Runner & it will be between Carlene Benson & Regina Rose
  + Only 2022 Ride Mangers will vote
  + One vote per event/ride
    - There was a discussion about how it had been previously decided to have the voting be per manager instead of per ride event & why hadn’t the bylaws apparently ever gotten changed?
      * Kristin stated that the RMs decided not to have the Bylaws changed, so if there were concerns, they need to be brought to your respective RM representative so the RM rep can bring it in front of the BoD then if the change needs to happen, we can get that done.

**vi.** **Social Media**

* Cassee extended a huge thank you for keeping up with the Facebook live videos!
* Kristin said everything was good as far as she knew, but that Elayne is moving out of the region so they need a new person to take over that part.
* Becky said the fb live feed needs improved audio
  + David Lewis was presenting & said he’s work on it
* Bianca volunteered to take over Elayne’s part

**vii.** **Trails – Tani**

* Nothing new, but wants people to submit grants!
* She will do a write-up for the newsletter about grants

**viii.** **Scholarship – Deb (not present)**

* Deb had sent out a report via email prior to the meeting
  + Discussion about the current scholarship process and amounts and possibly updating the amounts &/or the amount of scholarships given out
    - Darcy is going to re-vamp the budget so it’s more detailed & the scholarship amount could be changed at that time as well
    - Greta volunteered to contact Deb and get all the details ironed out to present to BoD
    - David Lewis suggested possibly lowering the age requirement so younger kids could apply
    - Greta said the application is complicated and that may be intimidating applicants & keeping them from applying. She will get with Deb to revamp the entire application & process to present to the BoD

**ix.** **Membership – Lora**

* About 150 members have renewed so far
  + The late fee through PNER to mail out handbooks is only $5.00, but it costs around $9-$11 right now to send out those mailings and the fees are already scheduled to go up again at the post office.
  + A change on the late fee for the mailing to $15 should cover the costs
    - Kristin suggested possibly making it an option to choose if a member that signed up late wanted the handbook or not
    - Marlene said it would be possible to make this change on the website, but the membership form will need updated and sent to Marlene so she can do the matching changes on the website
    - There was a lot of discussion about these changes and what they would look like and the issue tabled for the next BoD meeting.

1. **Old Business**

* Kristin; the AERC National Championship ride next year will be held at the Mary & Anna Outback Station location in 2024. The Mary & Anna foundation is a non-profit organization & Max Merlich had previously came to Kristin & requested $5000.00 from PNER for expenses. However, they will not be offering any open rides during the Championship ride.
  + There was a long discussion about this request and the decision was that more clarification was needed from Max regarding what the PNER monies were to be spent on exactly with a budget
  + Anyone with ideas/concerns needs to send those to Kristin so she can take them to Max
  + The issue was tabled until more details could be presented to the BoD.

1. **New Business**

* Kristin; we need to vote on a new Executive Committee member. Anyone interested in becoming the third member?
  + Layne Lewis volunteered
    - Kristin made a motion to have Layne Lewis as the third member
    - David Lewis seconded
    - Motion passed
* There was a discussion about if a new sponsor is needed for the Veteran Horse award
* Lois will still sponsor the award, but she will no longer track the miles for the award. Jessica said it was no trouble to track it as part of the awards coordinator role.
* Jessica Huber; the Drinkers of the Wind award needs a new sponsor
  + Lora Bannon volunteered to do this

1. **Announcements, comments, other business**
   * David Lewis would like to see a new platform for meetings so they could be live streamed and share video
     + There was a discussion about the using Zoom, but it is $150/year vs. Free Conference Call which is $0.00

* Greta suggested this could possibly come out of the marketing budget
* David offered to submit a proposal with different options.
* Cassee said she could do a poll about the issue, possibly through Mail Chimp
* LuAnn suggested a forum about rides be published on the website

1. **Future Meeting dates**

* Kristin; the BoD will get together and & send those out
* The time for future BoD meetings was moved to 6PMm Pacific/7PM MST

1. **Adjournment**

* Meeting adjourned at 9:53AM MST

Respectfully, kb/jh

**Addendums**

* 1/15/23 at 3:27pm, an email was sent out to the BoD & the request for financial assistance from Max & Darlene Merlich for the 2024 AERC championship ride was withdrawn.
* 1/25/23; Meeting minutes from 1/9/23 have been approved via email vote.
* 1/27/23 Per Cassee via email: *Jeff Tyrens is requesting $600 from the PNER education fund.  He has submitted the paperwork and a nicely outlined budget.  He projects costs to be $1500, he is hoping for $900 in registration fees and is asking for $600 to cover the balance.  Last year the event did not go so he returned the unused funds, hats were made last year that will be used to give out this year to attendants.  I need to get a quorum vote on this to move forward or discussion on it if you have any questions.*
  + This request was approved
* 1/30/23; Updates from Cassee:
  + Updated convention cost numbers a total of about $10,800 of which $3850 was the banquet
  + Carlene has pulled out of the RM race
  + After the meeting, regarding membership, it was decided via email vote that that the mail out price would increase to $15 to cover costs.
    - Lora is updating the membership form and Marlene will update the website.
    - There will also be mentor options added on the sign up for membership as well. Cassee & Marlene will work together on this
  + Cassee will be in touch with Deb Porter about getting a survey out about convention, no live stream meetings.
* 1/30/23; Prater Mountain was approved as a PNER fundraiser ride via BoD email vote
* 1/31/23 - Carlene Benson: I have one correction on the Sunday minutes:
  + *One vote per event/ride*
    - *There was a discussion about how it had been previously decided to have the voting be per manager instead of per ride event & why hadn’t the bylaws apparently ever gotten changed?*
      * *Kristin stated that the RMs decided not to have the Bylaws changed, so if there were concerns, they need to be brought to your respective RM representative so the RM rep can bring it in front of the BoD then if the change needs to happen, we can get that done*

Correction : The RMs wanted one vote per manager and that’s how we voted the last time. We asked for a By-laws change to reflect this, however, we were told there would be no By-laws change and it ended there.  I think Regina remembers and can back me on this.

* + - Kristin: Carlene can you please give some supporting evidence of this as I was going off of recollection and if there was to be a by laws change, that would have needed to be proposed to the BoD, not my decision. Thanks!
    - 2/1/23 Carlene: Yes, I know how fallible memories can be! This is part of a list of things that were never resolved the last 2 years that was passed on to Cassee.

At the ’19 or ’20 RM convention meeting discussion Regina (who at the time was managing the most rides) felt it should be one RM, one vote, regardless of number of managed “events”, which is also not clear in the current By-laws, and we all agreed. We defined “event" as a ride, whether one day, or three, or five. And that’s how we voted for RM rep. As RM rep I then brought up at a meeting that it needed to be changed, but it was tabled, although not by RMs.

I'm happy to answer any other questions and I'm sure this can be resolved this time!