

# Equine Advisory Committee

Al Gerstung, Chairman

Cattaraugus County Equine Advisory Committee Meeting  
Cattaraugus County Center, Little Valley  
August 8, 2007

**Advisory Committee Members Present:** Charlene Aronson, Len Brainard, Jim Leising, Leah Leising, James Little, Lori Northrup, Robert Pfohl, Mary Beth Trenchard, Annie Widger, Thomas Livak

**Advisory Committee Members Absent:** Allan Gerstung, Sharon Nolan, Tony Orsini, Teri Parker, Annet Taapken, James Toner, Veronica Weber, JoAnne Young

**General Attendance:** James Isaacson, County Senior Planner; Rick Swist, County Consultant; Dolly Little, Crosspatch; Bonnie L. Hall, Little Valley Rider's Club; Janet Pfohl; Terry Martin; Becky Smith; Peggy Sue Pursell; Brad Bingerman

Annie Widger called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm with nine members present.

## Approval of Minutes

*Jim Little moved with a seconded from Leah Leising to approve minutes of the July 3, 2007 meeting as submitted. Carried.*

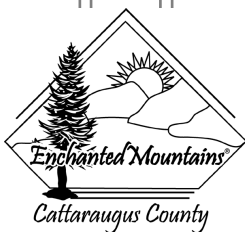
## Old Business

Quorum Issue – Annie Widger reported that Tom Livak had consulted with the County Attorney concerning the number needed for a Quorum of this Committee. It is the County Attorney's opinion that if a Committee is created by the County Legislature and not by authority of NYS law (such as the Equine Advisory Committee), the Committee can set the number of members to be in attendance at a meeting in order to conduct meetings and make decisions (quorum) instead of adhering to Roberts Rules of Order which requires a majority of all members for a quorum. At the July 3rd meeting of this Committee, a motion was made, seconded and carried to set the quorum at 6 or more to vote on any issue that comes before the Equine Advisory Committee rather than 10 upon the approval of the County Attorney. Therefore the quorum will now be 6.

## Committee Reports

Trails – Jim Leising reported that work on the Pine Hill trails is still progressing. The camp area has been completed.

Marketing – Annie reported that the Equine Education building went very well at the Cattaraugus County Fair. She extended her thanks to all who helped with all the work and assisting in greeting folks who came through. The demonstrations were excellent and we look forward to next year being better. She is open to new ideas for the barn. It would be great to get some decorations for the Bicentennial celebration. Discussion on ideas for fundraising, for decorations and other ideas. Please contact Annie Widger with ideas. Her email is [annie@gentlethunderfarm.com](mailto:annie@gentlethunderfarm.com).  
Informational: the word on the Fairgrounds is that barns 2 & 3 will be torn down and replaced with one large building with stalls and inside arena. This could be good space for seminars and/or clinics - scheduled tear down is Sept.



Bicentennial – Jim & Dolly Little set out a petition/interest sheet for the Stage Coach run. They have 7 pages of signatures indicating interest in the proposed run. Discussion of donations to keep costs down followed. Al Gerstung already has hay and feed donated for the entire run. Sponsors are needed. Discussion on what they get for their money, i.e. advertising on a wagon, listed in press release, etc. Some communities have offered to sponsor/fix dinner for wagon train, maybe others? Discussion on route and length - County would like shorter version to save on cost - or sees a need for a more detailed way to raise money - further explanation of how much money is also requested - in detail.

Bicentennial will mail letter to every business approaching the idea of sponsoring - they will help find sponsors. Lori Northrup suggested the Equine Advisory Committee do this as a committee - we already have a good start. Sponsors packet was also suggested such as short ride on wagon, T-shirt etc. - possibly not enough time to put together?

Lori Northrup outlined the proposed Youth Activities program and how it would work as part of the Bicentennial Celebration for Cattaraugus County.

Discussion on: amount of money to be ear marked for Equine Advisory use for the rest of 2007; ideas of continued work on video project; attraction of vet to county; gathering data; promo time on radio. Committee formed – Rick Swist, Leah Leising, Jim and Dolly Little. They will work up structure of budget/request for money.

*Anne Widger made motion to have up to ½ of the \$10,000 budget of Casino funds be earmarked for the Wagon train. Allocating items related to Economic Development and promotion of the Equine Industry. Bob Pfohl seconded. Carried.*

*Lori Northrup made motion – Casino funds be earmarked as- \$1000 towards the video, \$1000 for promo of Equine Ed barn for '08, and \$3000 to develop a map of the Equine Business Directory and trail map of Cattaraugus County. Annie Widger seconded the motion. Carried.*

### **New Business**

Discussion on frequently/consistently absent members of the Committee. Others from the community wish to be on the Committee.

*Len Brainard made a motion to recommend to the County Legislative body that if there is a resignation of a Committee member, that Bonnie Hall be considered. Lori Northrup seconded. Carried.*

Annie Widger will contact Terri Parker to see if she would like to remain on the Committee, if not would she send a letter of resignation. Further discussion on how to handle frequently absent members - consideration should be given to members who notify extended absence.

*Jim Leising made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm, seconded by Mary Beth Trenchard. Carried.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Beth Trenchard, Secretary

**Approved as corrected on September 12, 2007. Correction: Motion by Annie Widger that ½ of \$10,000 to reflect it is Casino money to be earmarked for Equine Advisory use.**