Present:  Debbie Agnew, Jenn Daly, Bertha Durbin, NeNe Estep, Sue Hecht, Helen Matney, Eleszabeth McNeel, Jenny Mercer, Cathette Plumer, Richard Prince, Leslie Prillaman, Janet Smith, Carrie Swanson, Thomas Agnew, Sherry Channel, Beka Powers, Janet Quaintance, Sue Rogowski, Jenny Thompson, Jody Toms, Richard Toms, Celeste Crisman, Joi Saville

Absent:  Pinky Dowdy, Kendell Kniseley, Ronnie Marshall, Tarah Moorman, Toni Stinson, Nancy Wade, Julie Williamson, and Bob Williamson

Guests:  Bea Brown, Linda Brown

Updated events as of the January 7th meeting – up to date listings will appear on the 4-H Horse website.

Most were postponed due to issues with Re-districting.

District Event Reports – Shows/Clinics:

SE:

Northern:  District Show May 7, Fork Union

Central:

SW:  Feb 9th – Model horse show, Abingdon
     March 18-19 – Horseless Horse Clinic, Abingdon
     June 25th – Abingdon
     May 14th – Hippology Contest
     October 7-9 – 4-H Horse Camp

In order for information to be posted on the web, we need complete information sent in the body of the email – Name of Event, Date, Location (specific) and Contact Name with email and phone number. All documents are to be sent in pdf format

Linda Brown, ND Horse Council President presented some feedback during the open session: Overall the State show ran very well …

1. Hunter Equitation on the Flat – Everyone liked running the pattern first and then only the top few coming back to hack. Suggested to keep for 2011.
2. Gymkhana worked well. Suggested is to continue to be sensitive to the time it takes to run all these events. Crowd was small.
3. Showmanship new scoring system seemed to work. Suggestion – improve posting of scores so that the exhibitors know if they are in the top 12 to come back and run the second pattern. There was a bit of confusion about this in both rings. Dressage did not use a scoring system…need to make sure this is consistent with all the showmanship classes. Committee discussed and addressed a need for some type of
uniform solution. Dressage does use scoring system however, it might not have been posted. Dressage will work to post scores. Suggestions of flip charts and such in areas away from main arena to be used.

4. Hunter Pleasure Horse and Pony 2nd go – Bit of confusion from an error in the book and due to a last minute change in location. Suggested (same suggestion in 2009) to have the ponies show 2nd go in the East Arena and the Horses 2nd go in the Wiley because the Wiley arena is bigger and less crowded for horses. Committee discussed and it was decided to move the 2nd go of Hunter Pleasure to the front of the morning session in Wiley Arena. Hunter Pleasure ponies will begin at 8:00 AM followed by Hunter Pleasure Horses and then the split will occur between horses and ponies and Equitation on the Flat. Hunter Equitation on the Flat Horse Classes will be held in Wiley and Hunter Equitation on the Flat Ponies will be in East Arena 30 minutes after the conclusion of Hunter Pleasure and Hunter Equitation Over Fences in their respective arenas.

5. Lunging Area – During busy times may need to restrict the overall time one has to lunge their horse. Not recommended to impose a time limit yet but there were concerns that some exhibitors stayed in the lunging area in excessive time preventing others from lunging. Committee discussed and other areas are being looked at to hold Lunge Area only. Also signs will be posted that there will be a time limit and a possible wait.

6. Request that judges be from out of state so that everyone can be judged with a fresh look. Celeste addressed this issue. Due to budget restraints, the State Show cannot always bring in out of state judges. It is confirmed that all in-state judges do not have any affiliation with a club, county or individual.

7. Bring Drill Teams back to State 4-H Horse Show – Committee discussed and there will be an opportunity for those that are entered in FreeStyle Drill Competition at the State Fair Horse Show will be able to “showcase” their drill Saturday evening after the evening classes of gymkhana have concluded.

8. Request to increase district shows from 2 – 4 due to the new re-districting regulations. The Horse Advisory Committee was to address on the next day.

9. Request of Horsemanship Skills – When and how will it be implemented? Is it a regulation for the 2011 State Horse Show? – Committee addressed that it would not be a requirement for 2011. The Horse Advisory Committee was to meet on it the next day.

- **2010 Show Reports:**
  1. 2010 show budget – Celeste Crisman – In spite of 2010 increased charges, the show is managing to cover its costs which are imperative. – Horse Hero program has been a large reason the show has become solvent. Silent Auction brought in just over $2300.00.
  2. Show numbers – Joi Saville – The state show exhibitor numbers were down slightly to 517 exhibitors – Out of the 187 classes there were total entries of 2,498. We had approximately 65 scratches. There were no issues with the Horse Substitution deadline move to Thursday morning at 10:00 AM.

**DIVISION REPORTS:**

- Volunteers: Debbie Agnew
  - Ring Monitors: Eleszabeth McNeel/Carrie Swanson
  - Ring monitor (Carrie Swanson): New to 2010 they decided to have a few key volunteers that were kept in pairs and drove around in a golf cart. If there was an issue at a ring, one would stay at that ring to monitor as needed. This year, monitors also had access to reach EMT personnel if needed. Managers felt that everything went a little smoother this year with fewer volunteers.

- ISSUES - Lunging areas still not available for those that need to lunge their horses. Celeste Crisman is to contact the Horse Center to find out about the use of other areas for lungeing only (i.e., speed ring).
- SUGGESTIONS – set time limits and force no parking zones in the lungeing area in the campground. Youth will also have to be reminded that there may be a wait for a lungeing space.

- Hospitality Suite: Kendell Kniseley
  - No comments sent. Celeste and group felt that the food was a handled a little smoother this year, fabulous as always and managed to get out to those that could not make it in to eat.
  - SUGGESTIONS –
    1. Janet Smith suggested that the solicitation letter be revised to include dollar amounts for tax purposes when handed to companies.
    2. Contact local Wal-Mart and Sheetz 30-60 days prior to event to solicit donations. Contact will need to be made with Bebe to see about gathering those donations. Sue Hecht volunteered to visit the Wal-Mart at the Horse Center in August.

- Educational Contests: Jenny Daly, Bertha Durbin, Jenny Thompson, E McNeel, Kim Mayo
  - Bertha Durbin/Jen Daly – Felt everything went well. The contest was run by volunteers. Numbers were consistent with past.
  - Art Contest – Eleszabeth McNeel reported on numbers. In the technical division there were 5 Junior and 9 Senior entries in the Creative Division there were 14 Junior and 13 Senior entries
  - Project Book Competition – Jenny Thompson felt that it went well. A committee is working on the rules to clarify in the rulebook. A new evaluation sheet has been created for the portfolio. A question arose to the number of entries allowed in each of the categories.
    - SUGGESTIONS - keep with 1 per club per category. Entry Form will be added to entry forms that need to be submitted with State Show Entry form. Jenny will make changes and submit final electronic copy for the rulebook. In addition, it was decided that the savings bonds will be issued as follows: Record Book Competition: 1st Place - $100, Reserve - $50; Portfolio Competition: 1st Place - $300; Reserve - $150. RULE CHANGE – the rulebook (pg. 8 Rule 1b.) will read: 4-H Member must submit an up-to-date Virginia Horse Project: Horse Management Record Book [publication #406-122 (juniors) or #406-123 (seniors)] verified by the club project leader or by the Extension Agent for lon star members at the time of entry for the State 4-H Horse Show.…
  - Photography - No report given

- Trail Class: Cathette Plummer
  - Minis had more entries this year. Due to this increase, there were timing issues with the seniors and their session was cut short.
  - CHANGE: Saturday morning: Mini Course Walk will be moved to 8:00 AM. 8:15 AM – Mini Obstacle Course; 9:30 AM – Senior Trail Course Walk; 10:00 AM Senior Trail Classes. Miniatures will be pinned after Miniature Obstacle Course has been completed.
  - RIBBONS WILL BE NEEDED FOR JUNIOR AND SENIOR MINIATURE OBSTACLE COURSE.
  - Judge suggestion of Don Coates is good.
  - Will continue with Trail practice on Friday evening and continue to charge $5.

- Dressage: Leslie Prillaman
  Judges for 2011: Leslie to ask Brian Ross again.
  - ISSUE: Posting of showmanship scores will be worked on in dressage arena.
  - QUESTION:
    1. Would it be possible to present dressage awards after classic class as opposed to Friday night? It was decided to leave dressage awards alone on Friday evening.
2. Why are dressage equitation patterns not posted in show program with other patterns? Patterns are only used at the judge’s discretion. When patterns are used, the judge reviews the patterns during class with all entries. The judge does verify that all entries understand the pattern. If they do not then the pattern is reviewed again. It was decided to leave dressage equitation up to the judge’s discretion.

- CHANGE: On entry form, test of choice needs to be added if entries choose that class.

• Working Hunter division: Julie Williamson, Bertha Durbin
  Judges for 2011: No judge suggestions at this time. – No issues were presented.

• Hunter Pleasure Division: Janet Quaintance
  Judges for 2011: No judge suggestions at this time.
  - ISSUE: Northern district and others presented scheduling times and arena changes during the Hunter on the Flat Equitation classes and 2nd go’s of Hunter Pleasure. Janet Q. suggested to run Hunter Pleasure 2nd go classes beginning at 8:00 AM in Wiley Arena in the following order: Class #86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85. Hunter Equitation on the Flat will follow 30 minutes after class #85 has completed beginning with Class #29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35. The pony division of the Hunter Equitation on the flat will move to 30 minutes following the completion of Class #28 in East Arena and begin with Class # 36, 37, 38, 39, 40.
  - ISSUE: Possible conflict with Hunter Pleasure and Equitation Over Fences. It was decided to leave this alone for this year.
  - CHANGE: Hunter Pleasure first go will move to 11:30 AM on Friday morning in Waldron Arena.

• Saddle Seat Division: Sue Hecht
  - CHANGES:
    1. Driving Cones class will be removed from schedule. In its place, Driving Ringsmanship will be held with a classics class on Saturday afternoon. Sue will send new rules for rulebook.
    2. Miniature Driving will be pulled out into its own driving class with the Classics. The driving class will be split into Junior and Senior and the classic class will bring in the top 5 from each class. This will create two additional classes.
  - ISSUE:
    1. Sue would like the authority to state that the driving clinic is for the safety of the youth and that all changes in the driving clinic have to be overseen by Sue and it is for the child’s benefit. The authority is given to Sue to enforce this issue.
    2. There was an issue with Fletcher ring being prepared early and then being disturb prior to the class times starting. Celeste to check with the Horse Center to make sure that this does not happen in the future.
  - New Co chair!! – Beka Powers

• Western Division: Jenny Mercer
  Judges for 2011: No judge suggestions for 2011
  - CHANGE: Working western had somehow been moved to Wiley following Gaited Classes in schedule. Working western will be moved back to Fletcher at 4:00 PM on Friday afternoon.
  - ISSUE:
    1. There were some time constraints with volunteers that helped with both horsemanship and gymkhana on Saturday evening.
    2. Showmanship had issues with the posting of the scores. An official location needs to be determined to post scores away from the main entrance of the arenas. The question arose of
flip boards and a possible solution. It was determined that this would not work. Suggestion of the use of flip charts or poster board (something permanent) to use.

3. A rule clarification needs to be made in rulebook for determination of champion and reserve champion in showmanship. Rule to read: Each split within a division (Jr and Sr) will be placed 1 – 10. The 1st and 2nd Place winners from each split will then return to compete for the Champion and Reserve Champion for that age group – Jr or Sr. Class numbers will determine if a split is to be made. If no split is made, then the 1st and 2nd Place winners of that class will return to compete for the Champion and Reserve Champion.

4. Working Western Pattern has some issues – Jenny Mercer to address and correct the pattern. Suggested to also place the working western pattern in the show program with other patterns.

5. Fletcher arena in poor condition – Celeste C. to contact the VA Horse Center in addressing these concerns [Beside the Gazebo the in-gate is falling off the hinges and there are loose boards on the end of the arena.

- SUGGESTION: To print pattern books and have available for sale of $5 at the show. The committee decided NO to the printing of pattern books due to cost and potential of having left overs.

- ACTIONS:
  1. It was moved to change to AQHA showmanship scoring system.
  2. In showmanship rules, under Method of Showing (Showmanship): Rule 13 e. ADD Animals need to be sound. Unsound animals will result in a disqualification. Jenny Mercer is to review the showmanship rules to make sure all changes have been made and adopted.
  3. Working Western Rule Change: Add that free hand on saddle horn will result in a disqualification.
  4. Classic Classes on Sunday morning will be moved to Saturday evening at 7:00 PM in East Arena.

- Gymkhana: Carrie Swanson/Richard Prince
  Judges for 2011: no judge suggestions at this time.
  - Felt that all in all the division ran fairly smoothly.
  - SUGGESTION:
     1. Jody requested that the judge needs a new spot to “see” what is going on in the ring. She stated that if she continues to judge, she will need Richard Toms’ help with overseeing.
     2. Add stakes race instead of Keyhole. It was suggested to leave this alone due to the new scheduling changes in 2011.
  - CHANGE: Gymkhana Keyhole Classes will move to no earlier than 4:30 or 30 minutes after the conclusion of Hunter Pleasure on Friday afternoon in Waldron Arena. Evening ceremonies will be held immediately after the conclusion of these classes. The remainder of the gymkhana classes will be held as scheduled on Saturday evening.
  - QUESTION: Implications of change from keyhole to stakes race on the trophies that are given.
  - NOTES: There will be two practices held in the speed ring in 2011. Practice times to be announced at the show.
  - REQUEST: A request came in to see if we can use specially marked poles and barrels for a special needs youth that competes in this division. Richard Prince said that he would check into the cost associated with purchasing red/white/blue poles to use.

- Reining: Toni Stinson --- Celeste to report in Toni’s absence……
  Judges for 2011: No judge request at this time.
  - Celeste C. presented a report from Toni Stinson – Division overall went very smoothly.
- Only note to AWARDS - the Reining division is a championship and not a high point. Champion and Reserve Champion will be determined after all reining classes have completed. RIBBONS needed for both Champion and Reserve Champion. Awards will be presented after final reining class on Saturday morning and not during the Ice Cream Social.
- ISSUE: Rule clarification needs to be determined in the rulebook. Are we to adopt AQHA or NRHA rules. If rules are adopted from NRHA, on page 55 under Division Description it should read: All work is done at the jog, lope and gallop (Jenny Mercer addressed).
- QUESTION: If NRHA rules adopted, there are 11 patterns that youth could choose from. Richard Toms to check on the AQHA guidelines to see if they adopted NRHA reining rules.

- Minis: Pinky Dowdy ---Celeste to report in Pinky’s absence…. Judge for 2011: Minis to have respective division judges judge each class and Lauren Hartburg to judge Mini Jumping.
  - Celeste C. presented report from Pinky Dowdy –
    1. The division warranted enough numbers to consider splitting minis back into junior and senior classes. The committee discussed and it was decided to pin each class as junior or senior. In cases such as Mini Obstacle and Mini Jumping, the class will run as one. Once class is complete, scores will be taken and juniors will be pinned and seniors will be pinned separately. RIBBONS will be needed for both seniors and juniors in all three classes. It was decided to run the Mini Driving in two separate classes; one for junior and one for senior. A Miniature Driving Classic has been added to the schedule to follow Horse and Pony Driving Classic on Saturday afternoon. The top 5 junior and top 5 seniors from the Mini Driving Class will be eligible to compete in this Classics class. RIBBONS will be needed for the addition of the Classics class as well as the split of junior and senior Mini Driving.
    2. The division would like to have its own fitting and showmanship class separate from the larger horses. The committee discussed and the decision was to not allow another fitting and showmanship class separate for minis.
    3. The division would like to have the Mini Obstacle Class pinned after its completion. The committee discussed and due to some time constraints, the Mini Obstacle Course Times have been moved up in the schedule. Mini Course Walk will begin at 8:00 AM on Saturday morning in Barn 5. The Mini Obstacle Course Class will begin promptly at 8:15 AM. The class will be pinned at the completion in both Juniors and Seniors.
    4. The division suggested going back to the Danish score system on showmanship. The committee decided that the current system is working okay with some minor changes to score posting.
    5. Julie W. suggested to move Mini Jumping to Wiley Arena to “showcase” the Minis. Celeste C. will ask Pinky if they would like to move Mini Jumpon to Wiley Arena on Friday evening at 5:00 PM. If this is the case, then the championships will be awarded at the completion of the Trail Class on Saturday morning.
    6. RIBBONS will need to be updated for the Miniature Division due to splits and addition of Driving Classic.

- Showmanship: each Division Manager
  Judges for 2011: No judge suggestions were presented at this time.
  - CHANGE: Scoring system will be replaced with the scoring system from AQHA. Rules will be pulled from the Southern Regional Rulebook.
  - ISSUE: Find a quicker method of posting scores for showmanship.
    1. SUGGESTIONS: Flip charts or Poster Boards need to be placed in strategic location away from in-gate and close to main arena in which the class is conducted.
• Cloverbud Camp: Sherry Channel
  - Cloverbud Camp in its 3rd Year and feels like it is going well.
  - CHANGE: Time has been changed on Saturday to run from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM.
  - NEED:
    1. More volunteers, especially teenagers that would like to help out with the camp (1-2 teenagers are needed at all times).
    2. 1 additional adult volunteer is needed as well.
  - NOTES: It was mentioned that the Ohio State Cloverbud Curriculum is used at the State Show. It was mentioned that the MARE Center Specialists are working on a new Cloverbud Curriculum that they would like to pilot some modules at the State Show in 2011.

• Stabling/Check-in and parking: NeNe Estep/Helen Matney
  - Stabling went very smoothly, especially when the stabling crew had the entries early.

• Ribbons and Awards: Ronnie Marshall and Tarah Moorman
  - Is the Gymkhana trophy a highpoint trophy??
  - SW District would like to donate a trophy to trail in Memory of Lori Malone. They would like to do something once. A suggestion of saddle bags like the Trish Trimble for junior trail classes was made. Please contact NeNe Estep for details. Another suggestion of high point trail perpetual trophy with guidelines was made.
  - Ribbons will be needed for the Mini Classes for Junior and Senior, as well as a New Mini Driving Classic Class.

• Safety/EMT: Janet Smith
  - There has been a policy change in Rockbridge County. If a person is transported by the ambulance, they will get billed on the standard 3rd party billing system.
  - QUESTION: (Jenny Mercer) Can risk management be available on an as needed basis? Can a non-responding EMT fill out the Virginia Tech Risk Management Report? Celeste C. to check on this question. Janet S. volunteered to handle the reporting.

• Feedback from other districts/parties on show……
  - Photographers
    ▪ There were lots of complaints this year about additional photographers
    ▪ Other photographers came on grounds at request of clubs and then took pictures of others, etc. Now all want into show. How do we handle?
    ▪ There was a complaint about not flashing the flash in showmanship and gymkhana – Celeste C. will talk with Harold Campton and Al Cook prior to the classes and ask them to respect this request.
  - Marking poles for gymkhana
    ▪ Richard Prince to check into the costs associated with red/white/blue poles for the gymkhana division and all competitors will compete using those poles.

Other items for discussion:

*****Drill Team at State Show*****
• The Northern District suggested a parade of champions at the 2011 State Fair Show. The committee discussed this option and decided it will not work. They felt like no one would show up at the State Fair for this parade.

• In response to moving the Drill Team Competitions back to the State Show, the committee decided they did not want to give up on the Drill Team competitions at the State Fair.
  o In 2011, the State Fair show will be at least 2-3 weekends after the State Show. The committee felt this would help the attendance.

• The committee did feel that there is a need for something at the State Show to let the younger youth see what the Drill Team competition is all about. The committee decided to offer those that enter the Freestyle Drill Team Competition at the VA State Fair an opportunity to “showcase” or practice their drill pattern at the VA State Horse Show. There will be some type of People’s Choice Award (i.e. texting, dollar in a jar, etc.). This “showcase” will be held on Saturday evening following the conclusion of the gymkhana classes.
  o No practice time prior to Saturday evening will be given.
  o Drill Teams will need to be ready to go during the stated time. Signup for this event will be in the rulebook.
  o Confirmation will be received after entries of the State Fair.
  o Order of Go will be determined randomly.

• Hotel rates – Celeste
  - Celeste indicated that rates have gone up at the Best Western Lexington Inn. The committee determined that they would like to stay at that hotel based on location to the show.

• Rule book edits
  - See above divisions for rulebook changes
    - Showmanship, Western, Reining, Trail, SaddleSeat, Hunter Pleasure, Hunter Equitation on the Flat, Miniature

• Annual adjustment of date for May 1 Project Animal Registration??
  - An issue arose over the May 1 Project Declaration deadline. The issue came about from May 1 being on a Saturday in 2011. The committee felt that this deadline needed to be left as is and will not change from year to year. It is the youths’ responsibility to meet this deadline.
  - A question was asked about moving to an on-line declaration only. At this time, we will continue to use both the on-line system as well as turning in hard copies at the local Extension Offices until we can verify that all youth understand the rules and deadlines. In 2010, we had several youth that did not complete the on-line portion and had to resort to hard copies in the Extension Agent’s office.

• Order of go, workoff vs split classes??????
  - Bertha D. suggested that we continue to keep the workoffs and split classes the same as in the past.

• Connie Collier Scholarship fund
  - Current committee – Connie Collier – chair, Celeste Crisman, Tarah Moorman, Eleszabeth McNeel, Janet Quaintance, Carrie Swanson (Need to develop new committee with different people from the State Fair Scholarship committee)
  - This was tabled until the next day.

• Horse Shoe Nail Award
  - Need volunteer to secure this award each year.
  - In the past this award was handled by Connie C.
  - Janet Quantaince volunteered to secure award and nomination procedures and process. Most of the committee members mentioned that they did not know about the award. Janet to talk to Debbie A. about what has been done in the past, as well as what the award looked like.

• 50th Anniversary Celebration
  - Sue/Celeste
Committee was formed to develop budget and activities
  - Sue Rogowski will be the chair of the committee.
  - The committee consists of Richard Toms, Beka Powers, Debbie Agnew, NeNe Estep, Jenn Daly, Janet Q., Paige Merryman, Lindsey Williamson, Cliff Williamson and Lauren Hartburg.
  - Bertha D. agreed to assist in some capacity.
  - Show Advisory Committee would like to see Alumni Leadline held.
    - Other suggestions:
      - Flags carried out by Alumni Drill Team
      - Demonstrations by Alumni
      - Trainer Leadline with riders to dress in decade appropriate attire
        - Ribbons could be given for various categories (i.e. best costume, worst costume, etc.)
      - Nominations for oldest horse alumni
  - Names and addresses of committee members will be sent to Sue.

- District Realignments
  - Postponed for discussion for Horse Advisory Council.

- Horsemanship Skills (may be held until Saturday for discussion and plans)
  - Committee – Richard Toms, Julie Williamson, Pam Umberger, Jenn Daly, Leslie Prillaman, Eleszabeth McNeel, Chris Ringer, Celeste Crisman
  - Discussion was postponed for the Horse Advisory Council.

2011 STATE FAIR SHOW:

- Discussion was postponed for the Horse Advisory Council.

- 2010 Reports
  - Budget Celeste Crisman
  - Overall weekend report Eleszabeth McNeel
  - Plans for next 2011 Celeste/ Eleszabeth and group
  - Scholarship fund: Jessica Melvin 1\textsuperscript{st} - 1500.00
    - Taylor Walters 2\textsuperscript{nd} – 1000.00
    - Current committee: Tarah Moorman, Eleszabeth McNeel, Carrie Swanson, Lauren Hartburg and Beka Powers, Celeste Crisman

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.