**FIRC Board of Directors’ Meeting**

July 14, 2013 Bristow, VA

**Directors Present**: Sverrir Bjartmarz, Tony Colicchio, Laura Colicchio, Pat Moore, Rich Moore, Marcia Newman

**Directors Absent:** none

**Members Present**: none

The meeting began at 1:15 pm and ended at 3:30 pm.

The minutes of the April 14, 2013 meeting were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report**

**Opening balance: $**3,211.33 (March 29, 2013)

*Income:* $7,761.99

 *Dues* $85.00

 *Show*  $7,676.99

*Expenses:* $6,425.32

 *Show* $6,195.71

 *Kickoff/Rides* $229.44

**Closing Balance:** $4,548.00 (June 28, 2013)

(See show report for full financial information.)

**Membership**

As of July 14, 2013 the club had 64 members. Of these 34 were individual members. There were 14 family memberships with 30 family members.

**Old Business**

**Activities**

Eight riders from the club went to Kentucky for a five-day clinic with Gudmar Petursson from April 22 to 26. The program was organized by Laura Colicchio. It went well. Most popular were drill team sessions and a reverse clinic in which Gudmar rode poorly and the students had to correct him.

**Spring Show**

The club had its annual Spring Show on 18 and 19 May, 2013 at Frying Pan Farm Park in Herndon, VA. The show committee members, Pat Moore, Sverrir Bjartmarz, and Sali Peterson did a great job. Curt Pierce stepped in at the last minute and did well as the show announcer. The show made a profit of about $1,000 thanks in large part to generous donations, auctions, and the sale of show shirts and bumper stickers. A detailed report of the show has been posted on the Share Center and sent to members by email.

**Trail Rides**

Laura Colicchio led a ride on April 13in Upper Marlboro, Maryland and on June 29 in Cockeysville, Maryland. Both rides went well. The June ride attracted 12 riders.

**Website Site and Emails**

The directors are pleased with how well the new email system is working. Thanks to Suzi McGraw for setting it up. The directors concluded that despite the Share Center being an excellent tool for those who use it, many club members do not use it enough to be comfortable with its features or are unfamiliar with computers. The directors decided to urge club members to use the Share Center but also to recommend that anyone wishing to communicate with the club also send an email to members@firc.us so that everyone will get the information. This will be redundant in many cases but will ensure full coverage.

**Newsletter**

The directors, at Pat Moore’s suggestion, decided to send a quarterly newsletter to the club. Tony planned to send out the first edition by the end of July. A different director will prepare each edition of the newsletter.

**New Business**

**Draft 2014 Budget**

The board reviewed a draft budget for 2014 prepared by Rich Moore. A copy is attached. The intent of the budget was to formulate a planning document to get a better understanding of the club’s income, expenses, and reserves. The 2014 budget will be revised as necessary and approved by the board by the end of 2013.

**Board Planning Meeting**.

The board met on June 9, 2013 at Rich and Pat Moore’s home in Catharpin, Virginia to plan for future activities. A copy of the report of the planning session has been posted on the Share Center and sent by email to members.

**Clinics**.

The directors are looking into the possibility of organizing future clinics on dressage, musical riding, and western riding. A clinic with Steinar is a possibility. A survey will be sent to club members in the fall seeking input for 2014 activities.

**Picnic and Tack Swap.**

A picnic and tack swap will be held on August 10 at Rich and Pat Moore’s farm in Catharpin, VA. Please sign up at the Share Center. If successful, another tack swap will be held in the fall.

**Schooling Show**

There will be a schooling show on September 7 at Frying Pan Farm Park. Information about the show is on the Share Center. Pat Moore submitted an application to the USIHC for funds to offset some of the cost of the show. The directors voted unanimously to spend up to $100 on ribbons for the show. The directors also approved a motion to continue to use the outdoor arena for the fall schooling show unless there is extreme weather. In that case, the show will be held in the indoor arena if available for an additional $300. The vote was 3 to 2.

**Drill Team.**

The drill team will be doing a breed demo at a joint FIRC/DC Icelandic Association picnic on September 15 at Rich and Pat Moore’s farm in Catharpin, VA. All members of the FIRC are invited to attend the picnic.

**Trail Ride.**

Laura Colicchio will be leading trail rides in Cockeysville, MD on October 19 and in Upper Marlboro, MD on November 2. The directors encourage club members to organize impromptu rides in their areas and invite other club members to join them. Notice of such rides could be sent to the email address members@firc.us or by posting an announcement on the Share Center.

**Temporary Memberships**

The directors voted unanimously to pass a motion creating a new category of membership. Temporary membership lasting one day will be available for a cost of $5. These memberships will allow people who are not current members of the club to take part in activities such as trail rides and fulfill insurance obligations that all those participating in club events be members of the club.

**Holiday Party**

The annual Holiday/Christmas party will be held at the home of Barbara Sollner-Webb in Laurel, Maryland on December 14 from 1 to 5 pm. A silent auction will take place at the same time.

**Next Meeting Date and Location**

The next board meeting will be held on October 13, 2013 at Marcia Newman’s home in Stephens City, Virginia.