



Northern Horse & Mule Harness Association

PO Box 274, RPO Downtown, Fort St. John, British Columbia
V1J 6W7

General Meeting February 13, 2024

www.NHMHA-harnessclub.ca Email:
nhmha.harnessclub@gmail.com

The meeting was held at NLC, Ft. St. John in Room 130

Attendees:

- President: Julius Reimer
- Vice President: Donna Gregoire
- Treasurer: Susan Clarke
- Secretary: Marion Dunn
- Directors: Alice Daoust, Theo Miedema, Maureen Simard
- Members: Wayne Ash, Debbie Logan, Brad Clarke, Bruce Simard, Maureen & Dale Sutherland, Bev & Dale Richards, Evelyn Green

Julius Reimer, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. A quorum was present.

Minutes: Minutes from the January 9th General Meeting were read by Marion; moved for adoption as read by Marion, 2nd by Alice; carried. Donna commented that Bev Richards' efforts to make High on Ice rides happen is extremely commendable. Thank you!

Treasurer's Report: Susan completed and presented the annual financial reports for the year end 2023, to be reviewed and validated for the next meeting (which is the AGM, March 12th). Marion volunteered to audit the reports.

Susan reported on the monthly financial statements with our reconciled Bank Balance is \$6,602.57; reflecting the following:

- receipts of \$95 from membership renewals
- expenses: \$4.75 bank interest, \$103.95 for club membership renewal Horse Council BC; Acera Insurance through HCBC (\$385), Acera insurance for Director and Officer Liability (\$155), and NHMHA club Insurance. One O/S cheque (issued to Louise: \$70.40).
- May have to rewrite cheque for the D&O coverage if amount was entered incorrectly. Will follow up with Acera.

Susan conducted a Credit Union transaction online to transfer money from our chequing account to the new savings account. It was accepted but later rejected because 2 signatures are necessary, therefore none could be transferred without the dual signature. Also, the motion from last month was stated to move \$5k but Susan said the \$5k should have been \$6k. **Motion:** Susan moved that we transfer \$6k, 2nd by Alice, carried. Another visit in person to the credit union for 2 signatories will be set up to move \$6k.

Marion moved the Treasurer's report be adopted; 2nd by Donna, carried.

Old Business

High On Ice February 17-18, 2024: Bev Richards worked diligently to organize a combined Ride for Disabled (NPRD) and NHMHA sleigh ride or wagon ride event. Marion also noted ConnieLynnGraphics did extra work in getting vector files in additional formats for the CityFSJ per their request. Thanks to everyone for their efforts! On Jan.30th, Bev, Donna, Theo, Deb, Julius, Susan, Evelyn and Marion met at Kin Park

with CityFSJ staff to discuss plans and select routes but it turned out we couldn't use the Park when 2 weeks of winter didn't deliver snow. The lack of snow caused a cautionary change of location from the Kin Park to Sunset Stables

Final plans are that we will give rides 2 days: Saturday and Sunday. The CityFSJ will provide barricades, Signs and Rules sandwich boards, and a half cord of firewood! A new poster was done and posted by Bev on fb and through NHMHA on website, email and fb. We also have some NHMHA signs and a Banner (Julius will bring them). There are 6 teams committed: Bev, Julius, Mike Pomeroy with Shane Wagner assisting, Tricia Hotchkiss, Maureen Simard, and Mavis and Dale Sutherland. There are 2 routes chosen depending upon conditions.

Theo/Deb, and Marion will be supplementing the wagon rides with offering pony rides in Bev and Dale's corral pen, along with a number of NPRD's horses and handlers. The NPRD will provide hot drinks, hot dogs and chili for the volunteer team! Supplements from pot luck welcome.

Bev said photos will be taken by Hannah Townsend, who is a professional photographer.

Calendar: There are still some Calendars available. Some were mailed out including Thank You's to the Petroleum Association and City of Taylor. One will be sent to CityFSJ. The updated tribute page is completed and now available from our website in printable format.

<https://nhmha-harnessclub.ca/img/NHMHA-2024-calendar-online.pdf>

Driving Clinic for 2024: Further discussion was heard on holding a clinic. Since Julia Fellers is hosting a clinic with clinician Elisa Missio Marocchi in June, which is full, Susan suggested those interested could audit the event. Another suggestion was we could piggyback on the clinic and have Elisa stay and do another for us but she likely has her flights already booked. Better that we target for a clinic in the Fall. Theo pointed out that the clinicians could only book 8 participants (hands on), but our format of providing free demo's and guidance inhouse as we did in our past clinics can accommodate more people. We could have a Donation Box for contributions. Again, this will be discussed in future meetings.

Year in Review 2023: A draft of the years' recap was prepared by Marion for input with January minutes and one change to add "5 wagons and 6 riders" for the Christmas event will be added. Members accepted the amended review as final. The events will be read at the AGM meeting, March 12th.

Spring Wagon Trek May 17-20, 2024: The May long weekend trek will be held in the Doig Community Pasture, so long as there are no wildfires. Julius obtained permission from Willie Loewen, trail boss, shortly after our last general meeting. A pre-event trail cleanup will be organized.

Regarding the Hudson's Hope trails as the other option, Alice talked with Shona (who organizes poker rallies) and decided we would need to ride the trails in order to choose appropriate wagon driving routes. Susan commented that the sand is very deep in some places. Time doesn't really allow us to do that prior to establishing our spring event. So perhaps during the year we can do that and mark trail maps for the Fall WagonTrek. Mavis added an fyi that the Titanium Ride might be held there but not sure about timing.

Preparations for the Spring WagonTrek at the Doig will include sending out a registration/poster and Marion brought forward the last years' form. After discussion, everything would be the same information needed other than we decided that hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided by the club for lunches on Saturday and Sunday with probable leftovers for Monday. People still need to bring their own meals for Friday, their own breakfasts, and a potluck dish and dessert for each dinner because dinners will be the conglomerate of potluck meals. Monday lunch is leftovers. Donna said their tents will be available for kitchen tents. Other details will be worked out for grills, tables, generators, water tanks for horses, portapotties, etc. Everyone brings their own chairs.

The membership present agreed we would still charge \$25/adult because we will need portapotties on site which will cost close to \$300. Registration will be needed by May 10th. Marion/Connie will put out a form with the information asap.

New Business, Admin and Membership

Correspondence / Communication:

- HCBC club membership certificate received and all of our Acera Insurance policies.
- NHMHA MailBox at Shopper's Drugmart was renewed by Marion, pd by NHMHA cheque for \$196.35; receipt provided to Treasurer Susan Clarke.
- Received membership renewals from G.Demyen and B.&S.McLachlan in mail. E-transfers and online renewals were recorded separately by the Treasurer and noted above.
- Marion reminded everyone the next meeting is the AGM. It's not an election year though, so there is only the business portion of the AGM to address.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm by Marion; 2nd Donna, carried.

NOTE: Meetings are held every second Tuesday of each Month: 7 to 9pm.



NHMHA's next meeting is the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) on March 12th at NLC in FSJ, Room 130.

Website and Membership Renewals: maintained by ConnieLynnGraphics

nhmha.harnessclub@gmail.com

Membership: <https://www.nhmha-harnessclub.ca/membership.html>

We have added a revised page to our printable calendar on our website.

<https://nhmha-harnessclub.ca/img/NHMHA-2024-calendar-online.pdf>

**HIGH ON ICE
WINTER
FEST**

FEBRUARY 17 12:00-3:00
FEBRUARY 18 12:00-3:00

**JOIN US AT SUNSET STABLES
FOR FREE WAGON RIDES!**

LOCATION CHANGE
6604-253 ROAD
(HEAD TOWARD TAYLOR, FOLLOW THE SIGNS)

North Peace Ride
for the Disabled

NORTHERN HORSE &
MULE HARNESS ASSOC.
"HARNESS PULLS US TOGETHER"