



### **GLRPC Fall Regional Council Meeting Minutes**

**November 3, 2019**

Washtenaw Community College  
4800 E. Huron River Drive  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

Meeting start: 8:48 a.m.  
Meeting adjourned: 2:47 p.m.

#### **Attendance:**

##### **Regional Board:**

Linda Short Lowe – RS  
Lorri Witkowski - VRS  
Wendy Willford – Co-Treasurer  
David Silver – Co-Treasurer  
Jennifer Rupert – Secretary  
Kerry McKinley – RIC  
Ginger Wisseman – HMO  
Lisa McCormack – RTC  
Sue Smith – JLC Liaison

##### **Club Attendance:**

Stacy Ramirez – FWPC  
Candy Tavormina – FWPC  
Aubrey Staller – DBPC  
Darla Jackson – DBPC  
Lisa Rossman – MHIIPC  
Michelle McMillan – MHIIPC  
Monica Spiers – MHIIPC  
Dawn Mitchinson – OHPC  
Mary Orlando – MHIIPC  
Sharlee Lowe – MHIIPC  
Melynda Ziehm – PPPC  
Jill Byard – TBPC  
Jenifer Wolf – TBPC  
Robin VanBrast – MPC  
Brenda Staat Tomlinson – MPC  
Kathryn Kendall – RLPC  
Joseph Belotte – GRPC  
Kari Belotte – GRPC  
Jenny Carr – GRPC  
Cindy Hogan – GRPC

Kyle Borst – GRPC  
Amber Duncan – CRPC  
Jessica Ricciardi – CRPC  
Kimberly Grossman – HHPC  
Kim Heaman – HHPC  
Kata Siegel – HHPC  
Alysia Apley – HHPC/TBPC  
Amy Koepke – SSPC  
Julie Graber – SSPC  
Heidi Miller – HVPC  
Kirsti Hilbert – HVPC  
Bridget Rodgers - HVPC  
Amanda Butcher – CMPC  
Stacy Wonsey-Anderson – CMPC  
Delphine Rossignol – CMPC  
Shannon Persson – CMPC  
Joan Henning – CMPC  
Amy Holland – CRPC  
Carolyn Wheeler – CRPC  
Kendall Gazaui – CRPC

- Arrival
- Welcome
  - Club RC Attendance sheet passed
  - Time keeper and Roberts Rules
  - Introductions
- **Approval of Agenda**
  - The initial agenda that went out called for budget approval for D Event Rally but that is not due until the Spring meeting.
  - Other changes – Under Dressage and SJ Rally for 2020, MHIIPC will be doing hospitality, not secretary.
  - **Motion by Monica Spiers (MHIIPC) to approve agenda with noted changes. Second by Brenda Tomlinson (MPC). All in favor. Motion carries.**
- **Approval of 2019 Spring RC Meeting Minutes**
  - Spring 2019 RC Minutes were emailed out in the spring and again on October 26, and a copy is in the packet.
  - Cindy Hogan: three additional folks in attendance from GRPC that should be noted: Wendi Goodare, Jenny Carr, and Joe Belotte.
  - **Motion by Brenda Tomlinson (MPC) to approve meeting minutes with addition of three attendees as noted by Cindy Hogan. Second by Jill Byard (TBPC). All in favor. Motion carries.**

### **Old Business**

- RS Report – Linda Short Lowe
  - Our RS has learned to expect the unexpected.
  - Overview of the year's challenges and successes.
  - Our region continues to grow.
  - There is also room for improvement.
  - We will continue to grow and support each other.
  - Celebrate what we are doing. Focus on the positives.
  - Know that our RS does not expect all clubs to look the same.
  - Change creates opportunity for progress.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Wendy Willford and David Silver
  - See green handout in packet.
  - Currently in checking: \$27,988.33
  - Actual gain this year of \$1,442.01
  - Lorri: Does everyone know what the competitors tax is used for? No.
    - Out of the rally funds, \$10 is set aside (\$8 from Quiz) for Championships. Every third year is a Festival year. Championships always operates as a loss. We tuck those funds away for our Championships

expenses.

- Motion by Monica Spiers (MHIIPC) to approve the 2019 Budget in actuals. Second by Lisa McCormack. All in favor. Motion carries.
- Wendy: All clubs have paid their dues in full for 2019.
  - note that the DC year end requirements are different than the treasurer obligations.
  - 2020 dues – region dues are \$40. Includes a \$5 stipend for Omnibus printing.
  - Treasurer year end reporting starts January 1.
  - New treasurers won't have access to the system until January 1, but the DC can invite the new treasurer in to assist.
  - Also note that a peer audit needs to occur if changing treasurers.
- Reminder: Clubs should be using the tax exemption form for club or region purchases. We just used it to save a lot of money on ribbons. It is a state sales tax exemption form, specific to each vendor. Form 3372 Dept. of Treasury website.
- 2019 HMO Report – Ginger Wisseman
  - See blue handout in packet.
  - Quiz rally continues to add value to PC. DCs should encourage members to participate.
  - EBTH had a great, organized structure.
  - Mega rally – one of the takeaways was that several pony club grads helped out – we should encourage that in the future.
  - D event rally – was well organized and fun. We hope that JLC is able to get more help from upper level members.
  - Tetrathlon – a barn friendly participated. Participation allowed her to have appreciation of what goes on behind the scenes for HM.
  - Eventing Rally – we had a “wagon circle” setup; went well.
  - At rallies, teams should not be waiting until the last minute to prepare their rally kits, or leaving it to one person.
  - Helmets must fit properly to protect the head.
  - Replace stuff timely – check your stirrups fit, halter fit, helmet fit, wear of leathers, girths, etc.
  - Instruction plans are available to use at the club level.
  - Keep in mind when sharing a mount at a rally, points can add up quickly
  - Teams need to practice the vet box if attending Eventing Rally.
  - Don't forget to check out with HM prior to leaving a Rally.
  - Remember to choose HM judges carefully. It is important that club members experience fair and positive judging.
  - Please be understanding that the one day format is difficult from an HM standpoint. Please be patient.
  - Think about appointing an HM liaison for your club and treating them as an HM coach.
  - Candy Tavormina: Great report by our HMO. Lots of good information in this report.
  - Candy Tavormina: If possible can we get the scramble teams put together earlier? It helps the scramble kids feel more included if they can participate in the prep more.
- 2019 RIC Report – Kerry McKinley
  - See the golden yellow handout.
  - Please note the record book checklist – this is an area where members struggle passing. This has been emailed out to DCs a few times.
  - This year we did the Standards and Certs clinic with mounted participants. It was well received.
  - 47 people attended with NE Nancy Grout in April.
  - The August clinic was also well received. Members liked it being scheduled before the HB Certification.
  - Encourage your members to leave their home property. It is very helpful.
  - We are hoping to add a champs camp this year.
  - RS: We have one of the best RICs in the country in Kerry McKinley. Kerry is on the National Instruction Committee this year.
  - Please note that the November upper level clinic will be held at Brookside Farm (the handout accidentally lists last year's location).
- 2019 RTC Report – Lisa McCormack
  - See the pale yellow handout.
  - Eight attended the August Examiner's Clinic with Laurie Champman Bosco.

- Unfortunately Laurie was not as familiar as we had hoped with the Regional testing SOPs.
- Nine tested for the C1/C2 testings. Five lessons were given on Sunday. There was representation from six clubs.
- The C1/C2 testing is a lot of work to put on.
- If we don't have enough attending for a two day testing, we fill the other day with lessons.
- There is no wiggle room on the pricing for a national examiner – generally the cost is \$500/day plus lodging/mileage/food.
- The regional examiners list is on the Omnibus and website. To remain on the list you must have attended a Standards/Cert or Examiners clinic within the last two years.
- Each club is supposed to offer two testings a year to members. The GLR schedule is supposed to reflect if a testing is open to outside club members.
- Please try and use under utilized examiners.
- Don't forget to provide the RTC with your test sheet copies.
- 2019 Activities Reports
  - Quiz Rally / Spring RC Meeting – Julie Graber SSPC
    - \$1,950.72 gain
  - Omnibus – Ginger Wisseman
    - \$1,444.66 gain
    - If Omnibus is going to be a money earner then people need to get their ads in and on time
  - Standards and Certification Clinic – Lisa McCormack – RTC
    - The Standards and Certs clinic was combined with the Upper Level clinic with Nancy Grout. There was a cost, but that was combined with the Upper Level clinic.
  - EBTH Rally – Jill Byard TBPC
    - 24 participants
    - Nice weather
    - No financial report as this is put on as a club fundraiser.
  - Dressage Rally (Cindy Hogan GRPC) and SJ Rally (Bridget Rodgers HVPC)
    - Lorri: We had a lot more participants than expected. Albion was very flexible and opened up more stalls than required. We had a gain for the first time in many years. Doing this Rally as one day, back to back brought down the facility fee by 50%.
    - It was a scramble and a learning curve from the HM perspective.
    - Cindy: Having the Rally be one day allowed more participation and the synergy of sharing resources was huge.
    - It was challenging to remember several back to back course in such a short period of time, especially for the younger members, but that is part of the learning curve.
    - Bridget: 44 riding participants in SJ Rally, 10 stable managers.
  - Regional Camp – Kerry McKinley, Monica Spiers
    - A loss is generally expected from camp because we bring in national instructors.
    - We will not have a Regional camp in 2020. We will have Champs camp and then Regional camp will return in 2021.
    - It was nice to have many younger participants.
  - Championships – Linda Short Lowe – RS
    - Results were sent out by email in July and posted on Facebook.
    - Our Region's members did very well.
    - The registration process was different this year. Members registered and paid directly with the National office online. It went well.
    - Non-refundable deposits that were paid went directly into our Region's costs for supporting those attending Champs. We need to have some idea of how many are attending, and including a fee places some accountability on those declaring they want to attend Champs. Discussion about calling it a registration fee rather than a deposit in the future since it is non-refundable.
    - Went through the Champs expenses. Shirts were \$67.50 plus embroidery. Linda: We have a goal of seeking sponsorship for our shirts in the future because they are costly.
  - Tetrathlon – Ginger Wisseman PPC
    - This was operated as a club sponsored event, so there is no financial report.
    - PPC uses funds raised to support their members in attending a regional event.

- Hosting a regional event is a nice way to put something on in your area. Consider helping to host an upper level clinic if asked.
  - The rally was well attended, and they met their maximum level of participants.
  - Paddocks were put together and used for stabling and the chief took pictures to show others how a rally can be put on without stalls.
- Eventing Rally – Wendy Willford HVPC
  - This was also operated as a club sponsored event, so there is no financial report. Five clubs were represented.
  - 15 participants all together. 12 riders. 9 were interested in qualifying for Champs.
  - The Eventing Rally date is not yet set for 2020.
  - Please note that the 2019 HM Score from Mega Rally or Tet can be used to qualify for Eventing Champs, but you will need to add the vet box part in, so speak with our Board and the HMO if interested.
- JLC Report – JLC Members
  - 18 attendees with Sue Smith JLC Liaison
  - Introductions
  - JLC account balance is currently \$728.14
  - The JLC recently bought Board member shirts. If anyone else in the JLC wanted one, they contributed part of the cost, JLC the rest.
  - JLC liked the one day format of Mega Rally.
  - Discussion about making an informational video for HM standards – but will have to comply with Pony Club social media guidelines and privacy requirements.
  - JLC liked the food at Regional Camp.
  - JLC liked Tet Rally a lot.
  - Review of JLC 2019 to include D Event Derby 2019
    - The early bird fee was \$100. 17 signed up. \$1,700 made.
    - 12 hauled in for Friday night
    - Many participated in Saturday night cross country schooling.
    - Gain of \$38.71
    - Kids loved the neck ribbons.
    - JLC had to do significant work to get the facility in shape, which was not anticipated, including cleaning many stalls. They will be looking for a new facility in the future. In the future, the contract should require that the stalls be clean when they arrive.
    - Next year they hope to have the schooling more organized.
    - Candy: JLC should think about challenging D3s a little more to keep them interested.
  - Plans for 2020
    - A meeting will occur to plan D Event Derby for 2020.
  - JLC presents a gift to Sue for being their adviser in 2019.
- Recognition of members achieving national certifications – Linda Short Lowe
  - Jordan Riske HVPC – HB
  - Chloe Miller HVPC - C3 Eventing
  - Hannah Fountain HVPC – HB
  - Kat Hogan GRPC – HB
  - Miriam Graber SSPC – C3 Eventing
  - Alex McKinley- B Eventing
  - Brenna McCloud - HA

### **New Business**

- Break out sessions with training and/or planning groups specific to:
  - New and somewhat new club leaders
  - Mega Rally Organizers
  - Club Instruction and Testings
- 2020 Calendar of Events and Club Roles – Linda Short Lowe
  - See two pink colored handouts.
  - PPC is also going to be a supporting club for Quiz Rally.
  - Examiners Education Clinic 2020 – Kerry McKinley RIC

- UL Clinics 2020 – Kerry McKinley RIC
- **2020 Annual Meeting with budget approval** – RS
  - \$4,491 is the projected cost
  - The meeting is in Seattle and flights are expensive.
  - See lime green handout.
  - We should save on the shuttle expense compared to other locations.
  - **Motion by Candy Tavormina to approve the 2020 Annual Meeting Budget for GLR Leadership to attend as presented. Second by Jill Byard. All in favor. Motion carries.**
- **2020 Leadership Training** – Wendy Willford with budget approval
  - Wendy: We have secured a bed and breakfast in Whitehall, Michigan, at the White Swan Inn.
  - To be held January 18 and 19 – one and a half day training with no charge to clubs involved.
  - Each club will be able to send a leader.
  - We will cover a variety of topics.
  - Cost is mostly for the rooms.
  - \$2,500 Budgeted
  - this is the same amount that was approved for this event in 2017
  - Brief scheduling discussion – this is the very best weekend to hold based on other PC events and price of rooms
  - **Motion by Brenda Tomlinson to approve the budget for 2020 Leadership Training as presented. Second by Monica Spiers (MHIIPC). All in favor. Motion carries.**
- **Quiz Rally/Spring RC Meeting** – SSPC with budget approval
  - See light blue hand out.
  - The budget has not changed from last year. Expected gain of \$1,444.06.
  - Discussion about adding \$200 into the budget for a new copier to be used for Quiz. A new copier is very much needed.
  - **Motion by Melynda Ziehm PPC to approve the Quiz Rally budget as presented with the addition of \$200 added to the budget for the purchase of a new copier for Quiz. Second by Cindy Hogan. All in favor. Motion carries.**
- Quiz Silent Auction and Tack Sale Announcements – TBPC
  - The silent auction will again be handled by Stephanie.
- Quiz Dance Discussion
  - Maria is willing to organize the Dance at Quiz again this year. Last year we had iPod speakers and Maria donated glow sticks so the cost was \$0.
  - Discussion about a possible karaoke machine at this year's dance.
  - Wendy: This year at the dance special attention will be made to the entrances to the dance and who is coming and going, so that children do not leave the area unchaperoned.
  - Candy: Please also note Foxwood will be again doing the art and poetry contest. There were lots of younger member entries last year. This year we hope to see more entries from the 14-18 age group.
- **Omnibus Plans and budget** – Stacy Wonsey-Anderson
  - \$5 for a love ad. \$10 for a love ad with photo.
  - The goal this year is that each member obtain an ad (business, not love).
  - \$5 was included in the regional dues to pay for the Omnibus this year.
  - Stacy asks that all ads and photos be turned in by January 10. Please have one person from your club send all of your members' ads.
  - The plan is to move to full size and all color.
  - Discussion about moving to full size. Candy and others desire to keep it smaller size. Candy makes a motion to keep the Omnibus smaller size and then rescinded that motion after discussion.
  - Stacy: It is cheaper to print in full size. Stacy is doing all printing on her office printer with a cookbook style binding and thicker paper for front and back cover. This will help keep costs way down.
  - RS: Thank you Stacy for taking on this projection. It is a big one.
  - Ginger: If you need support, please reach out.
  - Amy Holland: This is a source of information. We should have an electronic version.
  - Stacy is offering both the hard copy and electronic version.
  - RS: In summary we want to support CMPC on the plan they have been working on.
  - **Motion by Heidi Miller (HVPC) to approve the Omnibus budget as presented. Second by Monica Spiers**

(MHIIPC). All in favor. Motion carries.

- EBTH Rally – TBPC with HMO
  - Jill Byard: We would love to see more participation from outside clubs.
  - TB is a beautiful area. Please come see us.
  - Possible date is May 9, 2020. More information to follow.
- Dressage Rally – GRPC lead organizer (MHIIPC hospitality, HHPC facilities) and SJ Rally – HVPC lead organizer (MHIIPC hospitality, HHPC facilities)
  - The date we are looking at is June 12-14, 2020. It will follow the same 1 day per discipline format as used in 2019. More information to follow.
- Hosting the Annual Symposium – Discussion
  - RS sent out an email yesterday to for folks to consider. Current board members would be willing to assist in 2024. Probably other GLRPC alumni and friends would be willing to help as well. There will be planning and work involved, although we will not be reinventing the wheel. The national office knows how to put this event on.
  - The opportunity to host would mean profits for our region from the silent auction and also foster enthusiasm in our region. Also, more of our own members would be able to attend the annual meeting.
  - The most obvious location is Detroit. Large airport nearby. Grand Rapids is also very nice, but flying into Grand Rapids is much more expensive.
  - We would not be making this decision, however. We inform the National Office that we are willing to host the annual meeting. If they choose our region then they have a team of people who would decide on the actual location.
  - Bridget Rodgers: The region hosting the silent auction gets to keep the proceeds? Yes. We also have to procure the items up for auction? Yes. Are there any other budget ramifications we have to consider – is there any negative financial risk to our region from hosting the annual meeting? No. There is further potential gain if we were to sell spirit wear, etc.
  - Would be on the hook for hosting in 2025 if we don't get picked for 2024? No. They rotate around to different geographic regions where the annual meeting is held.
  - Motion by Candy Tavormina (FWPC) that our Region applies to host the annual meeting for 2024. Second by Lisa McCormack. All in favor. Motion carries.
- **2020 Budget** – Wendy Willford and David Silver
  - Total loss budgeted for \$5,050
  - Champs camp in 2020 is one reason for the projected loss for the region in 2020.
  - Much of that is coming from expenses for champs.
  - We have nearly \$28,000 in the budget right now.
  - Most of the expenses for champs is for swag and coaches fees.
  - In the past few years, members have paid for coaching fees.
  - The champs budget will be presented in the spring meeting.
  - This budget is based off of the last festival year.
  - Wendy: We did break out instructional and testing expenses.
  - \$2,500 is also earmarked for the leadership retreat.
  - Rallies brought in \$2,000 in gain in addition to the competitors tax.
  - Melynda Z.: What is the minimum amount of funds we have should have in our account?
  - David: Cannot speak to when Jace was treasurer, but the account has not dipped below \$20,000 since David has been treasurer. Jace thought \$20,000 was needed to float all of our expenses.
  - RS: We generally see a greater reduction in our balance during festival years, but it gets built back up during non-festival years.
  - Wendy: Base amount usually kept in the account is \$15,000 - \$20,000. \$20,000 is a feel good place.
  - Lorri: There is duty within our group to be responsible for the numbers that were approved by the group as a whole.
  - RS: We strive to come under when we can.
  - Lisa McCormack: Since this is a champs/festival year more will be spent, but we also don't have a leadership retreat every year.
  - Ginger: Brings up that right now we only collect the competitors tax on region sponsored rallies. What about collecting a competitors tax on club sponsored events?
  - Brenda Tomlinson: If it is a champs qualifying rally, then it would be fair to charge the competitors tax for



club sponsored events.

- Wendy: Suggests the new board in 2020 consider whether to charge the competitors tax at club sponsored events.
- **Motion by Melynda Ziehm (PPC) to approve the 2020 budget as presented. Second by Katherine Kendall (RLPC). All in favor. Motion carries.**

- Champs Camp – OHPC

- RIC: We are looking at holding champs camp at Ginger Wisseman's (PPC) barn.
- The date is TBD.

- Nominating Chair presents **2020 Slate of GLR Officers for Election** – Alysia Apley

- The proposed slate of Board members for 2020 was emailed out on October 28.
- Nominations:
  - Regional Supervisor: Wendy Willford
  - Vice RS: Sharlee Lowe
  - Vice RS: Lorri Witkowski
  - HMO: Joint position with Alysia Apley and Stacy Wonsey-Anderson
  - Treasurer: Melynda Ziehm
  - Secretary: Cindy Hogan
  - RIC: Kerry McKinley
- No nominations from the floor.
- **Motion by Candy Tavormina to approve the slate of officers presented by the 2020 Nominating Committee. Second by Brenda Tomlinson. All in favor. Motion carries**
- **Results: By unanimous vote the proposed 2020 Regional Officer Slate is approved.**

Announcement of Appointed positions (RTC, JLC Liaison, Champs/Camp Liaison)

- Appointed positions announced by Wendy Willford:
  - Brenda Tomlinson will be the Regional Testing Coordinator
  - Brittany Weber will be the JLC Liaison
  - Linda Short Lowe will be the Club and Champs/Camp Liaison
- Recognition of volunteers – exiting Board members
  - Thank yous and gifts presented to our departing Board members.
- Reminders
  - USPC Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA, Jan. 29 – Feb. 2, 2020
  - Club reports due to USPC by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Background Checks reminder
  - Required Training reminder (Safesport)
- Announcements from the floor
  - Candy Tavormina (FWPC) – National Office annual fund
    - Don't forget considering giving to the national office annual fund. This is money that goes into the general fund for the national office. They are asking for a little more this year - \$65, as we coming up on PC's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
    - So far this year, five clubs in our region have donated to the annual fund: Pierport, Orchard Hill, Macatawaw, Foxwood and Huron Valley.
    - We ask that all clubs consider sending a donation.
  - Candy Tavormina (FWPC) – membership falling off
    - We know that membership drops off due to some perceived inconsistencies with HM. The National Office is taking a look at their National examiners. Something to think about is that instead of shooting for perfection, maybe shooting for the 80% range. Think about making HM not quite so hard, without lowering standards...
  - Candy - Other items
    - The National Office has also decided to keep Horsemasters as Horsemasters, instead of no longer differentiating our older, adult members.
    - Alex McKinley is on the National Youth Board. We need to think about encouraging other older members to consider applying Grace Mitchinson was recently accepted as well. This is a two year commitment.
    - Pony Club is looking at making changes to benefit our members with developmental disabilities. This issue is on their agenda, so expect to see changes in the future.
    - The highest participating group at champs is 14 year olds, C1 and C2.



- Meeting adjourned: 2:47 p.m.