

Bedford Equine Association

January 20, 2009

Location:

Bedford Administration Building – Training room

Attendance:

Standing room only – over 70 people

Handouts:

1. Sheet asking for contact info, equine/farm info, and request for input regarding activities of organization and what individuals had to offer organization
2. county political map

Meeting:

Power point presentation by Richard Toms assisted by Jody Toms.

- Impetus for organizing
- Identifying possible roles for organization

Some topics identified by audience:

- Need for a directory – brought up that takes money for publishing
- Need for getting youth engaged in equine activities
- Need for identifying and keeping open horse trails
- Need to identify those that are willing to do what organization wants to accomplish
- Need for clearinghouse for hay info
- Need for website – equine info related to all Bedford County activities, but also regional/state activities/issues
- Need for equine "liaison" to county

Bedford Fairground/Agricultural Exposition/horse show venue – facility development

- Mr. Stokes, director of Park & Recreation spoke and said he was very open to discuss the development of this type of facility with this organization.
- Point made that facility more likely to happen if it supports all agricultural/livestock activity in Bedford county
- Bedford county has at least ~125 acres (Adam's property?) available for this type of use.

Membership:

- Folks need to know what organization will do for its members
- Suggested membership available online using paypal account.

Funding:

- Several folks in audience recently had experience setting up 501C3 – cost will be ~ \$1000 or less.

Organizing:

- Missy Wade identified people willing to help establish by-laws
- Majority of yeah's in audience to let:
 1. Richard Toms perform presidential duties
 2. Missy Wade & Dr. McCabe be cosigners using Dr. McCabe's SSN for BEA bank account at Bank of the James for BEA monies until officers are elected.
- Vast majority are online for communication according to the show of hands

Next Meeting:

- Not identified – will be notified by email as noted on info sheets returned or phone call
- Suggested publishing meetings place/date/time in Bedford Bulletin.

Results:

- Consensus – enough interest for organization to exist
- Collected the info sheets at the exit for member/audience data to be analyzed
- \$60 collected in cash to be deposited in BEA Bank of the James bank account.