Call began at 7:00 pm

The call was recorded. The playback number is (605)562-0029. Meeting ID is 106513457

In attendance were:

Maureen McLaughlin, Belknap
Jack Thomas, Belknap
Karen Nass, Cheshire County
Theresa Barry, Coos County
Ramona Chessman, Coos County
Mary Daniels, Grafton County
Jo Gelinas, Hillsborough County
Cher Griffin, President, Hillsborough
Jolee Chase, UNHCE Hillsborough
Danielle Morano, Hillsborough
Patty Page, Merrimack County
Mary Davis, University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension

Updates:

Rhiannon will not be returning to the Animal and Agriculture Program Coordinator position. Cooperative Extension is evaluating how best to proceed to meet the needs of the program. Mary Davis will be continuing in a temporary capacity until a decision is made.

The Horse Approval form is in the process of revision. It may be possible to complete it online for 2015. If a member completes an old form, that will be accepted as proof of date, but it is possible that an updated form may be required.

Events:

Quiz Bowl
Quiz Bowl will be held on January 17th, 2015. The location will be either Penacook High School or Pembroke Academy. Andrea Kenter has volunteered to be Superintendent. Additional volunteers are needed.

Lizzie Morris will be a moderator
Maureen McLaughlin will volunteer to do registration and another job after registration is complete.
Jolee will check with Rhonda Watts-Hettinger to see if she is available. Danielle Morano will contact the 2014 NH team participants to see who can help.

Merrimack County will be offering their novice event for youth ages 8-11 (and novice members in their first year).

We will be having an activity room, and will need volunteers to help with those activities. Mary will send out emails to recruit volunteers.

**Summer and Fall 2014 events:**

**State Horse Show:** Sarah Vogel has offered to help. We will need many volunteers -- this will be further discussed at our February meeting.

**ESE (The Big E)** – Reports from youth and chaperones were that it went extremely well, with a great group this year. We had one extra teen leader because of the last-minute illness of a horse. The extra teen leader was very helpful, particularly since two states were short on teen leaders. They worked together to help things run smoothly for all.

Two small glitches at The Big E – Fitting and Showmanship on the first day ran late and some kids did not get to bed until 11:30 or later and the warm up for the trail class was the night before, so there was no time to warm up the morning of trail.

**Kentucky and NE Regional Horse Trip:** The NH Teams did well this year; Horse Bowl was 2nd at Regionals; Hippology was 4th at Regionals and 4th team overall in the judging phase in Kentucky with Maria Young the 7th individual in judging. Communications team had 1st place team presentation; 4th place demo and 2nd place speech at Regionals, with the NH alternate team demo being 4th at Regionals and the Speech also 4th at Regionals. In Kentucky the Individual Demo was 8th, Speech was 8th and Overall Communications team was 8th. Members going to Kentucky were Horse Quiz Bowl: Alicia Barry, Kelly Regan, Elyse Morano, Jack Thomas coached by Andrea Kenter and Danielle Morano. Hippology Team: Jackie Johnson, Courtney Schrempf, Cody Gleason and Maria Young coached by Mary Davis; Communications team: Lizzie Morrie (individual demo), Holly Testerman (speech), Amber Edmonds and Maryrae Holman (team demo) coached by Margaret Edmonds.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Quiz Bowl:** See above

**Hippology** – no date has been set yet. No county volunteered to host. It will likely be in Durham, if we can get the T-School facility. Several people asked that we try to avoid NH High School Equestrian Team Show Dates of April 11 & 18.
American Youth Horse Council Conference: The 4-H Foundation of NH has allocated a grant of $2500 for 2 youth and 1 adult chaperone to attend the conference. It will be held in Redmond Oregon. When researching flights and costs, it was found that the minimum cost for 3 people to attend (including air and ground transportation and conference registration, but not meals or pre-conference workshops), the cost will be at least $3,200 and the travel time will be at least 12 hours each way, with at least 2 changes of plane.

A discussion was held as to whether we should forego the trip for 2015. Wendy Brock, Executive Director of the 4-H Foundation of NH, said that each grant proposal is funded based on its merits, and foregoing the trip this year would not impact funding in the future.

Jo Gelinas will check to see if she can find out what the agenda (workshops) will be at the conference and where it will be held in 2016. The rumor is that it will be in Kentucky, which would be more affordable. She will report back by 12/1, an email discussion will be held with the Horse Advisory group and a decision will be made.

If we decide that the trip will go forward, the participants will need to fund the difference in cost will need to be paid by the participants. Youth participants will be chosen by resume, 4-H story and interview (similar to how participants are chosen for National 4-H Conference and 4-H Congress)

Several people have attended Everything Equine in April in Vermont (likely April 25-26). It is recommended as a great educational event/trade show as a possible alternative to AYHC.

Equine Science Weekend or Career Trip

Equine Science weekend will not be held as part of the UNH Equine Education Day and Hippology/Judging contest. We are exploring options for Equine Science Weekend and/or an Equine Career Trip later in the year. Those wishing to attend Equine Education day at UNH will be welcome for that day. More information will be forwarded as soon as UNH releases it.

There is the possibility of requesting funding from the 4-H Foundation of NH for the Career trip as an alternative to AYHC and Equine Science Weekend. More discussion to follow a decision about AYHC.

Next meeting is our annual all day meeting/work session on Saturday February 21st. A request was made to move the location to Boscawen. Mary will check into available locations and let the group know.

There was no other business. Call ended at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Davis