

Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue  
Spring Trustee Meeting April 9, 2016  
San Angelo, TX

Meeting called to order by Executive Director Mark Meyers at 8:00 pm

**Roll Call:**

Trustees present: Mark Meyers, Amy Meyers, Michele Halfmann, Zac Williams, Jack Yanez, Josh Meyers, Scott Jewett, Debbie Foley, Kevin Elliott, Dr. John Roueche, Gina Lea

**Old Business:**

Minutes from last meeting were read aloud and approved.

No other old business was brought forth.

**New Business:**

Mark Meyers reported on his and Amy's recent trip to Sint. Eustatius in the Caribbean. The donkeys, according to Mark, are extremely malnourished and the government has no plans to supplement their meager grazing. Without immediate assistance the entire population on the island is in danger.

Mark Meyers made a motion that \$25,000 be set aside for feed and materials to assist the local foundation.

Motion was seconded by Jack Yañez.

During the discussion Amy Meyers made it clear that Mark Meyers cannot take on this project as his fundraising and other duties would suffer. Jack Yañez offered the name of Donny Raymond as a person that could handle the project. It was agreed to offer the project to Donny Raymond.

The motion carried unanimously.

Mark Meyers informed the Trustees that PVDR has been invited to lecture and demonstrate at this year's Donkey Welfare Symposium in early October at Cornell University.

Mark made a motion to send four PVDR staff members and fly Richard Bruner to Cornell.

The motion was seconded by John Roueche.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Amy Meyers presented the 2015 budget along side the 2015 profit and loss report. PVDR exceeded its donation goal and kept costs within a +/-10% of the budget. As the 990 and audit have not been completed, they will be forwarded to the Trustees once completed.

The committee of un-paid Trustees chaired by Scott Jewett gave the committee's review of Executive Director Mark Meyers' compensation package. The committee found that Mark Meyers' package is comparable to other equine rescue CEOs but falls short of other non-profits that have the same annual revenue.

Scott Jewett motioned that Mark Meyers salary should be raised by \$8,000 per year.

Debbie Foley seconded the motion.

During the discussion Mark Meyers declined the offer.

No vote was called.

Mark Meyers made a motion to host PVDR's first Donkey Rescue Symposium and invite all of the Satellite Adoption Center Managers. It would be a great opportunity to educate, train and make the SACs feel more connected to the main organization. As many of the SAC Managers could not afford the expense, Mark Meyers asked for the following:

A travel fund of \$5,000 be set up for any SAC needing assistance.

All hotel rooms will be paid for by PVDR during the conference.

The Trustees will be flown out and the Fall Trustee Meeting will be held at the same time.  
Total cost should not exceed \$12,500  
Motion was seconded by Amy Meyers  
Motion carried unanimously.

Jack Yañez gave a brief report on the ranch operations. He did make mention that we need a second well brought into operation in case of failure on the primary. As no costs were available he pledged to investigate the matter fully and contact the Trustees via email once he had the information.

Zac Williams gave a brief report on the Sanctuary Project. We currently have 1,823 donkeys on 23 sanctuaries. He is visiting each sanctuary a minimum of four times per year with the land owners looking in on the donkeys on an almost daily basis.

Mark Meyers gave a report on our fundraising costs and explained that we have lowered our costs by 20%. He intends to continue his focus on web based fundraising as it is far cheaper than direct mail. He also presented a list of the grants he is currently applying for.

Scott Jewett was recognized and asked why PVDR does not do more event based fundraising. Mark Meyers explained that the people of West Texas have far too little appreciation of donkeys and former events were unsuccessful. He intends to get back on the public speaking circuit and raise interest that way.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle Helms", is written over a faint, circular official stamp. The stamp contains some illegible text around its perimeter.