

**Wellington
Equestrian Preserve Committee Meeting
October 2nd, 2019
Village Hall
12300 Forest Hill Boulevard**

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Chair Cleveland called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Jane Cleveland, Dr. Rachel Eidelman, Robert Bushey, Dr. Kristy Lund, Glen Fleischer, and Carlos Arellano were present. Annabelle Garrett was absent.

Staff present: Michael O'Dell, Ryan Harding, and D.J. Helkowski.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair

*Election was moved to after New Business.

Carlos Arellano nominated Jane Cleveland to retain her position as Chair. None were opposed, and Chair Cleveland retained her position. Robert Bushey nominated Glen Fleischer to retain his position as Vice Chair. None were opposed, and Vice Chair Fleischer retained his position.

IV. Remarks by Committee Chair

Vice Chair Fleischer made a motion to allow Annabelle Garrett join the meeting by phone, which Robert Bushey seconded. The vote was 4-2, and the motion failed because it needed to be unanimous to pass.

V. Additions/Deletions/Reordering of Agenda

Election of Committee Chair and Vice Chair was moved to after New Business. A motion to approve the February, March, April, and May 2019 EPC minutes was made by Glen Fleischer. Robert Bushey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

VI. New Business

Chair Cleveland gave the floor to Ryan Harding and Michael O'Dell to present the data from the completed Equestrian Venues Data and Horse Count Estimates report. Harding began by thanking the committee for the data that they had provided. Harding stated that the report was a combination of equestrian event, stall count and livestock waste data. Chair Cleveland broadly asked if the committee should go beyond Wellington and look for data elsewhere in Palm Beach County. Vice Chair Fleischer responded that it depends on what the committee's goal with the data is. Michael O'Dell stated that Wellington is an equestrian industry driver, but isn't an island as there are nearby equestrian communities that have an effect on the Village. O'Dell later stated that in order to collect and analyze data from other sources around the county, direction to do so must be given from council.

The committee's main contention with the report is that the data showing a decline in polo tournaments doesn't reflect what they have seen in person. The committee agreed that the cause for the suspected under reporting of polo data is likely a large number of matches going unsanctioned by the USPA. Michael

O'Dell stated that while the report will not capture everything, if we could obtain data for a base line such as UPSA sanctioned events, that would allow us to get a true sense of the health of the industry in Wellington. Robert Bushey agreed, adding that the IPC said they had more teams last year than ever before. O'Dell later stated that the report, regardless of polo numbers, shows that the Equestrian industry as a whole in Wellington is growing. He then added that with growth of the industry in Wellington, which acts as an industry hub, may come further infrastructure needs that have to be met. Jane Cleveland made the suggestion that the committee invite polo venue operators (from WEF, Grand Champions, White Fences, Palm City, Jim Brandon, etc.) to give their thoughts on the polo data collected in the report. Michael O'Dell said that he will extend invites to venue operators to attend the next meeting.

VII. Staff Comments

Ryan Harding and Michael O'Dell presented Articles 6, 9, 10, and 11 of the proposed Land Development Regulations. Dr. Lund requested that the property development regulations for Little Ranches to remain as they are currently, keeping kennels and the 1 unit per 5 acres.

VIII. Board Comments

There were no board comments.

IX. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Jane Cleveland, Chair

D.J. Helkowski, Recording Secretary