

## MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting Date:** February 25, 2024

**Meeting Time:** 7:00pm

**Meeting Location:** Virtual

**Meeting Attendees:** Kimberly, Karen, Christina, Crystal

**Meeting Regrets:** Jasmine, Jessica

This meeting was called to order at 7:10pm. EST.

### Agenda Review / Additions

One addition to the agenda, of the Reinventing Racehorses Trainers Challenge.

### Main Discussion Topics and Action Items

#### 1. Horse Updates

Kimberly provided an update on all horses currently in New Start's program.

Gananoque foster, one more listed for adoption that was on rehabilitation list (Ms Lis M). One incoming to that program within the next week or so due to the owner's death. Do not have details on freeze brand as the current caretakers do not have clippers to clip and identify.

Peterborough foster, two waiting on veterinary assessments for quality of life in the coming weeks. Moved two from here to the Newmarket foster so that it frees up a paddock for the stallion who's owner passed away. Moved two mares that can actively be available for adoption and get some under saddle work - so a win, win for both fosters and the horses. A potential home offer for Ontheclock Hanover and Atomic Yankee has come up with one of the adopters, they will share more over the coming weeks to see if those two are potential fits.

Campbellford foster, veterinary appointment tomorrow for Spicey Victor, Beauty Delight and Miss Toupie Girl. Will get updates on how that goes. Lynx's dental surgery was pushed to Feb 29 due to a change in the dentist's schedule. Hoping for a good outcome so that he can be fully ready to find a home. Lyon's Rock now up for adoption after his visit to University of Guelph, but still awaiting the notes from the visit to be able to share with potential adopters.

Newmarket foster, new setup and working well. Quickly filling up with space, now have Mister Big Top as well as Zorgwijk Delicate and Rose Master MC, as above. Topper is doing well, typical adjustments for the new just off the track retirees. He's learning how to be barefoot and learning how to use different muscles. Likely middle/end of March he will be able to go up for adoption.

Other horses, Funny Magic, alleviated the risk of needing her a new home quickly and she is settled into a solution until a home that fits her comes about.

One disappointing update is Caicos Bay and the results from his x-rays. Discussing with his foster mom on best steps and next actions - but quality of life is a big conversation here and what's best for him.

Do need to discuss Americam Idol with his foster, have to look at adoption or if he can be listed.

Adoptions have slowed in February, not a surprise - January was abnormal. Still got a lot of horses homed that were in need of quick placements. Hoping that March will start to be more settled and we can focus on streamlining a plan for fosters and intake.

Pulled three horses from kill pens. Lightning Charger will be returning to Ontario to foster with our Peterborough foster home, they remember him and were grooming in the same barn he was in when he was racing. Extreme Measure will be going back to the Maritimes, he will be fostering with his old racing connections while he rehabilitates, and then will go up for adoption. Ultimate Art will be returning to either Ontario or the Maritimes depending on how fundraising goes. Charger and Art still need funding. This is a \$4,000 per horse venture. Likely have to help a fourth horse as well, Warrawee Impulse, going back to previous connections but they will also need fundraising aid.

## **2. Financial Position**

Lynx tooth extraction is likely going to be around \$2,000. Lyon's Rock and his UofG appointment was much less than anticipated thankfully. We were able to successfully get a grant/donation from PetLifeAnimal Fund to cover both Lynx and Lyon's Rock veterinary appointments. Have upcoming veterinary expenses and some trailering expenses. Need to look at sorting out some fundraising ideas. The 2023 tax return is complete and submitted this week; Kimberly noted this is the first time the organization has done more than \$100,000 in income/expenses and it's amazing how the organization is growing and the support base growing. Such an honour and a privilege to be part of this team.

## **3. Maritimes Update**

Christina provided the Maritimes update. Have been able to put together a small funding base in case any emergencies come up, to be used towards securing a foster care placement. Working on fundraising for the Maritimes horses, Extreme Measure, who is fully funded, and now Ultimate Art. Were able to place two horses from their owners into new homes. Truro Racetrack has secured a date to do a fundraising day, with more details coming in the next couple weeks. Also signed up to attend Equine Review in May. Making some really good connections within the racing community and building a support network.

## **4. Reinventing Racehorses Trainers Challenge**

Kimberly discussed the trainers challenge, that this has been a vision for many years ever since being part of a similar project back in 2017. Could see it being such a successful opportunity to showcase the breed and the opportunity for growth and building is there. Need to secure sponsors to offset the costs, so that is first priority. An excellent opportunity for race owners, trainers, etc. to support aftercare. Looking at a virtual finale so that the four chosen trainers can be from anywhere in Ontario or the Maritimes, and not have to worry about the added costs of shipping in. All four horses will then be part of the adoption program or go to foster care if they are not adopted at the finale.

## **5. Can-Am**

Deferred, Jessica was not in attendance to provide an update.

Meeting adjourned 9:45pm.