



**Equine Immersion Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Date: June 23, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM EST

Location: Virtual

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tara Mahoney at 6:04 PM EST.

2. Roll Call / Determination of Quorum

Present: J Grant, Liza Benson, Dennis Hart, Marge Hart, Scott Brockelman, Kelly MacCorquodale, Tara Mahoney

Excused: Kathleen McDonough, Ellen Bailey, Tom Carroll

Board Members Liza Benson and Tom Carroll have met their one year obligation and will be advisors to the board.

3. Agenda Edits / Additions

Additions to Old Business:

- Legal Settlement
- Texas A&M Grant Discussion
- VA-Equine-25 grant discussion

Motion to approve the agenda as amended:

- **1st:** Dennis Hart
- **2nd:** Scott Brockelman

- **Motion passed unanimously.**
-

4. Consent Agenda

Approval of April 10, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

- **1st:** J Grant
 - **2nd:** Marge Hart
 - **Motion passed unanimously.**
-

5. Action Items / Task Force Reports

A. Finance Committee – Marge Hart, Kelly MacCorquodale, Ellen Bailey

- CPA Mark Feraco of Brayman, Houle, Keating has been secured.
- Tax extension submitted and confirmed.
- Taxes due: October 18, 2025.
- Financial data to be prepared for August board review.

B. Governance Committee

- Continued discussion on Private Foundation vs. Public Charity designation.
- Tara researching board training practices and consulting with peer organizations.
- Goal: confirm positioning by year-end and finalize goals for 2026.
- Possible board development prospects: Meeghan O'Donnell, Fred Schempp.
- Recruitment materials for potential board members to include mission alignment and goal-oriented packages.
- Tentative governance planning session: September 2025.

C. Marketing Committee

- Pitch deck reviewed and proposed in attachments.
 - Strategic discussion around board recruitment and fundraising positioning.
 - Exploring grants, including VA Adaptive Sports Grant.
-

6. New Business

- **VA-EQUINE-25 Adaptive Sports Grant**

- Motion: The Equine Immersion Foundation will apply for the VA Adaptive Sports Grant Program (Equine Therapy Grant) through the SEAL Veterans Foundation, Funding Opportunity Number VA-Equine-25, Assistance Listing Number 64.034.

1st: Marge Hart

2nd: J Grant

Motion passed unanimously.

- **SWAM Gold Star Tribute Dinner – July 12**

- Table approved. Attendees: Hans Ruediger, Marjorie Ruediger, Thomas Gilroy, Jamey Barton, Tara, Kelly, Scott, Davina, J Grant, Randy Makee (Exec Director of NH Aerospace and Defense Consortium)

- **Run to Home Base – July 26**

- Participants: Tara, Ellen and family, Michelle and Paul.
- Pre-race gathering at Blue Sky on July 25.

- **Israel Collaboration – Postponed.**

- The existing training model (used for Ukraine) may be adapted for local implementation.

- **Ft. Stewart, Georgia Collaboration – Tentatively scheduled for September.**

- Partnership with Georgia Equine Rescue League (funding secured) and Trotter's Walk (horse farm near the base) site secured.

7. Old Business

- **McLean** – Invoice paid; new bill received. Tara to follow up.
- **Texas A&M Grant** – Potential discussed; to be revisited after graduation season.

8. Financial Report

- **Current Checking Account Balance:** \$33,410.32
- Hiring a bookkeeper aligns with bylaws.
- Potential to engage a finance expert for board development.

- Kelly and Marge to coordinate the preparation and delivery of financials for future meetings.
-

9. Next Meeting

Date: July 28, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM EST

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chair Tara Mahoney at **7:36 PM EST**.