

Racing Committee Minutes

May 7, 2009 – 4:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Veitch; Supervisors Hargrave, Southworth, Wood and Yepsen; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Ed Lewi, Amanda Lesi, Ed Lewi Associates.

Chairman Veitch called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mr. Wood the minutes of the April 2, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mr. Lewi distributed the schedule for the Saratoga Racetrack season between July 29th and September 7th.

Proud to be an American Day has been scheduled for September 2nd. Sponsorships are \$3,000.

A new event this year is College Day. The way the event will work is if there are eight races there will be \$8,000 to give away. Students will have to have their College ID to get into the track free. Each student will submit his or her name, and after each race a name will be pulled. The winner will receive a \$1,000 cash scholarship.

August 30th will be Saratoga County Day, where any resident of Saratoga County with proper ID will get into the track free. In the Paddock tent, which holds 400 people, there will be a BBQ for \$28/person. The proceeds will go to a local charity.

There will be opportunity for each municipality in the county to have a display free of charge. NYRA will supply 8ft. tables.

There will be at least five named races. Mr. Lewi said he would leave choices of the named races up to the Racing Committee. Mr. Veitch suggested separating the towns into geographic sections, i.e. North, South, East and West, suggesting that the first race could be called the Northern towns of Saratoga County with the towns named individually, etc. The fifth race could be entitled “The Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Race”.

Mr. Wickerham said he would work with the Clerk of the Board to establish the names of the races.

Mr. Hayward will be hosting a luncheon for members of the Racing Committee as VIP’s for the day.

Mr. Veitch gave a brief update on State tax payments from NYRA as follows:

County Treasurer, Sam Pitcherelle said that the County billed the State for property taxes per the franchise agreement in February.

A letter was received from the County Treasurer stating that the County had sent out the bill of \$597,799.89 which consisted of \$172,245.10 county tax; \$305,561.58 city tax; a relieved utility of \$119,193.21. The utility was paid by NYRA, however, the remaining \$477,806.68 has yet to be paid by the State. The time frame of 60 days has lapsed.

Mr. Veitch said discussion would take place with the County Treasurer at the next meeting with regard to what options might be available to the County.

On a motion made by Mr. Hargrave, seconded by Mrs. Southworth the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom