

Muskegon County Fair Association

MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2017

Directors present: *Scott Erdman, Christy Deal, Jason Deal, Shirley Thompson, Alicia Kantola, Stacy Skilling, Cindy Rhine, Christ Knight, Amy Gerwig, Brian McFarren, Sarah Knight, Tanya Horne and Nancy Smith*
Directors absent: *Josh Mueller, Kelly Johnson, Jenny Erffmeyer, Heidi Raap, Melissa Morgan*
Fair Association members present: *Marve Engle*

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President, Scott Erdman, followed by roll call.

Secretary's Report: Emailed out by Christy Deal. Shirley Thompson made a motion to accept the secretary report; Jason Deal supported. All voted in favor and motion carried.

Treasury Report: Presented by Brian McFarren. Motion made by Jason Deal to accept the treasurer's report. Seconded by Chris Knight. All were in favor, motion was carried.

Special Speaker:

- John Cramblett – Sportsman for Youth representative. John wanted to clarify that the event will be on September 9, 2017 and that they are not linked with Pheasants Forever.
- Katelyn Stevens – Katelyn came representing the 4-H Ambassadors. The ambassadors are requesting to hold the 4-H Vendor show in the inner circle of the Fairgrounds. Motion made by Jason Deal to allow them to hold the vendor show in the inner circle. Seconded by Nancy Smith. All voted in Favor. Motion was carried.
- Rebecca Skuse – Rebecca came to present her handicapped camping request and to request an early entry time on Friday (10:00 AM). Rebecca will be notified that her early entry request cannot be granted at this time. A certified letter will also be sent to address some concerns from last year.
- Haunted Hall – Currently seeking an alternate system for fire suppression, or a more affordable way to fund the \$20,000 cost of the suggested system. Haunted Hall did express many thanks for the Fairboard working with them on this.

OLD BUSINESS

Online Administrator / Advertising – Website is Up to date. Billboards were discussed as the price is 2/\$1750 or 10/\$5000. The motion was made by Jason Deal to get 2 billboards and an additional 100 yard signs that do not have dates, but say Last Week of July. Seconded by Alicia Kantola. All voted in favor, motion was carried. This would allow us to reuse the signs year to year. It was discussed that a club could volunteer to put the signs up and then take them down after Fair and return them to the office in exchange for a donation from the Fairboard. Katelyn Stevens will send out an email to all the 4-H clubs once the signs are in. Brian McFarren will ask Sportsman for Youth for their Sign map so we do not have to recreate one.

Finance Committee – Muskegon County approved the matching funds that were donated by a private individual for the MDARD Campground Grant.

Vendor Committee – We currently have 5 food vendors for the Fair. The Ice Cream lady and the Elephant Ear Stand will not be coming back. We do have 2 new vendors to take their place. One has elephant ears. The other is a BBQ/Brisket style vendor. We have 2 commercial vendors. One is Farm Bureau. The second is outdoor adventures. Outdoor adventures has requested to host a drawing for a free campsite. Alicia made a motion to allow them to give away a free campsite. Amy seconded. All voted in Favor. Motion was carried.

Awards / Premiums – Ribbons are ordered. Trophies Amy is waiting for the final sponsor list to have them engraved.

Arts & Talent Committee –Nothing to report

Shooting Sports – New Archery targets were ordered.

Small Animal Committee – The Fair Open Dog show will be July 8 at the Fairgrounds.

Livestock Committee –

- The Swine Division will be cementing the area from the wash racks out 15 feet and even to the show arena. Prep work will be Thursday evening, cement will be poured Saturday morning. After some discussion, Alicia made a motion to have Fairboard purchase the conduit outlet to run under the cement. Seconded by Jason Deal. All voted in Favor. Motion was carried.
- The superintendent for Showman of Showman has requested that the start time be moved up to 2 pm Friday.
- There will be an additional Fair prep on Saturday July 15 @ 8 am for anyone who missed Fairgrounds Clean up.
- Livestock Committee will be putting up vent fans on the ends of 2 barns. Brian will ask if we need County Permission before they are installed. This will allow the hot air to be removed from the barns in a more efficient manner.

Fair Event Committee –

- We need someone to take on Ag Olympics this year or we cannot have it. Katelyn Stevens will send out an email to all 4-H Clubs. Christy will ask Jenny to put it out on the Fairgrounds Facebook page also.

Public Relations & Service – Nothing to Report

Horse Committee:

- Party in Park – rough estimate for profit is \$7200.
- Nancy presented a check to Brian for \$3000 from the sale of some of the old horse panels.
- 3 big shows coming up this weekend. A speed show Friday night, and the state 4-H qualifying show Saturday and Sunday, that will be ran along with an open show.

Site & Grounds-

- The red metal fence for the SJO track is going back up Saturday from 9-3.
- Brian McFarren presented a campground layout. 38 new sites will go in the center wooded area that Chris Knight is currently clearing. The last 12 sites will go on the backside of the pines south east of the fair office. Motion made by Alicia Kantola to accept the proposal, seconded by Shirley Thompson. All voted in favor. Motion was carried.
- Circus pages will be at the Fairgrounds the Sunday of fair week up by the Updyke Building. Brian has also offered them the Monday of fair week since we have no grandstand events for Monday.
- All fairgrounds fire extinguishers have been inspected and are in working order.
- Winter storage – there are some discussions with the Fruitport Fire Marshall whether or not a fire suppression system is required for winter storage. If this is required, we will no longer be able to do winter storage.

Fair Camping– Autumn Borgman will organize the west campground. Nancy Smith will organize the south. All camping requests will go to Brian, he will then distribute them to Autumn and Nancy. Autumn will organize the west sites and Brian Wolford will check people in.

Fairgrounds Calendar – No changes

Volunteer Time Sheets – Turn them In.

NEW BUSINESS

Brining Hilton Park Driveway – A complaint was made to the county that dust from the Fairgrounds driveway was blowing into neighboring homes. Marve suggested getting with the road commission to request that it be brined. Nancy has called Ken Hulka in the past.

Brian made a motion to allow Mary Wiltenberg to camp free of charge during fair week as she is the supporting photographer (Elizabeth Kurtz). Alicia seconded. All were in favor. Motion was carried.

Angela DeCormier was present to discuss golf cart options for her daughter, Savanna Cooper. Savanna was in a serious auto accident and is non weight bearing on her leg for 6-8 weeks. This is the last year Savanna is eligible for Fair. After some discussion, Angela will review the golf cart permit and map on the fairgrounds website and come back to the group.

It was mentioned by Monte Gerwig that the goat panels are in the wrong building. The inanimate tables are also in the wrong building. Brian will get with the tractor people so that we can get these items back into their correct buildings.

Marve Engle reminded everyone about the County Picnic on August 5 at the Fairgrounds. Brian will collect a count of board members who will attend and get to Marve by the end of the week.

Motion made by Chris Knight at 9:05 p.m. to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Jason Deal. All voted in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the fairgrounds office.

Respectfully Submitted by: *Christy Deal*