

po box 513 • Greenville, MI 48838

Montcalm County Fair Association Board Meeting

November 06, 2017 Ash Building

Montcalm County Fairgrounds, Greenville, MI

The meeting was called to order by President Melissa Eldridge at 7:06pm.

Board members present were;

Melissa Eldridge, Brian Plank, Jennifer Senn, Roger Coles, Jason Nadeau, Todd Hetherington, Lisa Johnson, Amy Bell, Lee Rasmussen, Holly Esterling, Brad Heft, Carrie Harkness, Mike Tronson, Melanie Rodenhouse.

Absent:

Shaun Bartolo

Others present were:

Kadren Grawburg, Mary Gee, Michelle Nitengale, Shari Potter

New members were welcomed and the Oath of Office was recited.

Jason Nadeau – Incumbent

Lee Rasmussen – Incumbent

Amy Bell

Brad Heft

Carrie Harkness

Motion by Todd Hetherington, support by Lee Rasmussen to approve the Secretary’s minutes from the June meetings. Motion carried.

Motion by Lee Rasmussen, support by Todd Hetherington to put the financials on file. Motion carried.

**Extension Office**:

* Kadren reminded everyone of online 4-H re-enrollment deadline of December 1st.
* Sign-up for Winterfest is approaching – sign up soon this one fills quickly
* Talks of having a workshop “Being Healthy” topics would cover animal health, safety and regulations pertaining to animal care.
* 2018 Fair Theme Contest deadline is approaching – needing more entries
  + Discussion was had in regard to discontinuing the fair theme
    - Support:
      * Cost of changing decorations every year to accommodate the theme
      * Time could be utilized towards projects
    - Against:
      * Brought fair family together
      * Marketing tool
      * Participation is optional
  + Board passed discussion on to the marketing committee for further discussion and resolution

**Executive Committee** –

* 2017-2018 Budget was presented. Motion by Brian Plank, support by Lee Rasmussen to approve the Budget as presented. Motion carried.
* 120-day report was approved by executive committee and signed
* 2016 audit was presented with documentation. Motion by Lee Rasmussen, support by Mike Tronsen to approve the 2016 Audit with the presented documentation. Motion carried.
* Deadline for the 2017 audit is set for March 1st, 2018

**Buildings, Grounds & Construction Committee** –

* Bathhouse continues to move forward – Base, footings, & First row of block have been lain
  + Discussion on septic system in regard to the health department has concerns that it is not big enough. Their concerns are based on misinformation. 4 phone calls have been made to confirm that the septic systems meet the health departments requirements.
* Water lines have all been blown out and are ready for winter.
* The banners need to be removed from buildings and exterior fencing
* Received (2) bids on the wheelchair access ramp
  + Wooden deck - $5,000
  + Aluminum deck - $14,000
  + Roger to check on actual requirements for wheel chair access per the ADA
* Discussion on getting/building a movable shed located at main entrance to house money/tickets/parking passes and to post signs in regard to alcohol/tobacco use/ and concealed weapons. Lee Rasmussen is going to work on a plan and present to board at next meeting.

**Budget & Audit Committee** –

* See Executive Committee notes

**Judges** –

* Jenn Senn requested when committees send over their judge request to please include phone numbers.
* Still need judges for – Rabbits, Poultry, & Dogs

**Membership – NA**

**Concessions & Grandstand** –

* Amy Bell to work with Sandy Smith on organizing vendors
* Discussion on changing entertainment for 2018 some suggestions:
  + Mudrun – Sunday
  + Truck/Tractor Pulls – Sunday
  + Demolition Derby would remain on Saturday
* Need a group to run the parking
  + Market as a fundraising opportunity
  + Need to have members 16 years and older
  + 10 people or more is ideal to rotate shifts
  + Sunday – Saturday 9AM – 9PM

**Fairbook** –

* Michell Nitengale and Melanie Rodenhouse are working together to rewrite the fairbook

**Awards/Trophies** –

* Holly is working on a presentation on offering different options for the champion awards & Sweepstakes
* Buckles were a big hit for showmanship

**Rental Committee**-

* Shari Potter reported the committee lost 2 members (Jay Smith & Amy Homich). Anyone interested in joining the committee please contact Shari or a fairboard member.
* Need to re-locate the tractor for winter storage – Todd is going to take care of this
* Budgets were discussed
  + Need to get a resolution to manure pit issue – removal
* DNR meeting had over 400 people present
* Numerous weddings and 4H events have been scheduled already
  + 22 Rentals so far for 2018
  + From January 2017 to current we have taken in $45,000 on rentals
* Request to purchase a new refrigerator to replace the failing one in prep Kitchen
  + Request approved
* The furnace vents have been cleaned are now operational

**Marketing Committee**:

* Committee is looking for a new chairperson – Amy Homich stepped down from this position
* Needing to schedule a meeting

**New Business**:

* MAFE – January 11-14, 2018 held in Grand Rapids
  + Motion was made by Roger and supported by Lee for the fairboard to pay for Member & Spouse’s entry Badges ($65.00 ea) and banquet tickets ($25.00 ea). Any member/Spouse who does not show up will have to reimburse the fairboard the cost of unused badges/tickets. Motion carried
  + Lisa was taking hotel reservations for those that were planning on staying overnight. These needed to be made ASAP as they sell out fast
* Election of officers:
  + President
    - Todd nominated, Lisa Supported - Mellissa Eldridge – Accepted
    - Nominations were closed and a unanimous vote was cast and approved
  + Vice President
    - Melanie Nominated, Lee supported – Brian Plank – Accepted
    - Nominations were closed and a unanimous vote was cast and approved
  + 2nd Vice President
    - Lisa nominated, Mike supported – Todd Heatherington – Accepted
    - Nominations were closed and a unanimous vote was cast and approved
  + Secretary
    - Melissa nominated, Jason supported – Holly Esterling – Accepted
    - Nominations were closed and a unanimous vote was cast and approved
  + Treasurer
    - Todd nominated, Jason supported – Lisa Johnson – Accepted
    - Nominations were closed and a unanimous vote was cast and approved
* Jason is to come up with a revised proposal for the mandatory 2-hour work detail
* Discussion on the Board rule stating that a member cannot miss more than 4 consecutive meetings. If this occurs the board has the right to vote in a replacement.

Next Meeting Date – 12/04/17

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:48PM by Mike Tronsen, Supported by Lee Rasmussen

Respectfully submitted by Holly Esterling, Secretary