

po box 513 • Greenville, MI 48838

Montcalm County Fair Association Board Meeting

February 05, 2018 Ash Building

Montcalm County Fairgrounds, Greenville, MI

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Brian Plank at 7:05pm.

Board members present were;

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

Absent:

Melissa Eldridge, Amy Bell,

Others present were:

Sheri Potter, Kim Thompsen, Mary Gee

Motion by Roger Coles, support by Lee Rasmussen to approve the Secretary’s minutes as addended from the January meeting.

Addendum stated as follows:

* Motion was made by Brian Plank, Support by Amy Bell to setup a separate account under the Agricultural Committee for the Horse area rentals. This will operate under the Fair Association Tax ID #. Melissa Eldridge, Amy Bell & Rachelle Croy, to be signers on the account – Motion Carried.

-Motion carried.

Motion by Todd Heatherington support by Mike Tronsen to put the financials on file. Motion carried.

**Extension Office**:

* Breakfast & Auction is March 24th
* Livestock Committee enforcing all the pig showmen must be PQA certified. Terin is still certified to give this class until April 31st.

**Executive Committee**:

* Swearing in of Amy Homich

**Buildings, Grounds & Construction Committee**:

* Discussed water issue behind building. Postponing the gutters. Scope of work to fix is being sent out for bids.
* List of age appropriate jobs for the service work
* Working with rental committee to decide who gets to drive the tractor. Need to have designated people.
* Minor repairs in the building – Lee Rasmussen and Amy Bell have volunteered to paint the main entrance and fix drywall.
  + Cost of purchasing paint - $350 – Satin Finish – 2 colors
  + Motion by Mike Tronsen to purchase paint and supplies at Jerry’s Paint Store up to $650.00. Support by Todd Hetherington – Motion Carried
* Moving forward with Handicap access at the bleachers.
  + Specs have been received. A quote and drawings could be received by end of February.
* Bath house is on schedule – payments have been made towards purchased materials that are in storage and progress billing for completed work. May 31st deadline is still obtainable per General Contractor.

**Rental Committee**:

* Report presented by Melanie Rodenhouse.
  + There was $655.00 in rentals for January from Crystal Motor speedway banquet
  + Upcoming events
    - Flat River Ducks Unlimited Banquet - $682.50
    - Lakeview Sports Booster Banquet - $682.50
    - 4H Pancake breakfast fundraiser - $50.00
  + Shari received 8 signed contracts and gave 6 facility tours
* Recommendation from rental to increase rental rates starting in November 2018 – Recommendation approved
* Shari met with Chad Kaminski with GR Bride/WMWA (West Michigan Wedding Association) to discuss hosting a bridal show at the Ash building.
* Committee approved to join the WMWA with a standard membership fee of $250. – This will help promote the venue
* Committee approved to participate in a wedding giveaway at the February 24,2018 GR Bridal Show at the Delta-plex in Grand Rapids
* Committee approved to advertise venue on The Knot website at no cost.
* Working with buildings and grounds committee to get painting and drywall repairs done in main lobby also to get outdoor lighting fixed on Ash building

**Budget & Audit Committee**:

* The committee met – Lisa, Sandy, and Jay met and completed an audit. Sent a copy of the audit onto Melissa Eldridge.
  + Motion by Carrie Harkness to table the presentation of the audit to review current audit and have Jay and Sandy present the findings. Supported by Roger Coles - Motion Carried
  + Jay to e-mail findings to board members and present at the next meeting

**Judges**:

* Jenn still needs sheep judge number
* Recommendations for Dairy and Rabbit.
* Looking for ½ day judge for horses.
* Contracts have been Received from 4 horse judges, 2 dog judges,

**Concessions & Grandstand**:

* Presented by Melanie – We do not need any more food vendors
* Grandstand events are updated on
  + Sunday – Troyer’s demolition – Start time at 5:00pm –
  + Monday – Antique Tractor pulls
  + Tuesday – Poor man pullers
  + Wednesday - Pro-Am Horse show
  + Thursday – Livestock Sale
  + Friday – MWTA Truck pulls
  + Saturday – Demolition Derby
* Football coach from Greenville High School will have parents and team members will cover the parking.

**Fairbook:**

* Fairbook is completed

**Showorks:**

* Motion by Jenn Senn and support by Lee Rasmussen to approve $250.00 to send a member of the Showorks committee to Cody, Wyoming to workshop amended by Amy Homich to increase the amount to $500.00 Supported by Lisa Johnson. Further funds to be petitioned to Livestock committee, Council, Horse leaders,
  + Support – 6
  + Oppose – 4
  + Motion carries

**Awards/Trophies**:

* Holly presented options of different awards that would be offered for Sweepstakes showmanship, Best of Breed, Versatility, Supreme Champion, Best of show, Leadership & 4-Her of the year.
* Board agreed if committee maintains within budget the decision of awards would be at the descression of the awards committee.

**Marketing Committee**:

* Presented by Amy Homich – Going to be meeting 6:00 prior to fairboard meeting.
* Bath-house fundraising
  + Update $60,000 short of needed funds
  + Brick campaign is being promoted – letter has been revised and is going to be sent out to 4H families
  + Looking into local grants
  + Lisa noted that she has potentially sold 15 campsites. Potential buyers have been given until February 15 to pay their $500 initial payment. This could generate $22,500 over a 3-year period
* Fair Sponsorship discussion and update:
  + 2017 fair raised $35,292.50
  + Amy to revise 2018 fundraiser form and Alyssa to make a google doc for sponsorship and letter tracking
  + Tagline for Fair advertising is “No Place like our Fair”
  + Committee came up with these 3 Internal Fair themes - choices at the meeting:
    - 1. Farm. Fresh. Fun – 0 Votes
    - **2. Country Pride, County Wide.  – 7 votes**
    - 3. Fun for the whole herd. – 3 votes

**New Business**:

* Kim Thompsen representing the F4EC (Friends of 4H, Extension & Conversation) had questions about what It would cost the Friends of 4H booth at the fairground. Since the fair is non-profit we can not offer them a free booth for political views.
  + Questions was asked in regard to location of booth.
  + An option for promotion was to have a combine derby heat. A combine has been donated for promotion of the cause.
* Building out front by gates
  + Lee Rasmussen proposed Ticket booth by gate – on wheels – steel siding to match buildings

Next Meeting Date – 03/05/2018

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:39 PM by Lee Rasmussen, Supported by Roger Coles

Respectfully submitted by Holly Esterling, Secretary