

po box 513 • Greenville, MI 48838

Montcalm County Fair Association Board Meeting

January 6, 2020 Ash Building

Montcalm County Fairgrounds, Greenville, MI

The meeting was called to order by Todd at 7:03 pm

Board members present were;

Lisa Johnson, Brad Heft, Tammi Jahnke, Jenn Senn**,** Shaun Hyde, Todd Hetherington, Mike Jensen, Becca Merrin, Amy Bell, Lisa Johnson, Lee Rasmussen, Cheryl Rosso, Mary Newman, Jason Nadeau

Absent: Melissa Eldridge, Lee Rasmussen

Others present were:

Tarin Minkel, Dave Harper, Kim Bunker

Sec. Report: Minutes not emailed due to computer issues. Cheryl will email asap. Hard copies distributed. Motion by Carrie 2nd Mike J to approve minutes, motion carried

Financials: Lisa reported Ash Foundation account is still not correct. Will continue working on this. Tammi pointed out comparison on P&L was also incorrect; Lisa will fix. Carrie asked about horse barn addition to see if that was taken care of. There may still be some outstanding; Lisa will check with Melanie. There may be more grant money to come in due to some additional bills. Motion by Carrie to place financials on file, 2nd Jason. Motion carried.

There was a new computer purchased. Carrie moved to reimburse Lisa for the cost, 2nd Tammi, motion passes

**Guest Comments**

* Kim reported we have 4Hers that will be going on a shark experience (Ocean Explorers) in February.
* Dave Harper
  + Poor Man Pullers
    - Wants to do another pull this year. Cost will continue to be $300.
    - Motion to sign contract for Tuesday, June 23, 2020 by Carrie, 2nd Tammi. Motion carries
    - Todd signed contract

**Extension Office**:

* Tarin has plat books checks for Lisa. New plat books will be printed soon.
* Working with Sheriffs dept and DNR for boater and ORV safety training, also working with Farm Bureau on farm safety course.
* Sunday the 19th is youth livestock committee meeting. They will be doing a parli pro training.
* Shooting sports club on Jan. 19 (beyond archery). Separate from archery. Minimum age is 8 for shooting sports.

**Executive Committee**:

* No meeting.

**Budget & Audit Committee**:

* Lisa needs to get going on audit. Tammi suggested getting everything and doing all the auditing at once. Would like an additional person. Mary will assist.

**Buildings, Grounds & Construction Committee**:

* Todd reported the tractor is repaired; safety switch had gone bad. All pig equipment was put back inside.
* Amy said the gate in back was open. Amy put a new chain and put the padlock back on. May have been from the fire department. Todd also mentioned we should let the fire department know they can pull water from the pond
* Lisa reported the electric bill is higher (usage is up) for some reason and questioned if something was on. It’s probably the sewer pumps in the drain field.
* Camping
  + discussion regarding price of camping. Debate between $175-200. Rustic raised to $100 (from $90). Does not impact rental committee camping prices. Lisa asked if we should increase the sponsored site price as well.
  + Jenn will be sending reminder that installment payments are due before March 1.
  + Motion by Lisa to raise primitive camping to $`100, 2nd Carrie. Motion passes.
  + Motion by Lisa to raise improved camping price to $175, 2nd Carrie, Motion passes.
  + Motion by Lisa to raise the price of any new sponsored sites purchased after 2/28/2020 to $2000. 2nd Carrie. Motion passes
  + Amy asked if we need a motion to allocate camping funds to improving the campgrounds. Carrie proposes tabling the discussion regarding where additional camping funds will go until after we have answers from Missy regarding drain field. Will discuss the details after March.

**Rental Committee**:

* $5795 for December events
* Also had 4H event in December
* Building was used for Keystone meeting.
* State police used for 2 days for investigation of Keystone Fire.
* Painting was completed in lobby and east wing. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped.
* Rob Roy holiday party was in the night before the State Police and left food; we were able to feed them as well.
* January and February: Kickoff for Relay for Life, Ducks Unlimited, Dicastal
* Melanie has signed 9 contracts. May-October is almost completely booked.
* 3 4H events signed
* 3 horse rentals signed, more contracts out.
* 33 events booked for 2020, 3 for 2021, 2 for 2022.
* Rental meeting on Wednesday
  + One of biggest complaints they’re getting during showings is that west room needs to be painted. Drywall patches are also needed in places.
  + Rental committee will be getting quotes for drywall repairs and painting.
    - If anyone has suggestions, please let Amy Bell know.

Melanie is also getting quotes for floor. Most are coming in at $3-5 per square foot.

Amy distributed a copy of the Fair Ground Event coordinator experience, knowledge, responsibilities. Would like everyone to look at this for any additions, corrections, feedback, etc. by next week so we can get the job posted.

**Judges**:

* **Mary** will check with alpaca judge.
* Judges session at MAFE
* Cheryl will forward Dairy list to Mary

**Livestock/Agriculture – Bio-Security:**

* No report

**Concessions, Commercial Exhibits & Grandstand**:

* Contracts: Sunday Mud Bog (Troller has 3pm but needs to be changed to 5pm, will discuss at MAFE) $6000, $500 due at signing. Driver plus one pit pass will be paid to Unique Motor Sports, additional will be paid to fair.
  + Motion by Jason to sign contract after time correction, 2nd Shaun. Motion passes
* Contract for Poorman Pullers done
* Cheryl has talked to Shane, will finalize this weekend.
* No contract for carnival yet. Will talk to them this weekend.
* Lisa has gotten calls about food, racing pigs, planetarium and butterfly house
  + Racing pigs are from Florida, $800/day for 2 shows.
  + Mary will check with Kent County at MAFE
  + Planetarium and butterfly house (science-based exhibits) $700/day for 3 different exhibits. No charge to go through exhibits.

**Fairbook:**

* Posted online.

**Showorks:**

* **No updates**

**Awards/Trophies**:

* No updates

**Marketing & Fundraising Committee**:

* Needs to meet
* Lisa wants to look at Gratiot’s model for fundraising/marketing
* Tarin will look at trophy/award sponsorship form
* Suggestions regarding selling banners for horse arena

**Old Business**:

* MAFE – January 9-11
  + $1130 spent on registration
  + Todd will pick up everyone’s badges
* Fair Theme
  + Just over 20 suggestions
    - Carrie did a poll of the entire list to get final 4
  + The Fair Necessities, Burlap and Boots, There’s Magic in the Air at the County Fair, There’s No Place Like the Fair
  + There’s Magic in the Air at the County Fair received most votes

**New Business**:

* None

Todd adjourned meeting at 844 PM

Respectfully submitted by Cheryl Strautz-Rosso, Secretary

Next Meeting Date – 2/3/20 7:00 PM