

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
August 17, 2021 – Log Cabin

ATTENDANCE

Present – Jeff Armentrout, Jackie Colflesh, Mark Fisher, Don Howard, Dan Huffman, Joe McLead, Bryan Mellen, Larry Moreland Pat Paykoff, Tiffany Rankin, Colleen Smith, Chip Thomson, Benjamin Wenner, Diane Winters, Tom Wright, D.J. Young, Laryssa Hook and Sandy Kuhn.

Absent –Pat Allen, Mick Fisher, Mike Harter, Jon Melvin, and Aaron Roll.

GUESTS – Michael Frommer, Tim Wilson, Mike Dickey, Charley Steinbrunner, Brett Cain, Maralene Sines, Brent Cain, Carolyn Slone, Ed Sloane, T. Thomson, Deb Jackson, and Linda Beach.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Benjamin Wenner called the meeting to order. The Pledge was led by Chip Thomson. Roll call was taken by Sandy Kuhn.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diane Winters introduced some of her Horse Parade Committee that were in attendance – Carolyn and Ed Sloane, Brett Cain, Chip Thomson, and D.J. Young. Some of them have been helping for 30+ years. The board thanked them for their work. Diane also announced that the Budweiser Clydesdales will be bringing an eight horse hitch. There is also a Silver Hitch group who is working to break the world record. There will also be horse riders who play instruments.

Charlie Steinbrunner from St. Mary's, Ohio was there. He said that he has been coming to the Jug for 52 years. He discussed where he sits and said he received incorrect tickets in the mail. He had talked to Jennifer McGowan in the office earlier in the day about it. He said he has always had chairs on the east side, numbers 21, 22 and 23. He received different tickets this year. He said that he had called the end of June to order his tickets. He wants his old seats back. His old seats have been sold so it was decided that office staff will call him on Wednesday with some options for seats.

Michael Frommer and Tim Wilson were in attendance to answer any questions regarding the Event Director position. Chip Thomson asked if the position was an at-will position or would it be a contract. It would be an at-will position. Mike Frommer explained that the county received money from ARP funds. Tourism lost a lot of money during the pandemic and the ARP funds were designed to focus in that area. The thought behind the position was to primarily help DCAS but that by helping rent the fairgrounds facilities it would help Delaware County as a whole by getting more people into the County. The position will focus on rental of the entire grounds for the 51 weeks off of fair. The person could help with market research. The person would not set pricing, it would be set by DCAS. Colleen Smith asked if the person would be on-site for all events and was told no the execution of events would be up to DCAS staff. Mark Fisher asked if DCAS could still hold their own off-fair motor sports events and was told yes. Chip Thomson asked when the motion needed to be brought off the table. A question was asked if DCAS could refuse a contract from the person – yes. If a smaller event is being discussed by the person but a bigger event supersedes it per DCSs then DCAS will decide on event.

Joe McLead announced that he may need to leave for an OHHA Executive Committee meeting because Scioto Downs had been condemned earlier in the day.

T. Thomson provided a sponsorship update. He said that sponsorship is picking up. He said that he has had some fall off in sponsorship by commercial race tracks due to tight budgets for 2021. He said that the Wednesday night party was being considered by the Harness Racing Museum but after many discussions the director said that they don't have enough time or staff to pull it together. T. will work with them to plan something for 2022. They would still like to have some type of event on Wednesday and will work on that. Colleen Smith mentioned that in 2018 New Vocations decided to decrease the number of items and then they

moved everything to Lexington, Kentucky. This was a sign that things were changing. T. will talk to First Commonwealth, the sponsor, as to their interest.

MINUTES

Colleen Smith moved and Bryan Mellen second a motion to approve the July 20, 2021 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Benjamin Wenner said that if you haven't paid for your camping spot please pay per Sandy Kuhn.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Full report in board folder)

Sandy Kuhn reported that her report was sent out in the board packet. Sandy Kuhn did announce that there would be no Celebrity Steer Show due to some concerns from the steer committee. She said they will explore having a show in 2022 using a different animal.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan Huffman reported that we are within \$112,000 of having the money needed to open the fair. Sandy Kuhn said that money is coming in and nice deposits are being made on a daily basis.

Jeff Armentrout moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Executive approved a few small items but they were in the minutes that were sent out.

PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

No report

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The next 30 days will be big.

FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There was a meeting held August 7 and department's "To Do" lists were finalized. The minutes were sent out with the board packet.

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

Chip Thomson reviewed the radio, print, billboards and other advertising that were being planned for the 2021 fair. He said that the committee was coming in below budget. T. Thomson wants to spend \$400 with Harness Racing Update and that was approved since the committee is under the budget. It was requested to order banners for the 23 sign since it will not be fixed before the fair.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Jackie Colflesh reported that a meeting was held on August 5 to review the private security schedule and sheriff deputy schedule. The meeting minutes were included in the board packet. They will be asking for an increase in budget under new business.

MOTOR SPORTS COMMITTEE

Bryan Mellen reported that things are moving forward. Larry Moreland is working on a couple of sponsors. The trophies were ordered. Mark Fisher is working on getting approval to get a couple of trees cut down back in the Motor Sports area.

FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Pat Paykoff reported that the water and sewer bills have leveled off.

Bruce Miley is fixing the pavement. He is using the grindings from the back to fill in the areas he digs out. It will possibly be sprayed.

Electric for the vendor parking lot is moving forward. \$23,000 was approved a while ago so that will be used. It should be completed before the fair.

Pat Allen has submitted a contract for electric. It is a multi-year, year round contract. Indemnification is not in the agreement and exclusive appears in the contract but doesn't seem to be exclusive the way it is written. Chip Thomson moved to have D.J. Young work with Pat Allen to get the contract to make the suggested changes. Jackie Colflesh second the motion. Motion carried. Diane Winters abstained from voting.

Chip Thomson moved to allow the Executive Committee to approve an agreement with All-Win Electric for a 10 day fair agreement for up to \$12,000 and \$52/hour for any time other than fair, for up to 3 years of fairs. Jeff Armentrout second the motion. Motion carried. Diane Winters abstained from voting.

Colleen Smith asked how we could previously have an exclusive agreement with Northstar Concessions. It was stated that the auditor's findings said that we couldn't have exclusive agreements and that was addressed and done away with.

It was reported that things that need done are getting done.

Chip Thomson said that Sherwin Williams is giving us 50% off of paint and he will work with Sandy Kuhn to get paint ordered.

Gary Tackett will get the fence done before fair.

A "To Do" sign-up sheet was sent around for board members to sign up.

RACING COMMITTEE

Tom Wright reported that he presented to the OHHA Board of Directors and they approved all of the same purse money as in the past and a little bit more. They are planning to direct the money a bit differently, which could really benefit us. There will be additional horses added to the initial payment which will increase the purses.

Pat Paykoff reported that the sand and stone to get the track ready for the fair has already been ordered and delivered.

The wire for the simulcast was ordered and is well below budget.

Machines will be put in the mutuel buildings on Monday.

Carolyn Sloane requested that for the safety of the mutuel clerks, that we provide gloves.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Colleen Smith asked Tom Wright if the breathalyzer had been ordered and he said yes.

Colleen Smith reported that there would be no Wednesday night party.

She announced that there would be a Budweiser Clydesdale party on September 9 in the Pavilion Hill tent. She mentioned pricing an elite restroom for it and did not expect much additional cost. . The beer permit was expedited. Discussion was held regarding who was serving beer and who was selling the tickets. She is very excited about the party and it will be an invitation only event.

Colleen is in the process of getting a quote from Costco for tables and chairs. Pay Paykoff gave her a contact. They are a Lifetime product.

The landscaping on Pavilion Hill is being worked on by Ivy Tree and Benchmark. The weeds need hilled around Pavilion Hill.

Rock Steady is the band for the first Saturday. The members were previous members of Phil Dirt.

BED TAX COMMITTEE

Tom Wright reported that the minutes from the meeting were in the board packet. Tom reported that Kevin Wise, from Regency, who was hired as the owner's representative is going to be an asset to DCAS.

Pat Paykoff reported that the temporary occupancy permit for the Ag Center is possibly going through tomorrow. The price of the building project has went up \$2-\$2.3 million since when the building was started.

Pat Paykoff said that the pavement was taken out of the initial bid. They will use Kleinger's civil engineering to move forward for the parking lot. The water will be retained in the existing pond and parking spaces will need to be put back in to move forward. They will go for the maximum number of spaces that the retaining pond will allow. He will work with the County Engineer to try to take on the pavement project.

The question was asked on whether the fair staff would be moving into the new building before the fair. Sandy Kuhn said she was not sure when the furniture would be delivered. She will find out on Wednesday and get that date to Pat Paykoff. They would like the office to be moved over there before fair.

COMMITTEE 51

Mike Harter reported that the committee will meet to review the MUDGIRLS agreement and will bring it forward at the September meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Chip Thomson moved to take from the table the motion regarding the Event Director position. Jackie Colflesh second and motion carried. Chip Thomson moved to have D.J. Young, Colleen Smith and Sandy Kuhn work with Destination Delaware to create the MOU to move forward with the county on the Event Director position. Don Howard second the motion. Motion carried.

Sandy Kuhn reported that we had another successful first Friday and thanks to Melody Kerr and Dick Leavy for working with Aubrey.

Aubrey could still use some help for the September 3 First Friday. Please let her know if you can help.

Dan Huffman moved and Mark Fisher second a motion to increase the safety budget to \$77,000. Discussion was held. Colleen Smith mentioned that this was a good idea as there hadn't been much of an increase over the years and the cost of deputies has went up. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Joe McLead said to be ready to have mask signage for the fair. Sandy Kuhn said she is working with DPHD on that.

Sandy Kuhn reported that tickets went in the mail Thursday, Sept. 12 if you get questions.

Dan Huffman told DCAS that he would be writing a check for 30 display booths but that it would be reimbursed to us by the 4-H Committee. He just wanted to make board members aware of this.

Colleen Smith moved and Diane Winters second a motion to spend up to \$21,200 on tables and chairs for the fair. It was requested that a bid be gotten from Eagle Exhibits. Motion carried.

Mark Fisher moved and Larry Moreland second a motion to approve Tom Downerd, Bob Fleming, and Tom Roll for lifetime membership. Motion carried.

Mark Fisher moved and Chip Thomson second a motion to approve the Home City Ice agreement. Motion carried.

An update on the Wall of Fame was given. Mickey and Sylvia Burke are the recipients. The Neville Award will go to Thurman Downing and the Lady Pace is Jennifer Brown.

D.J. Young brought up the motor sports incident that occurred in 2019 against Ted Colflesh. D.J. moved that one person be banned from participating in the 2021 demolition derby. Larry Moreland second the motion. D.J. moved to amend the motion by changing it from one person to two people. Larry Moreland second the amendment. Amendment carried. Motion as amended carried. A letter will be sent to those two individuals and Earl Kidwell, demolition derby contractor, will also be sent the letters. Jackie Colflesh abstained.,

Jackie Colflesh moved to adjourn. Chip Thomson second. Motion carried.

Benjamin Wenner, President

Sandy Kuhn, Secretary/General Manager