

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
September 7, 2021 – Log Cabin

ATTENDANCE

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

Absent –Pat Allen and Mick Fisher

GUESTS – Adam Rice, T. Thomson, Deb Jackson, and Linda Beach.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES

Colleen Smith moved and Don Howard second a motion to approve the August 17, 2021 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Benjamin Wenner reported that he negotiated an agreement for an ethics attorney to look over the concerns the board had. The document was attached to the board packet. The cost should be around \$2,500. If further discussion is needed it can be brought up in Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

A contract for electric was worked out after a lot of work on numerous people’s part. Benjamin’s calculations were that over \$30,000 of time was probably spent for a \$12,000 contract.

SECRETARY’S REPORT (Full report in board folder)

Sandy Kuhn thanked D.J. Young and Mark Fisher for working the September First Friday. The furniture comes in tomorrow and the transition to the new office will start after that. Jim Baker started back in the office today.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Dan Huffman reported that we are in full fair mode. He feels like the society is in good shape financially heading into the fair. We have accumulated enough money to open the fair and ticket sales are going well.

Chip Thomson moved and Mark Fisher second a motion to give Dan Huffman authority to go to First Commonwealth Bank and get the needed money to open the fair, both on the fair and race sides. Motion carried.

Joe McLead moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion to approve the treasurer’s report. Motion carried.

T. Thomson gave a sponsorship update. He passed around an updated sheet of his sponsors. He is currently at \$166,000 for 2021 in cash sponsorship. He lost a couple of bigger sponsors. Kroger is the largest one lost. There were no tractors available from John Deere for the fair. The grader is coming on Monday.

Sandy Kuhn gave an update on fair sponsorships. She passed around a Quick Books report on her sponsorships to date. All 2019 Sponsors of the Day are back and there are 30 vendors for Senior Citizen Day as well as two sponsors.

Questions were asked to both T. and Sandy and discussion was held.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Benjamin Wenner reported that the Executive Committee met once and then had a second short meeting to sign the electrical contract. The first contract submitted could not be signed because it included more than the board authorized the Executive Committee to approve.

PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE (Minutes in board packet)

Don Howard reported that the Committee met with Deb Jackson and Linda Beach and the opening and closing of buildings and gates has been worked out.

Mike Harter brought up discussion regarding a waiver for the people who put up scaffolding along the track. It needs to be addressed for the 2022 fair. Benjamin asked that the Personnel/Administration Committee take care of moving this forward for 2022. Discussion was held and it was said that Kip Millhoan used to have them sign a waiver in the past. Sandy Kuhn will follow up with D.J. Young to get a waiver developed. The possibility to eliminate that area in the future was also discussed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

No report.

FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Minutes in board packet)

Aaron Roll reported that there was a FAC meeting held September 4. The Junior Fair is in good shape. Aaron will get with Adam Rice on things that need done before and during the fair. The missing sales ring was found and thanks to Jeff Armentrout, Bryan Mellen and Mark Fisher, it was put back together. Larry Moreland, Aaron Roll and Benjamin Wenner will make sure the wash rack gets fixed.

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

Chip Thomson asked for an update on the 23 sign. Sandy Kuhn read an email from Steve Moore, dated September 7, saying that he is looking at 10-12 weeks until the EMC boards will be ready to ship. The vendor is struggling with availability of raw materials. Once the boards come in, Steve will have to redo the mounting to fit the new boards. He will let Sandy know of any news when he gets it. Jeff Armentrout and Sandy Kuhn hung banner on both sides of the State Route 23 sign on September 4 promoting the fair.

Sandy Kuhn reported that three of the four 4' x 8' signs were out – Jeff Armentrout put one up south of DACC on State Route 23, Hoffman Lawncare put one up north of Coover Road on State Route 23 and Adam Rice put one up in front of the County's Building at 101 N. Sandusky Street.

Chip Thomson brought up that in the past DCAS has put a full page ad in Horsemen's Fair World but that publications doesn't exist anymore so he suggests putting something in Hoof Beats to thank the OHHA and congratulate the winners of races. It was determined that this was part of the advertising budget and could be approved by T. Thomson and Sandy Kuhn.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Jackie Colflesh reported that the final meeting between safety and security personnel was held September 2 and everything is good and ready to move forward for the fair.

MOTOR SPORTS COMMITTEE (Minutes in board packet)

Bryan Mellen reported that the committee met a couple of times and things are good for the upcoming fair. Mark Fisher has secured a couple of sponsorships for Motor Sports. The questions was brought up regarding the letters sent banning two individuals from participating in the 2021 demolition derby. No response has been received to date.

FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Thanks was given to Mark Fisher, Bryan Mellen and Jeff Armentrout for all of the help they have been giving on the maintenance side.

Pat Paykoff thanked Adam Rice for the work he has been doing and said that he is doing the best he can with the resources he has.

The stalls in the two barns – 11A and 12A are down. Thanks to those who helped take them down on September 4.

The new vendor parking lot just east of the Liberty Gate is finished and ready for the 2021 fair.

The antique tractor display will be moving where barn 24 was taken down.

RACING COMMITTEE

Tom Wright reported that he is good with cabin staff but they only have about half of the mutuel clerks that are needed. Mark Brown will be putting out a plea to get more clerks, especially for Wednesday and Thursday. He may need to explore getting more machines if they can't find clerks. Discussion was held on whether the position was trainable and if so could they possibly reach out to Ohio Wesleyan students. Sandy Kuhn reported that she was having problems finding program sales people and grandstand helpers. She said that they had reached out to OWU sports teams as well as Delaware High School sports teams without any luck.

Tom reported that the Governor will be here Jug Day to give out the trophy.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Colleen Smith reported that the tents are up. The prep tents are not up yet.

Colleen said she is hopeful that board members can attend the Budweiser Clydesdale party on September 9 in the Pavilion Hill tent. She thanked her beer helpers – Benjamin Wenner, Chip Thomson and Mike Harter. She said that DCAS will need to pay Del Mar for the beer and then will sell it. She said that All Win Electric is donating \$1,600 worth of labor and supplies to get the tent ready for the Budweiser event. Tiffany Rankin volunteered to sell beer tickets. She will need to arrive by 4:30 p.m.

Colleen is in the process of solidifying the tent numbers. Pavilion Hill is down this year with only 800 currently for Thursday. All is good for the two concerts on both Saturdays. The tables and chairs will arrive tomorrow.

BED TAX COMMITTEE

No report.

COMMITTEE 51

Mike Harter presented the following agreements approved by Committee 51:

Angel's High Steppers agreement for \$350/month for a 12 month contract;

Board of Elections agreement for \$2800, which equates to \$350/hour, with them receiving Monday and Wednesday for free;

Three Bags – twice per year using multiple buildings, Sandy is to reach back out to them regarding what they are willing to pay; and

MUDGIRLS - \$15,000 including trash and water and a \$4,000 parking buy out.

OLD BUSINESS

Thanks to D.J. Young and Mark Fisher for helping with First Friday.

Colleen Smith moved to not allow open fires on the grounds during fair week. Jackie Colflesh second the motion. Discussion was held on whether this should be something DCAS decided on or whether it should be left up to the fire personnel to decide on and enforce. It was determined to leave it up to the fire personnel. Motion failed.

Mike Harter moved and Jon Melvin second a motion to offer the following agreement for 2021 to MUDGIRLS - \$15,000 including trash and water and a \$4,000 parking buy out. Motion carried.

Mike Harter moved and Bryan Mellen second a motion to approve the following agreement - Angel's High Steppers agreement for \$350/month for a 12 month contract to use the log cabin and possibly a building up front during the summer months. Motion carried.

Mike Harter moved and Jon Melvin second a motion for the following Board of Election agreement - \$2800, which equates to \$350/hour for eight hours, with them receiving Monday and Wednesday for free. Discussion was held. It was brought up that the Board of Election does our board member election for free and this adds credibility to the election process. Other discussion included – the BOE expects to pay something but this seems like a lot, why was a payment policy put together if a different rate is going to be approved for each event, would they be open to cleaning the facility to save those fees, and if we don't charge one county entity then where does it end with other county entities. Motion carried with one no vote. Chip Thomson abstained from voting.

The Three Bags agreement is still being negotiating so it was not brought forward for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

Aaron Roll moved and Mark Fisher second a motion to approve Harper Architectural Studio's invoice for the Ag Center change orders. Motion carried.

Tom Wright moved and Don Howard second a motion to approve Harper Architectural Studio's invoice for the work on the horse barns. Motion carried.

Jon Melvin moved an Add-On agreement with Miley Excavating for up to \$10,000 to build a parking lot up to grade in front of the Ag Center. Mark Fisher second the motion and motion carried.

Aaron Roll moved and Joe McLead second a motion to spend up to \$20,000 on appliances for the Ag Center kitchen and break room. Motion carried. This would include a freezer, three refrigerators, an ice maker, and prep tables. Pat Paykoff will get them ordered.

D.J. Young moved and Bryan Mellen second a motion to approve up to \$30,000 for doors between the Ag Hall of Fame and expo area and the Junior Fair area and mechanical area. Motion carried.

Pat Paykoff discussed the need for the old water truck to be repaired but it was determined it was under the amount that could be approved by the manager or treasurer so no motion was required.

D.J. Young moved and Don Howard second a motion for Dan Huffman to sign off on the SIMPLE retirement plan for employees on behalf of DCAS (land owner). Motion carried.

Mark Fisher moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion that signage be put up on buildings that reads "Per CDC Guidelines Masks Recommended Inside Buildings." Motion carried.

Sandy Kuhn mentioned that the Delaware Public Health District was invited to have a vaccination clinic all week and they would let her know if they were going to offer it.

Bryan Mellen moved to approve up to \$30,000 to pay DelMar Distributing for beer for the fair. Colleen Smith second the motion and motion carried.

Mark Fisher moved to spend up to \$40,000 on publication and printing of the race programs. D.J. Young second and motion carried.

Colleen Smith moved to adjourn. Jackie Colflesh second. Motion carried.

Benjamin Wenner, President

Sandy Kuhn, Secretary/General Manager