

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING

August 31, 2020 – Zoom Conference Call & Cabin

ATTENDANCE

Present –, Jackie Colflesh, Mike Conklin, Mark Fisher, Mick Fisher, Mike Harter, Don Howard, Dan Huffman, Joe McLead, Bryan Mellen, Jon Melvin, Larry Moreland, Pat Paykoff, Tiffany Rankin, Tom Roll, Colleen Smith, Chip Thomson, Benjamin Wenner, Diane Winters, Tom Wright and Sandy Kuhn (General Manager/Secretary).

Absent – Pat Allen, Aaron Roll and Laryssa Hook (Ex-Officio).

GUESTS – T. Thomson

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Tom Wright, called the meeting to order. The Pledge was recited. Roll call was taken. The meeting was held at the cabin with some members attending via a Zoom conference call.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

RACING COMMITTEE REPORT

Tom Wright went over the need to try to make some money to help subsidize the racing portion of the fair. He also said that DCAS does have the SBA loan in place and a line of credit with First Commonwealth. Things could be much worse.

Background for the meeting and proposal to have 1,500 fans during racing at the Delaware County Fair - As a result of the Governor's new order that came out for high school sports, allowing for up to 1500 fans or 15% of capacity, Tom Wright went to State Senator Andy Brenner to see if there might be allowances for the Delaware County Fair racing days to have up to 1,500 spectators. Andy Brenner went to Lieutenant Governor John Husted and he said to move forward with exploring the option. Tom Wright also talked to Bill Crawford at the Ohio State Racing Commission as the OSRC guidelines say no owners. Bill Crawford said that it was up to the Governor's Office. Tom Wright then went to the Delaware General Health District with a variance letter to allow for 1,500 spectators for the five days of racing at the Delaware County Fair. Sheila Hiddleson, DGHD Health Commissioner, sent the letter to the Ohio Department of Health. Tom Wright, through Renee Mancino at Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, went to the Ohio State Racing Commission Board, Chairman Scott Borgemenke, to make sure the Governor is okay with the proposal as well as having owners present during the races.

Tom Wright reviewed the spreadsheet for having 1,500 spectators at the races. (Spreadsheet is in the board folder). Discussion was held about the pros and cons of having spectators. Three options were presented:
Option 1- Move forward as is, with no spectators and no owners;
Option 2 – Allow just owners, if allowed through Ohio State Racing Commission.
Option 3 – Allow owners and up to 1,500 spectators.

Benjamin Wenner moved to allow to have up to 1,500 spectators and owners with horses racing on the grounds for the five days of racing at the 2020 Delaware County Fair. Mick Fisher second. Motion failed.

Benjamin Wenner moved to allow owners with horses racing on the grounds for the five days of racing at the 2020 Delaware County Fair. Mick Fisher second. Motion passed 11 for and 8 against. Tom Wright will get clarification if owners are allowed to be here or not from the Ohio State Racing Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next DCAS board meeting will be held September 15 at 7 p.m. at the cabin and via Zoom

Jon Melvin moved to adjourn. Diane Winters second the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Wright, President

Sandy Kuhn, Secretary/General Manager