

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING

February 16, 2021 – Zoom Conference Call

ATTENDANCE

Present – Pat Allen, Jeff Armentrout, Jackie Colflesh, Mark Fisher, Mick Fisher, Mike Harter, Dan Huffman, Joe McLead, Bryan Mellen, Jon Melvin, Larry Moreland Pat Paykoff, Tiffany Rankin, Aaron Roll, Colleen Smith, Chip Thomson, Benjamin Wenner, Diane Winters, Tom Wright, D.J. Young, Laryssa Hook (Ex-Officio) and Sandy Kuhn (General Manager/Secretary).

Absent – Don Howard

GUESTS – Mike Downerd, Angie Beekman, Charlie Miley and T. Thomson

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Benjamin Wenner, called the meeting to order. The Pledge was recited. Roll call was taken. The meeting was held via a Zoom conference call.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MINUTES

Diane Winters moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion to approve the January 19, 2021 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Benjamin Wenner will report under the Executive Committee report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (Full report in board folder)

Sandy Kuhn said that she had sent her report out with the board packet. She reported that she is happy to announce that both Jennifer McGowan and T. Thomson will return to work on February 17 and she is working on acquiring grant money from the County to update the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan Huffman reviewed the financials with the board. He gave an update on the Community Enhancement Grant from the County Commissioners. He needs a motion to sign off on the SBA loan documents. Diane Winters moved to allow Dan Huffman to sign off on the SBA loan documents. Colleen Smith second the motion and motion carried. He reported that we will begin to start using the money for the 2021 Fair out of restricted funds.

Tiffany Rankin reported that she is looking into additional possible revenue sources from CARES act and the COVID relief funds.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Colleen Smith reported that in conjunction with Committee 51, she is in an investigative state with individuals looking into rental options for the Ag Center. They are working on trying to determine pricing, occupancy rate, corporate event pricing, etc. She is working to get a tour of the building set up.

The Committee will explore both a soft and hard opening for the new building.

The hopes is for a full fair with all three tents at capacity.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Benjamin Wenner reported that the Executive Committee met twice and minutes were distributed. The committee was very involved in discussion on the stall agreement. He encouraged all committee chairs to get their board members involved and engaged in their committees.

PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

No report

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dan Huffman reported they are working to try to find any possible funds available through the different grants and programs. The committee will meet soon to further discuss these funding opportunities.

FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Aaron Roll reported that the FAC Committee met February 6 and the minutes were in the packet. He said he thanked all committee members for getting through the 2020 fair and the plan at this point is that there will be a full fair for 2021. New superintendents are needed for the quilt department as Sandy Lewis and Gary Must have resigned. There is still a need for a produce superintendent and photography could also use another person. Please let Sandy Kuhn know if you have anyone to help with these areas.

Aaron Roll also thanked Charlie Miley for his many years of service in the beef barn.

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

Chip Thomson reported that the committee is almost ready to send a request for proposals (RFP) out for the website. It will be sent out when the money is deposited in our account from the County. He wants to be sure that we own the intellectual property rights on the site. Having a combined site with both the fair and the Little Brown Jug will also be explored. He said that Bailey Cavalieri oversees the patent for the LBJ intellectual property rights.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

No report

MOTOR SPORTS COMMITTEE

Bryan Mellen reported that the Motor Sports Committee met on Sunday and discussed contracts for off fair events. These will need to be done on an individualized basis so this will be explored as events move forward.

FACILITIES/MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Pat Paykoff reported that the dumpster truck is down again. Joe McLead moved and Pat Allen second a motion to spend up to \$12,500 for a new dumpster truck. Motion carried.

RACING COMMITTEE

Tom Wright thanked Andrew Brenner as the Little Brown Jug license plate is in the final stage of completion and should be eligible for purchase soon.

He also reported that staking payments started February 15 and will continue through July.

BED TAX COMMITTEE

Pat Paykoff reported on the meeting that was held February 4. Minutes were included in the board packet. He reported that the committee met with Regency as a potential owner's representative. The committee reviewed the grandstand project with Regency and requested a proposal from them. Another committee meeting will need to be held to review proposal so a recommendation can go to the board. The committee would like to get the grandstand project moving forward.

COMMITTEE 51

Mike Harter reported on the meetings held January 25 and 28. Minutes were included in the board packet along with the proposed stall and camping agreements and proposed facility rates. Parking rates still need to be added to the proposed facility rates.

MUDGIRL Contract – Dan Huffman moved and D.J. Young second a motion to offer MUDGIRLS a contract for \$20,000 for grounds rental, a \$7/car buy back and a \$5,000 refundable grounds deposit. Also, DCAS would be in charge of the alcohol sales. MUDGIRLS would also be required to use a contractor named by

DCAS to dig and the work and repair work would need to be signed off on by Dan Huffman, Mark Fisher and/or Pat Paykoff. Discussion was held. It was decided that the agreement could be negotiated as needed. Motion carried.

Diane Winters moved and Mark Fisher second a motion to approve the Goat Clinic (Pig and Lamb Barn) agreement for April 10. Motion carried.

Mark Fisher moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion to approve the Boy Scouts Pinewood Boxcar Derby (Merchants Building) agreement for March 6. Motion carried.

Jackie Colflesh moved and Diane Winters second a motion to approve the Sportsman's Alliance Gun Bash (Coliseum) agreement for May 22. Discussion was held. Motion carried

Benjamin Wenner referred the development of a political event policy to the Personnel Committee.

Mike Harter reviewed the three options for the stall rental agreement:

- Option 1 – increase rent 28% and offer a 10% rebate
- Option 2 – increase rent 25% and require a \$100/stall down payment
- Option 3 – increase rent 23% and offer a 5% rebate

Joe McLead proposed that he, D.J. Young, Tom Wright and Jeff Armentrout hold a horsemen's meeting before voting on the agreement. Mike Harter said that Committee 51 had worked hard to arrive at these three options for the board to review.

The following items were brought up in discussion – a determination on what to charge needs made, the implementation of the agreement becomes an issue, the agreement needs to be fair to all, there were concerns over the rebate and horses not racing during the fair need to pay stall rent. A lengthy discussion was held.

D.J. Young moved to have a variable rate contract based on which barn the stall is in. Pat Allen second and motion carried.

D. J Young moved and Pat Allen second a motion to raise the stall rent a minimum of 18%. D.J. Young moved to amend the motion by striking out the 18% and inserting 25%. Chip Thomson second. Amendment carried. Motion as amended carried.

Mark Fisher moved to require a two month or maximum of \$500 deposit per stable. D.J. Young second the motion. Discussion was held. Mark Fisher requested to withdrawal his motion.

Joe McLead moved to give Committee 51 authority to determine the deposit and refer to the Executive Committee for approval by March 1, 2021. Pat Allen second. Motion carried with one opposing vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Reminder to those who have not completed their Conflict of Interest form, please complete it and return it to the fair office. There are still eight board members who need to complete them.

Jen McGowan and T. Thomson will return to work on February 17, 2021.

Small claims court was February 4 but magistrate has rescheduled it for March 18 due to the defendant not having all his paperwork.

Per the last board meeting, information on the COVID policy was given to all employees in their January 22, 2021 pay checks.

Bev Tidd sent a thank you note to the board for the gift card she received for Christmas.

NEW BUSINESS

Jackie Colflesh moved to approve up to \$4,000 to purchase the small mums from Thorsen's Greenhouse. Chip Thomson second the motion and motion carried. We may want to explore purchasing the larger mums from the gentleman we purchased them from in 2020.

The Districts 3, 4 and 6 Meeting will be held April 11, 2021 at Fayette County Fairgrounds, Washington Court House. RSVPs will be needed at the March board meeting.

Tom Wright moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion to hire a communications/social media intern for the summer. Motion carried

Tiffany Rankin moved and D.J. Young second a motion to approve purchasing our PEP insurance for 2021. The amount is down over \$22,000 as a result of not having a 2020 fair. Motion carried.

D.J. Young brought up that Kings Island and Cedar Point ended up suing the State to be able to open up in 2020. This is something for fairs to think about.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reminder that the March meeting will be held at 7 p.m. with the daylight savings time change.

Joe McLead moved to adjourn. Jackie Colflesh second the motion. Motion carried.

Benjamin Wenner, President

Sandy Kuhn, Secretary/General Manager