

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Present- Jeff Armentrout, Jennifer Brown, Jackie Colflesh, Adam DeMarco, Mark Fisher, Patricia Gladman, Mike Harter, Don Howard, Dan Huffman, Michael Knapp, Bryan Mellen, Jon Melvin, Tiffany Rankin, Colleen Smith, Chip Thomson, Chris Welker, Tom Wright and Laryssa Hook

Absent-Diane Winters was excused due to sickness.

GUESTS- Tyler Thompson, T. Thomson, and Jen McGowan

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Tiffany Rankin called the meeting to order. The Pledge was recited and Roll Call was taken by Jen McGowan

PUBLIC COMMENT

Tyler Thompson introduced himself, he is visiting from the Jr. Fair board and will be showing rabbits at this year's fair.

T. Thomson was asked to present his sponsorship report. T. said he is in full fair mode and that he and Benjamin Wenner were working some things out in his report. He is currently working on sending out tickets to sponsors and working with different groups to finalize their plans for the fair. He reminded the group that it is a fluid process and day to day at this point. OHHA would like electric and TV's in their tent this year. T. brought up Bow River and needing to move his safe to the new building for insurance purposes. He thinks they will be ok for this year, but will need to be brought up to the Ag. Center in the future.

MINUTES

Mark Fisher moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion to approve the August 16, 2022 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tiffany Rankin reported that Dorothy Pelanda will be coming to the fair on Thursday at 2pm for racing. Sara Hoffman who is the head of farm preservation division with the ODA will also be here on Saturday during lunch hour. She will be presenting us with a flag and will be here for the poultry show. Tiffany said she has been getting a lot of good comments on how good everything is looking on the grounds.

FAIR OFFICE REPORT

No Report. Jen McGowan reminded everyone that things are getting very busy and that if anyone needed anything to please let the office know as soon as possible. Jennifer Brown said she is needing a 10x10 tent for the Paddock gate. Office will get her one to use.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan Huffman reported that we are real stable going into fair. Tickets, Box Seats, everything is way up. He said that this is the first time as treasurer that we have been financially ready for the fair. He also said he expects all of our expenses to be way up this year as well for various reasons.

Benjamin Wenner moved and Mark Fisher second the motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Tiffany Rankin reported that there was nothing pressing. Three honorary directors were contacted and were gracious about their honor. It came up about what perks come with being an honorary director. Dan Huffman said that they get ½ of their box seats comped. Colleen Smith asked about Joe McLead and why we didn't nominate him. Tiffany said we will add that to new business.

Benjamin Wenner suggested for auctions, if they buy something at the sale at a certain level that they would get some Jug tickets to experience racing.

Discussion was held on moving stalls in September to make room for horses coming in to race and what the intent was long term for the Jug and Jugette barns. This will be moved to discuss in Old Business. Tiffany reminded everyone that anything that their committee needs to please ask so we can get it set up for them.

GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

No Report. Chip Thomson said they voted to approve three of the catering contracts and they have been signed and sent. Benjamin Wenner asked about a sound contract. Signature Sound is contracted thru 2022.

FINANCE

Dan Huffman reported that the audit is going on right now. Quita is getting them all the information that they need. Dan said after fair we will meet to see if we can consolidate some of our bank accounts. Dan mentioned that we will talk about concrete and gates in Old Business.

FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Benjamin Wenner reported that animal entries are up 26% over the last year. Rabbit and Poultry will have 850 animals. He mentioned they had a work day and had a great turn out for that.

Benjamin mentioned that we might need help hanging quilts on Friday night and they could use 2-3 people for that.

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

Chip Thomson reported that Ted and Jackie Colflesh have put the trailer out with the new fair dates on it. He also encouraged everyone to grab a yard sign and get them out there. Chip talked about TVs and possibly needing to get some new ones.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

No Report. Benjamin Wenner asked about emergency safety training for the board. Mike Harter said that he can talk to Captain Vance about that.

MOTORSPORTS COMMITTEE

No Report

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Mark Fisher reported that we have an abundance of green tables and we aren't sure where they all go. Laryssa Hook mentioned that she needs 30 of them in the Ag. Center by this Thursday night, plus some extras for the open show farm produce that will be in there this year.

Mark Fisher asked for help from Jennifer Brown to get all the horse trailers moved to the back by Potter's barn. He also mentioned that we could use some help with mowing. He said that our staff needs to stay focused on fair set up. Ben Lehner is going to come in and straighten the roads up. Dan Huffman asked if all of the lights are working. Mark said all in Jr. Fair is working. He mentioned that brine will start going on the roads on Thursday. We need to get sawdust piles picked up. He mentioned that Mike Sweeney just dumped 2 loads right in the way on the back side of barn 36. Mark said we just need to come up with a solution, maybe no sawdust dumped after a certain date. He said there are so many messes back there, tires etc that need picked up. Tom Wright said he would call them and ask them to get things cleaned up. Mark mentioned that all campers and round pens needed to come down and be moved by Sept. 1. He said we need to change that to have round pens down by mid-August so that we can get the campers moved and that area cleaned up for 4-H move in.

RACING COMMITTEE

Tom Wright reported that they are whittling down their list of things to do. He said they got approval for wagering and uncoupling and mentioned we have a good shot to get 2 supplements in the Jug and 1 in the Jugette. Tom mentioned that he had sent out a note that he would stay tonight and explain how racing works and the impact that it has if anyone was interested.

Tom said that the boring under the track is done.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

No Report

BED TAX COMMITTEE

Tom Wright reported that he and Jon Melvin met with the architect and the owner's rep to set up what our masterplan will look like. He said they will put it down on paper and get it to the point that we have a road map as to what direction we want to go. Chip Thomson said that we had our biggest month in bed tax income last month.

ALL HORSE PARADE

Chip Thomson reported that Diane is sick. She agrees that she will not take horses in front of the Ag. Center and that we will need sawhorses to block it off. Chip asked if we can get some bleachers by the main entrance for spectators. Mark Fisher said he would see what we could do.

HALL OF FAME/MUSEUM

Don Howard reported that they had 2 nominees for the Hall of Fame this year. Russell White, who started the Jersey Jug, and Ralph Jordan, who was an extension agent and educator. Don said that we just got a sulky from the 1890's. New doors went in and new wood and a wall went in above the entrance. He said he also got in the new cases from Amish Co.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan Huffman gave an update on the concrete and that they want to try a fix for it. He said it will need to be done on the back side of the building so that we can see what that looks like. This project will start after fair. Benjamin Wenner asked about needing to approve additional legal fees. Da said right now he is still within budget.

Dan reported that the poles are in for the gates and we are waiting on the permit with the city to finish them and he will check on that tomorrow.

Discussion was then held on the Jug and Jugette barns and using them off season. Tom Wright asked what the contract dates were. Jen McGowan said that it runs from Oct 1-Aug 31. Tom said right now we

don't have the barns to put people in if we shut them down for good. Mark Fisher mentioned that he doesn't like them being used during the winter, but was open to using them to put someone temporarily while we make repairs to other barns if we had to. Benjamin Wenner moved and Jackie Colflesh second a motion to not sign an agreement to lease the Jug or Jugette barns. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on needing to look at expenses and income and evaluate raising stall rent in October. Jennifer Brown said we need to give the horsemen at least 30 day notice. We will send out a notice Nov. 1 that their stall rent will be increasing.

Dan Huffman brought up the off season campers. We need to come up with an alternative and a permanent place for them. He said it needs to be back by the horsemen's side with full hook ups. They will need to be within 1000 ft from a bathroom and we need to decide what to do because they can't go back by the fence line. Mark Fisher asked if we can move them to Liberty St for the winter. He asked if we need to make a decision could that be handled in exec committee. Dan Huffman moved and Mark Fisher second a motion to allow exec to handle the camping situation. Motion carried.

Chip Thomson brought up the sign at the front gate. Chip said we should get a canvas sign made to cover it up for this year and he will call Keith to get that started.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Colleen Smith and second by Don Howard to include Joe McLead as an honorary director. Motion carried.

Don Howard motioned Larry Wigton for a lifetime pass, Benjamin Wenner second. Motion carried.

Chip Thomson made a motion that honorary directors get ½ of their box seats comped as well as 2 weekly passes. Benjamin Wenner second. Motion carried.

Tiffany Rankin mentioned that we will have daily board meetings during the fair. These will be at 7am on Saturday and Sunday and 7:30am Monday-Wednesday.

She went over the responsibilities of the Board members and delegating a point person for certain areas.

Jr. Fair/Animal related-Benjamin Wenner

Parade-Diane Winters

Gate related-Chris Welker

Jr. Fair RV and open RV- Patricia Gladman, Jon Melvin, and Jen McGowan

Towing-Mike Harter, Mike Knapp

Betting-Mark Brown

Arts & Crafts & Open Show-Don Howard

Jr. Fair-Benjamin Wenner

Ride Issues- ride company

Vendor Set up-Cory High, Randy Lane, Mel Lauer

Brine-Jeff Armentrout

Manure-Dan Huffman

Motorsports-Bryan Mellen, Adam DeMarco

Racing-Tom Wright

Maintenance-Mark Fisher, Adam DeMarco

Security-Mike Harter

Parking-Mike Knapp

Merchandise/Merchants-Jen McGowan

Manure at pig & lamb- Mark Fisher

Don Howard reported that the tractor club had checked the people movers and they all have flat tires.

Dan Huffman said that Jon Axhelm will be checking them over and fixing everything on them.

Laryssa Hook added a reminder that there will be a trailer here for food donations during fair week.

Chip Thomson moved and Jackie Colflesh second to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Tiffany Rankin, President

Jennifer McGowan, Assistant Fair Manager

