

Northwestern Michigan Fair

Board of Directors Meeting

December 14, 2023

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Joe Hubbell at 7:04 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Frank Guerin
3. **Roll Call:** By Tom Looks
 - a. **Board Members Present:** Al Henning, Clarissa Johnston, Frank Guerin, Jill Duell, Joe Hubbell, Karen Zenner, Laurie Ashley, Milt Lewis, Molly Caminata, Sonya Youker, Tammara Sanchez, Tom Looks
 - b. **Board Members Absent:** Carlyne Woodhams
 - c. **Visitors Present:** Ben Walker, Amanda Wilkins, Nicki Brown, Darren Albrecht, Sherri Forton
4. **Review Agenda**
 - a. **Motion 12.14.23.1:** A. Henning/F. Guerin made a motion to approve December 14, 2023 Agenda. **Motion Passed.**
5. **Correspondence:** Tom shared a Christmas card from Saffire.
6. **President's Report:** Nothing.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Tammara shared the treasurer's report.
8. **Presentation & Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. **Motion 12.14.23.2:** F. Guerin/A. Henning made a motion to approve minutes from November 8, 2023 meeting as written. **Motion Passed.**
9. **Public Comment:** No public comment.
10. **New Business: No new business.**
11. **4H Livestock Council:**
 - a. Nicki Brown – Dairy beef and steer registrations due January 8th. We have a new treasurer. Education expo March 3rd at the GT Resort. We are too large for the Great Wolf Lodge. We are preparing for that and hope to have a draft schedule by the February meeting. All 5 executive board members are going to the MAFE Convention.
12. **Unfinished Business:**
 - a. Tammara Sanchez –
 - i. Talked to the Informa, the ATM is halfway fixed. He needed to order a sim card to install the update. Maintenance plan on the ATM would cost \$1,563/year on a 3 year contract. They would service the ATM when we start it up, shut it down and anytime that we would need. With the service plan it would be a 4 hour timeframe, with no service plan they would show up whenever they can. We are planning on looking at other options at the convention.
 - ii. The book audit will be Friday 12/15 at the fair office.
 - b. Joe Hubbell –
 - i. The bleacher project we have a quote on the light poles and lights would be \$26,000- 75,000 for 13 metal light poles. If we went with wood poles we can get them delivered here for \$5,000. The lights are \$700 each and we can adjust the brightness if needed. EZ Erectors did email and said it would be 4 weeks to assemble and would be \$90,000. Bill is working on official blueprints so we can move forward with getting estimates. Joe is going to talk to Craig Kellogg about the building. We do still need a concrete crew.

- ii. Frank reviewed information regarding the construction loan through Independent Bank.
- c. Darren Albrecht –
 - i. Visited over the summer regarding drag racing RC cars. His group was wondering if there is still an interest in paving part of the parking lot that would give them space for drag racing. They would help with some fundraising to get the pavement. His group would like to race here twice a month. Once a summer they would like to have a statewide race that would help generate money. Darren has talked with 22toNone and Big Brothers Big Sisters about being involved with both of those groups. He has also had a conversation with a 4H member that is interested in being involved with the RC cars also.
 - ii. Joe shared a quote from Molon for approximately \$93,000 to have a portion of the parking lot paved.

13. Committee Reports:

- a. Sonya: Changed the price on camping to \$35 per night. New dates are on the website. Starting to take reservations already. Ribbon committee will be meeting soon to determine what we need.
- b. Laurie: We have two updates for the premium book and will be reaching out to everyone else to remind them. Have been contacted about a quilt rack that would be donated to us. A curio cabinet was donated to display some of the arts and crafts. Clarissa has a marketplace posting for used display cases listed at \$250 each. **Motion 12.14.23.3:** M. Lewis/F. Guerin made motion to purchase the display cases for no more than \$1000 total. **Motion Passed.**
- c. Erika: Nothing.
- d. Tammara: All registered for convention. Checks have been distributed. Silent auction item for this year will be a cornhole boards handcrafted by Joe. We will pay him \$200 for the supplies used to make them. **Motion 12.14.23.4:** M. Lewis/F. Guerin made motion to pay Joe \$225 for the supplies used to make the cornhole boards. **Motion passed.**
- e. Jill: Nothing.
- f. Milt: Christmas and gift cards were sent to museum volunteers. They all did get shirts. We did receive more items dating to 1908. One of the items is first premium book in mint condition. Sonya's items are on the website, still need to get with Frank and Clarissa for changes. Tom has caught on quickly on how to update the website. Winter storage is 99% full.
- g. Clarissa: Queen Kelsey participated in the downtown TC Light parade. Shirts have been ordered.
- h. Molly: Amy from the Advent Lutheran Church confirmed for bingo this year.
- i. Al: Talked with all superintendents about premium book changes. They are all working on judges.
- j. Cody: Reviewed the income from the entertainment. Both derbies did make money. May look into continuing to have two derby events during fair week. Even if it doesn't generate a profit for the grandstands, it did help the vendors. The horse pulls would be a free event again next year. Contacted Twisted P Rodeo, they would not be available Friday or Saturday but could do a Thursday show. The price would be slightly less than Superkicker Rodeo. Twisted P is part of a federal point system so might draw a larger crowd of professional competitors. The weekly grandstand schedule may be shuffled a bit.
- k. Karen: Nothing.
- l. Frank: Got the bin from Erika for rentals and contracts. Have a few save the dates and contracts to review.

- m. Tom: Talked with Kat from Cherry Festival last weekend. They would like to be more involved with the fair. Also, briefly talked about Saffire. They have tried several other ticketing software and have no plans on moving away from Saffire. Ticket printer has been ordered through Saffire. A few board members have expressed interest in fair email addresses so will be working on getting those set up. Annual memberships for 2024 are available on the website as well as the mega bands.
- n. Joe: Buildings and Grounds: Molon would like to do a sponsorship and take a small section every year and seal the asphalt. Did have goat pen holders made, they are similar to the racks for the steer barn pens. An opener for the doors are \$2400.

14. Adjournment:

- a. **Motion 12.14.23.5:** S. Youker/J. Duell made motion to adjourn at 8:26 pm. **Motion passed.**

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