

# Northwestern Michigan Fair

## Board of Directors Meeting

### January 18, 2024

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Frank Guerin at 7:00 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Karen Zenner
3. **Roll Call:** By Tom Looks
  - a. **Board Members Present:** Al Henning, Carolyne Woodhams, Clarissa Johnston (7:15 pm), Erika Sprenger, Frank Guerin, Jill Duell, Karen Zenner, Laurie Ashley, Milt Lewis, Molly Caminata, Tom Looks
  - b. **Board Members Absent:** Cody Foster, Joe Hubbell, Sonya Youker, Tammara Sanchez
  - c. **Visitors Present:** Nicki Brown, Amanda Wilkins, Keri Bancroft, Dean Domnoske
4. **Review Agenda**
  - a. **Motion 1.18.24.1:** C. Woodhams/A. Henning made a motion to approve January 18, 2024 Agenda as amended. **Motion Passed unanimously.**
5. **Correspondence:** Letter in the mailbox for Tammara, Christmas card from the Arnolds. A few other Christmas cards. Vendor application for House of Flavors.
6. **President's Report:** Frank presented the presidents report. 198 days until the fair. MAFE Convention was great. Found more information on what we can and cannot do with regards to fundraising with 4-H.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Tom shared the treasurer's report.
8. **Presentation & Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
  - a. **Motion 1.18.24.2:** A. Henning/C. Woodhams made a motion to approve minutes from December 14, 2023 meeting as written. **Motion Passed unanimously.**
9. **Public Comment:** No public comment.
10. **New Business:** No new business.
11. **4H Livestock Council:**
  - a. Nicki Brown – Registrations for large beef and dairy beef are closed. Large Beef and 117 large beef and 7 dairy beef. Swine are due in February. Keri has secured the scales being calibrated on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Approved the budget at the January meeting. Getting ready for the Education Expo on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the GT Resort. Speakers are being solidified by next week. Asked for an updated committee list. The committee list was sent out by Tom earlier today.
12. **Unfinished Business:**
  - a. Erika Sprenger – Her boss is selling their ATM, it is approximately 2yrs old and is asking \$5,000. It was not used a whole lot and is asking if the fair would be interested in it. Erika will share photos.
13. **Committee Reports:**
  - a. Clarissa
    - i. While at convention Milt sent a message about display cases, we could use them in the Heim building but need to find the funds in the budget. They are \$250 each and there are 6 more cases available. **Motion 1.18.24.3:** E. Sprenger/T. Looks made motion that if there is money available in the parade trailer budget, we use that towards purchasing the cases. **Motion Passed unanimously.**
    - ii. An idea from convention, I would like to look at a Jr. Homemaker Program at our fair. The state is going to implement one in 2024. The program requirements

would be very similar to the Homemaker of The Year program. The board members present were supportive.

- iii. Would like to do a Hero's Day during fair week for first responders and healthcare workers. They would get a discounted rate for entrance to the fair.
- b. Laurie
  - i. Working on the Premium Book. Have heard from multiple open and 4-H We are still missing a few updates dog, rabbit/cavy, Poultry, and Large Beef. Have not purchased the software yet and are waiting until February 1<sup>st</sup>.
- c. Erika
  - i. Started working on new designs for merchandise this year. If anybody has ideas or thoughts let Erika know.
- d. Al
  - i. Found a few of the convention workshops were boring but did find the 4H Relationship workshop was very interesting. Also, the Running the Show workshop was very informative. While in the showing if we make a rule, we all need to stick with it.
- e. Molly
  - i. Had a good time at the convention. Spoke with the bingo contact and they will be completing the paperwork for this year. Frank will talk with Molly about the process for the Bingo committee.
- f. Milt
  - i. Tom and I talked yesterday about the website and both agree that we need to get information on the website as soon as possible. We may change some of the data on the website.
- g. Karen
  - i. Had a hard time getting around at the convention but did make it to a few classes. The classes were very repetitive and not overall informational. Multiple classes were cancelled due to the weather.
- h.Carolynne
  - i. Need to set up a By-Law & Policy committee meeting, we are extending it to the whole board. We will be doing Vows with the Cows again this year. Looking at revamping the Sponsorship packages to include barns. The silent auction at convention brought in a little over \$10,000. As the new Zone 5 director, we are going to be looking at a few different classes for convention. Please take the time to fill out the MAFE questionnaire.
  - ii. Talked with Chris and Scott from Blain's at convention. They would like to sponsor the rodeo again but also would like to sponsor something larger.
- i. Jill
  - i. Did fill out the MAFE questionnaire and suggested a few new classes. Looked for acts/things for Kid's Day and Special Kid's Day. The Mega Block builder was a good idea but cost about \$2100 per day and the kids do not get to take anything home with them. The Cup Guy was entertaining. Still looking for a few events for Kid's Day.

- j. Tom
  - i. Talked with Saffire at convention and found we are on an auto renewal for a 1 year contract after this year. Got new ideas for wristbands that work with our ticketing system for tracking lifetime and annual membership attendance. We received an email from ShoWorks about an updated program. It is more cloud based and our computers would meet the minimum requirements. Tom shared the cost on the ShoWorks website. Will start to update ticket details on the web. This will be tabled until the February meeting.
- k. Frank
  - i. Getting through Rentals and Contracts. Concessions are good.

14. **Adjournment:**

- a. **Motion 1.18.24.4:** C. Woodhams/J. Duell made motion to adjourn at 8:06 pm. **Motion passed unanimously.**