

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR BOARD MEETING
March 14, 2007

ATTENDANCE:

Sr. and Jr. Directors Present:

Dennis Brown, Bruce Doll, Kay Grinage, Kevin Haase, Jason Hofman, Gary Jonker, Jessica Marks, Nicki Patterson, Jim Crosby, Dean Olin, Steve Vickers, Luci Shaffer, Morgan Olin

Sr. and Jr. Directors Excused:

Dave Bielema, Dawn Haase, E.L. Phelps, Lindsay Bielema

Sr. and Jr. Directors Un-excused:

Thomas Pfaller

Areas Represented:

Beef, Dairy, Goat, Horse, Swine

Areas Not Represented:

Dog, Horse, Sheep, Poultry, Cavy/Rabbit

Others Present:

Rob Vonk, Nancy Kidder, Rory Kidder, Gord VanLaan, Jim Steketee, Ron Wenger, Tim Bergy, Pat Mager, Monica Burt, Bob Wallington, Tricia Wallington, Maruszka Hufstader, David Pachulski, Diane Brown, Gail VanSledright, Dave Simmonds, Paul Meyer

Call to order

The March meeting was called to order by President Jason Hofman at 7:30 p.m. at the King Memorial Youth Center and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with 13 directors present, 4 members excused, and 1 member un-excused.

2007-03-1 Moved by Dennis Brown and seconded by Morgan Olin to accept the January minutes as presented. Motion carried

2007-03-2 Moved by Dennis Brown and seconded by Morgan Olin to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Motion carried.

Current balances are:

Savings – \$13,010.85

Premium Checking – \$2142.06

Checking – \$18,133.62

2007-03-3 Moved by Dennis Brown and seconded by Morgan Olin to pay the bills. Motion carried.

Extension

Rob reported that a new agent has been hired. Her name is Glenda Kilpatrick.

A notice is going out to all swine clubs regarding the PQA.

There will be a fundraising opportunity on April 21 at Family Farm & Home. Please contact Rob for details.

Committees

We reviewed the report from the publicity committee.

Ron reported that Doug Clark, Ionia's fair manager, passed away. Doug will be greatly missed by all those that knew him.

Buildings & Grounds - The ceiling in the office has been painted and the floor now has vinyl tile on it.

Ron met with the Blue Grass Association to set up their contract. The new contract includes a price increase. They would like a 5 year contract to set their dates with re-negotiation of prices each year.

2007-03-4 Moved by Morgan Olin and seconded by Dean Olin to extend the contract to 5 years with re-negotiation of the prices each year. Motion carried.

The buildings and grounds committee will meet with Bob Wallington to go over the proposals that Bob handed out regarding the phone and sound system.

Midway - Elliot Amusements uses Bio-Diesel and we use it in our tractors. Deb Elliot has contacts with the Bio-Diesel Association which awards grants to those who use bio-diesel. Ron will be getting with Deb regarding information on a potential grant for us.

Camping - Dennis Brown passed out a proposal for no bikes. Please look it over and bring back any comments and/or suggestions.

Public Comments

Bob Wallington – Please read over the information given that was handed out and bring any questions, ideas, changes, etc. to the next meeting.

Rory Kidder – It is E.L. and Wannetah's 65th wedding anniversary (March 14).

Old Business:

Performing Arts Superintendent – We still need someone. We have had some suggestions and there is one that will be contacted soon to see if interested.

Sawdust – The question was raised as to if the sawdust has walnut (or any nut wood) in it. Everyone is in favor of it as long as does not have any of the “nut wood” in it. Gord VanLaan is going to have Eugene Camps contact Ron as well as himself. Eugene may want a contract.

Lease – Our lease is probably not going to be affected much. The Parks commission has to have it to the City Council by April 1. We have expressed an interest in areas that we currently do not use. The property boundaries are to be defined in the lease as well.

Pet Expo - Help is needed in contacting the lady with the pony rides. Monica did get a name and number. Ron needs to know what is needed for the expo. There will be goats and the DVD of the fair.

Lowell Expo – Saturday, March 24 9:00 – 3:30. Everything is set for the booth. Volunteers are needed to help man the booth. Please see Ron if you can help.

Farmer's Market – The 2007 Farmer's Market will be May 17 – October 11. There is information on the market and sponsorship on the website.

New Business:

Horse Camp – Dave Pachulski still needs to get information regarding the insurance coverage before he can proceed with plans for a possible horse camp at the fairgrounds. If the cost of the insurance and the grounds is reasonable Dave will bring a proposal to the fairboard for approval. Some ideas of what would be needed are: use of the camp ground (about 40 trailers), bathroom facilities, the King building (would like for preparing meals but it is not necessary), Horse stalls (about 70), and the arena. There would be minimal night usage of the arena. The horse area would do most all of the set up and clean up. This is not a fundraiser for the Horse area. All proceeds would go to the fair. There would be a fee of \$60-\$70 per participant for the first year. Parents and or Guardians would be mandatory. Dave and Ron are working on possible dates of the camp.

4-H Council – The 4-H council is no longer doing a booth at the annual Festival of the Arts in downtown Grand Rapids. They are interested in having a coffee cart at fair that would serve coffee, cappuccino, mochas, etc. but no food. They already have a trailer that they could use. They would just need water and electric. In the past they paid Festival 25% of their gross. Gail VanSledright will get with Ron regarding prices, requirements, etc.

Goats – There will be a Goat Fun Day on Saturday, March 24 at the fairgrounds. The Goat Developmental Committee became official in December 2006 and now have their own EIN. Maruszka will get with Ron on the set up needed for the fun day. The Goat show during fair currently starts at 9:30 on Monday. Maruszka would like to move it up to start at 9:00 on Monday. She will let her exhibitors and parents know of the change and get the change made for the brochure.

2007-03-5 Moved by Morgan Olin and seconded by Jessica Marks to allow the Goat show to begin at 9:00 on Monday of fair week. Motion carried
Maruszka needed the dates for the 2008 fair so she could get a verbal commitment for a judge that she would like to have. The dates are August 4 – 9.

Blue Devils Horse Platoon – They would like to come in and perform on Monday of fair week which is also Veteran's Day. They put on about a _ hour show. The horse area has a break that the Platoon could perform during. That would be about 5:30 – 6:00. There would be about 8 horses. This was referred to the building and grounds committee.

Scout Day – Will be Friday of fair week. Bruce Doll has confirmed with Deb Elliott of Elliot Amusements that scouts (boy and girl) in uniform will get a ride special for \$9.00. The older scouts will also help with the handicappable activities. The ride special is for all scouts.

2007-03-6 Moved by Jim Crosby and seconded by Morgan Olin to adjourn. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the King Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicki Patterson, Secretary