

ST. CLAIR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Monday, May 8, 2023 – Goodells County Park

1) ROLL CALL

Present: Liz Pennazoli, Chris Ruemenapp, Scott Hill, Mike Tomasek, Linda Taylor, Colleen Provost, Alan Thueme, Lori Warchuck, Kylie Veldman, Tom Vincent, Tim Warchuck, Rob Usakowski, Lindsey Uppleger, Bernie Dudek, Donna Wojtysiak.

Excused: Rick Ruemenapp, Kent Renn, Kim Hetzel.

Guests: Megan Tomasek, Bob Podjorski, Tom Stickley, Cathie Usakowski, Connie Murray, Susan Hinkins.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2) AGENDA

A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by S. Hill to approve the agenda with the addition of the vet contract.

Motion carried.

3) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Memphis Public Schools, Susan Hinkins, who is a Memphis principal talked about their program regarding a mobile library and wish to include it at least one day at the fair in the area by the petting farm. It's called the Book Hive, includes STEM activities, equipped with internet, students are able to check out books if they are Memphis students, it includes robots. This is a grant from the Community Foundation. They have a golf outing annually to fund the library. There is lawn furniture and comfy seating outside the book mobile. This is self-contained. The cost normally is the librarian and bus driver. They would like to be here longer than Tuesday, but funds might prohibit that. Cost for other days is cost of librarian, \$25 an hour for the bus driver.

Connie Murray reported there are 98 horses registered, 15 minis, 3 ponies.

4) SECRETARY'S REPORT

No report.

5) TREASURER'S REPORT

No report.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT

L. Burch has a bill for brochures, yard signs and copier contract. Brochures have been delivered and are in her truck.

7) MSU EXTENSION

Kylie Veldman started this week in the MSU Extension office as a new support staff person. Updates on enrollments, 252 volunteers, 529 4-Her's, 83 cloverbuds. Only sending 15 to Expo Days. 33 registered for Day Camp.

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Finishing up classroom programming. Kayaking spin club will start soon which is a 6-week experience.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) AG EDUCATOIN

There will be a meeting May 24, 2023 at 7 p.m. to finish up trading cards.

B) AWARDS

Waiting for additional ribbons to arrive.

C) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Grants are funded for 2024, we will be eligible to apply.

D) CRATER – No report.

E) ENTERTAINMENT

Lowe's are bringing staff out to do make it and take it.

F) FACILITIES

Need to buy another post pounder. May need another power box for campers, our cost is \$1000 or less, for the carnival. This would be the first set of electrical updates for the carnival, which will be costly in the next few years. Post pounder would be \$2000. A motion was made by A. Thueme to buy a post pounder and spend up to \$2500., supported by C. Ruemenapp.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by A. Thueme to update the electrical for the carnival area at a cost of up to \$1000, supported by L. Pennazoli.

Motion carried.

G) HANDICAPABLE DAY

Still looking for volunteers to help with parking and maneuvering cars and animal. L. Pennazoli suggested Melanie Heitz. Ordering shifts, they will have hot pink shirts.

H) LIVESTOCK

There were 160 hogs registered, 49 sheep tagged, 12 veal and 6 goats on Saturday.

I) PARKS AND RECREATION

R. Usakowski met with Nate and Dennis. Fence at Crater is in, gates need to be put up. Talked to them about paint for horse barns and they will purchase paint and supplies if we have volunteers, need to know when you will do that. Meeting next week and see how many volunteers they can get for that. If they let us know we'll post for volunteers.

They loved the sign idea of putting pole banners on the side of the barns and they will use them throughout the year. Discussion about storage, wasn't open to doing a whole lot on

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the north side, but Dennis suggested putting storage containers between the two barns. Potential negative, prices gone up in this park dramatically. Anticipate some increase in our park rent in the future.

J) SPONSORSHIP

Meeting on May 16 at 6 p.m. to organize banners. June 6th general sponsor meeting to go over things. On 6-2 they will order banners. Looking at thank you banner of 4x8. Working for a sponsor for teenage games, family zone. No word on bubble party, although K. Hetzel said there was a sponsor. No money received for that sponsorship, so it wasn't advertised.

K) PUBLICITY

Feather signs are being firmed up and will price them with and without frames and will order them after the June meeting. Will order banners on barns and pavement decals on the cement. Presentation with Comcast about livestreaming ads. Multiple points of data to advertise, list of data points they're looking at and targeted advertisement. Tying demographics into channels on Xfinity. Impressions 177,000, 1,000 spots communicating out, non-skippable ads. \$3750 for them to do that. Some production costs to put together an ad. Camelot Studios cost \$850 for the production. \$4600 total to do that production and advertisement.

A motion was made by C. Ruemenapp to advertise with Comcast, supported by T. Warchuck.

Motion carried.

Bus wraps are on hold for 2023. They will let us know when that changes.

L) STILL EXHIBIT BARN

Megan Tomasek won't be at the fair on Monday, and may need some volunteers to help in that barn.

M) SUPERINTENDENT DEVELOPMENT

There was not a great showing of still barn exhibit superintendents, and most livestock superintendents came.

N) ELECTRONIC TICKETING

To date sold 12 tickets. L. Burch needs tickets for the office. R. Usakowski will be talking to them about what equipment is needed.

9) OLD BUSINESS

A) VET CONTRACT

The contract has been changed so they're coming from 4-8 on Sunday the 16th, will do daily walk through and livestock only, TBA on time and any animals needing services pay by 4Her, and due time of service. Equine, blood draw for Friday draft horse, in event of outbreak, MDARD liaison.

B) EQUIPMENT NEEDED

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Bob Podjorski needs new paint dispensers and new measuring wheels. We lost a couple of each last year due to damage or not being turned in.

10) ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by L. Pennazoli to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.

Motion carried.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary