

Kalamazoo County Fair
Fair Council Meeting
Aug 23, 2017

Members Present: Jackie Stasevich, Marion Hill, Valerie Dietrich, Paul Harrison, Rod DeVries, Robert Gibson
Members Absent: Robert Barnard, Ruth DeBoer

Staff Present: Dave Rachowicz, Anthony Frontiera, Joshua Gower
Citizens: Greg Maycomber

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was held at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center, room C, and was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Council President, Marion Hill.

2. Roll Call:

Roll was taken and a quorum was established. Motion to excuse those absent: DeVries. Second: Stasevich.

3. Approval of Minutes – July 26, 2017 meeting:

Members reviewed the minutes. Correction requested by Harrison: In members time, the question was not did “WE” send letters, but “Did this body send letters.” The stipulation was that the county did not represent “this body.” The answer then had to be changed to “no.” Motion: to approve with corrections: Stasevich. Second: DeVries. Motion carried by voice vote.

4. Citizens Time:

4H families unhappy because there is nothing for the kids to do in the evenings.

5. Communications:

- a. Leader’s Council Update - DeVries: No meeting since fair
- b. Livestock Association Update - Stasevich: No meeting since fair
- c. Horse Council Horse Arena Update - Dietrich: We had one bad scare but no serious injuries. No meeting since fair.

6. Old Business

- a. Updated Budget – Discussion: Most of the expenses are in. Hardings sales helped numbers.
- b. Fair Admission & Carnival Summary – Discussion: We have begun discussions about bringing in more rides. Survey will go out to 4H families shortly.
- c. Leaders Council Fair Update – The new superintendents did a good job.
- d. LSA Fair Update - Buyers Letters did not go out correctly which makes keeping buyers happy difficult. Auction: Good prices, down 50 sales and \$48,000 less than last year.
- e. Horse Council Fair Update – We had a good time.

- f. Open Class Fair Update – None.

7. New Business

- a. Outdoor Layout for 2018 – Discussion: Will need a place for non-horse animals to be exercised when arenas move. Camzies would like to be moved next year to be right off the livestock mall to be closer to the traffic flow from 4H to midway.
- b. Exit Survey Results 2017 – Discussion: This year average score was 7.2, this year 7.4, up .2. Lack of volunteers resulted in lower surveys on busier days.
- c. Terms – (Added to agenda): Motion to recommend to county that it renew council membership of Ruth DeBoer: Dietrich. Second: Stasevich. Motion carried by voice vote.

8. Member's Time:

Harrison: Next year need bobcat with forks for the week. Contemplating this as last year organizing auction.

Gibson: Contemplating this as last year organizing auction. 4H office MUST get things done on time and correctly.

Stasevich: The county employees were very attentive and helpful. Thank you!

Rachowitz: We really thank all the volunteers.

Gower: The expo center activities were good. We need more sponsors and will be building relationships this fall.

Hope to have one grandstand event next year. Hope to have another tomato tasteoff but at noon instead of 9.

Considering keeping fair open an hour later. Want premium books done by October.

Dietrich: 4H families don't always go through expo center. May want to consider posts in April and May about new open still classes.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Valerie Dietrich, Fair Council Secretary