

KALAMAZOO COUNTY FAIR COUNCIL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

Members Present: Jeanne Comar, Ruth DeBoer, Marion Hill, Jackie Stasevich
Members Absent: Molly Buckham, Rod DeVries, Marilyn Kritzman, Paul Harrison
Staff Present: Tyler Augst, Josh Gower
Citizens: Jeff McCubbin, Tammy Wolhuis

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was held at the Kalamazoo County Expo Center, Room C and was called to order at 6:30pm by Chair Person Hill.
2. **Roll Call** – Roll was taken and quorum was not established.
3. **Approval of Minutes – August 28, 2019 Meeting** - Members reviewed the minutes.
4. **Citizen's Time (Items not on the Agenda)** – None
5. **Communications**
 - a. **4H Leaders Council Update** – Tyler Augst
 - i. Reenrollment is happening
 - ii. Working on budget for 2020
 - b. **4H Livestock Association Update** – Josh Gower
 - i. Checks are being sent out
 - c. **4H Horse Council Update** – Jeanne Comar
 - i. Rodeo was a huge hit!
 - ii. Would like more grandstand events
 - iii. Increasing communication on what is happening during fair week to the horse groups
 - iv. Improvements
 - Gate locking times for campers
 - Lamont Gate wasn't open when it should have been during the night and especially in the mornings
 - v. Some schedule updates
 - vi. Pet adoption?
 - Sure, why not, just as long as people aren't bringing animals around the grounds
 - vii. Security was much better this year, especially Saturday night
 - viii. 4-H Alumni Open Class would be great
 - ix. Load Out
 - Some people cheated and loaded their horses into trailers ahead of time
 - x. Warm up area could be nicer
 - xi. Horse Program was very happy with grounds and footing, etc.
 - d. **Open Pony** – Ruth DeBoer
 - i. Nothing New
 - e. **MSU Extension** – Veronica Bolhuis
 - i. Expansion and Review committee – looking for people
6. **Old Business**
 - a. 2019 Fair Budget
 - i. Gower Reviewed the budget
7. **New Business**
 - a. 2020 4-H Fair Event Schedule
 - i. Need to figure out ways to let other people know what's going on around the grounds
 - ii. Suggested that admission be charged on Monday, even at a lower rate, to increase admission revenues
 - iii. Text system to let people know what events are coming up
 - iv. Horse – Thursday is Versatility and Gymkhana
 - Could move to later in the day.
 - b. Increasing Exhibitor Enrollment
 - i. Make more strides with homeschool organizations to encourage enrollment
 - ii. Online registration for open class would encourage enrollment
 - iii. Youth already involved should be promoting 4-H
 - iv. Master gardeners have done a great job
 - Could we have them help out with urban gardens or pots?
 - c. 2020 Strategic Plan
 - i. Tabled until October.
8. **Member's Time**
 - a. Hill – Should increase signage or do something else to let people know about Horse Arenas and the stuff on the backside of the barns throughout the week
 - b. Comar – Costume Class Horse Projects – more visible
9. **Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

KALAMAZOO COUNTY FAIR COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION, HEIGHT, WEIGHT, MARITAL STATUS OR DISABILITY. KALAMAZOO COUNTY WILL PROVIDE NECESSARY REASONABLE AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES, SUCH AS SIGNERS FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED AND AUDIO TAPES OF PRINTED MATERIALS BEING CONSIDERED AT THE MEETINGS/HEARINGS, TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES AT THE MEETING/HEARING UPON FOUR (4) BUSINESS DAYS NOTICE TO THE PARKS OFFICE. INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES REQUIRING AUXILIARY AIDS OR SERVICES SHOULD CONTACT THE PARKS OFFICE BY WRITING OR CALLING (269) 383-8778.