

Gratiot County Fair for Youth
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 6, 2022
Bill & Grace Vanderbeek Conference Room

Members Present:

Becky Hirschman, Larry Richards, Jason Lombard, Clay Mills, Brent Skinner, Chuck Efaw, Martha Stellow, Keegan Humm (zoom), Taylor Gager, Josh Hitsman, Erin Humm, Darcy Martyn, Lindsey Austin, Adam Wood, Ben Cary

Guest: Laurie Gager, Darren Fish, Stacey Woggon, Angie Lake, Beth Gruden, Samantha Sinclair, Brandise Leonard

President Chuck Efaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Secretary's report:

Becky Hirschman reviewed the minutes from the September 8, 2022 meeting. Larry moved to approve the minutes from the meeting as presented, Brent seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Martha Stellow reviewed the Financial Reports through September 30, 2022. Becky made the motion to accept the financials as presented and Larry seconded. Motion carried. The board agreed to remove Shiloh pledge from 2020.

Public Comment:

- Angie Lake was here and mentioned that in two years 2025 it will be the 75th GCFY Anniversary. She shared that at the 50th several people were involved to make it a special celebration. Angie is willing to sit on a 75th Anniversary committee to help plan the event. Erin Humm and Darcy Martyn agreed to sit on the committee as well.
- Brandise Leonard shared her thoughts about some ideas she had for fair week. She suggested we have some childcare options for younger children during the animal shows. She also suggested a clothing swap. The board listened to her suggestions and thoughts and encouraged her to seek her own childcare options and that she could do her own clothing swap with their 4-H club.

Fair Office Report:

- Erin brought the superintendents that are needed for next year; court superintendent and sheep superintendent. The superintendent committee will get together and meet to review the applications. We will meet before the next fair board meeting at 6 pm.
- Vendor agreement will be reviewed at the next board meeting. Erin will send out the agreement with the minutes from this meeting.
- Annual Meeting is December 1 at 6 pm - the board meeting will follow.

4-H Report: October is 4-H month. There are special spotlights throughout the month featuring 4-H members. Stacey reminded the board to have kids begin signing up with 4-H online. 4-H Council's Award Banquet is on October 23.

FFA report: Ben said National Convention is October 27-30; there are three American Degree winners from Gratiot County.

Horse developmental: Brought the fairboard changes attached for approval. Larry moved to accept and Lindsey seconded. Motion carried. Changes will be made in the fair book.

Large Animal Committee: The large animal committee proposed a change to the large animal show. The proposal will be reviewed and voted on at the November 6 board meeting.

Small animal Committee: No meeting.

Buildings and Grounds:

- Chuck put a door in the feeder barn so that when all campers are stored we can still get out of the building. Barn E roof is complete.
- Barn C will be done this fall.
- Jason checked with the city of Alma and they said that the dump station lid is our responsibility.
- The water will be shut-off the week of October 24.
- Patty Macha and Aileen Waldron donated plants from Meijer. Phil doesn't want to plant any of the plants and the board decided that new beds were not necessary at this time. The board suggested a letter to be drafted as to the expectations for the adopted flower beds. They also suggested that we have a new superintendent for that area.

Special events committee- Dinner Dance will be held February 25, 2023 at PINS in Ithaca. Erin will get a check around for \$1,000.00 –Fortney will deliver it to Wally at PINS.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Fair Review – see notes on review sheet.
- Winter Storage is on October 22, 2022 – we need help for that morning. Larry, Jason, Lindsey, Martha/Steve, Chuck, Becky, Josh, Clay and Ben will be there to help. Erin will have all of the paperwork and labels for each barn.
- Camping rules were proposed and the board asked Erin to make a couple small changes and email it for a vote. Erin will make the changes and email it to the board for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Fair Schedule – committee will meet to discuss schedule changes.
- MAFE Convention draft schedule was passed around and Erin will email it to the board. Jan 12-14 is the conference
- It was discussed that we should make our committees public so that others could join the committees. Erin will put those on the website.
- Clay asked to borrow the poultry cages. He signed an agreement and will make sure they are returned in good condition and clean the following week.

The next meeting will be November 3, 2022 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Hirschman
GCFFY Secretary