FAIR COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: FAIR

DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2022

TIME: 4:30 PM

PLACE: COUNTY BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dehart called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Black, Dehart, Piasini, Weber

Absent: Berg

Others Present: Al Flannery, Brenda Flannery, Nora Matuszewski, Michelle Gobert,

Dennis Thiel, Amber Rehberg, Justin Nacius

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Weber to approve the agenda, second by Piasini. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 27, 2022 FAIR MEETING

Motion by Black to approve the minutes from the July 27, 2022 meeting, second by Weber. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

UPDATE ON THE 2022 FAIR

- 4-H entries
- Fair premiums and exhibitors

Brenda Flannery told the committee the youth entries were pretty steady at 14 exhibitors, but the open class was down by about 50%. She attributed that because the fair was earlier and some of the entries were not able to enter. She has been meeting with a lot of people and most of them like it later as has been in recent year. Michelle Gobert explained the 4-H liked it earlier because of the face to face judging. Brenda told her that she was going to try to continue the face to face judging. There was a concern about the horse judging, but Brenda assured this would not happen again and told the committee Amy Kuebler had spoken with the ring leader and there was misunderstanding. Brenda told them changes suggested should be going through one person, so this does not happen again. She did talk to Amy and the entrant about the issue.

DISCUSSION ON BY-LAWS INCLUDING A POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Black would like the discussion to be in closed session as it should be a committee decision what the policies and procedures should be. Al Flannery did not understand the need to do things in closed session. There was a long discussion on questions needing to be answered and who is responsible for what when it comes to the Fair; which included the Fair Committee, Citizen Fair Committee, AG Society and members. Brenda explained what

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her duties were as the Fair secretary and who the others were that were appointed by the board. Michelle Gobert asked about how to get input to update the Fair books and also asked when does the Fair committee have input on the books. It was explained that a lot of the items in the Fair books are set by statute and any changes need to be approved to find out if they are covered by the state. Any extra entries would have to be covered by another funding source, such as basket weaving.

Motion by Black, second by Weber to set a closed session on the next Fair committee meeting for discussion on the Policies and Procedures manual. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ON TREASURY FUND AVAILIBILITY FOR THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF FUTURE FAIR PROPERTIES

The Clerk explained the Treasury funds and the possibility of using some of the funds to purchase Fair properties as suggested by the Finance chair. The property the committee has been looking at is at a stand still for right now. Black has talked to several of the landowners and right now they are not ready. She has been told they may be ready sometime in 2023. Black told the committee she has spent an extensive amount of time on this project and does not want to put in a lot more time if the committee is not going to meet and keep moving forward with looking for properties. She wondered if a subcommittee should be set up that could meet more often and then the committee could bring back some of the people who were working so hard to find a place in the past. There was some discussion about the perception of the Fair and making certain the board has confidence in the success of the Fair to invest money in it. Should or could the Fair be moved to Wabeno until a new property was purchased and set up for use. Amber Rehberg commented the Fair was and still is a big part of her life. She said the Fair is only one week per year, she wanted to make sure the grounds are used for other things than just the Fair. Michelle Gobert commented the decisions need to be made together, Brenda Flannery felt it is being done that way.

DISCUSSION ON THE 2023 FAIR:

- Fair plans
- Carnival- contract and date

The Fair next year will be the weekend after Labor Day (September 7,8,9,10) and as of now will have a Carnival (Tri-State). There is a possibility to have it earlier, but not for the next couple years.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Fair properties
- 2023 Fair planning and updates
- Closed session on Policy and Procedures manual
- Grounds issues
- Next meeting December 14, 2022 5:30 p.m.

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There being no further business, motion by Weber to adjourn, second by Black. All present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.