

FAIR COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE:	FAIR
DATE:	JUNE 12, 2023
TIME:	5:15 PM
PLACE:	COUNTY BOARD ROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dehart called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. and read the agenda.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Dehart, Weber, Skallerud

Absent: Black, Piasini

Others Present: Nora Matuszewski, Terry Lukas, Charlene Kalata, Brenda Flannery, Allen Flannery, Mike Miller, Ben Hermus, Randy Johnson, Jim Smith

APPROVE AGENDA

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

APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 22, 2022 FAIR MEETING

Motion by Skallerud to approve the minutes from the December 22, 2022 meeting, second by Weber. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

DISCUSSION WITH JIM SMITH (WABENO TOWN CHAIR) ON THE PROS AND CONS OF POSSIBLY MOVING THE FAIR TO WABENO; POSSIBLE ACTION

Dehart explained he had attended a Wabeno Town Board meeting where they discussed the possibility of moving the Fair to Wabeno, temporary re-locating there during the period when a newly purchased property could be prepared and even suggested a 100-year lease with the Town for the grounds. Jim Smith explained the grounds they have in Wabeno are maintained very well, telling the committee about all of the events they have there. He also told the committee they will be updating \$20,000 in lighting and accommodating for more camping. They are very interested in the Fair and would work with the County and Ag Society if needed. The Ag Society told Smith they would not ever sign a lease because of the Covenants the Fair needed to be within 3-miles of the city limits. Smith commented on the covenants and then asked who was involved in the Ag Society and if others could join. It was suggested others could join.

There were questions on when Home Town Trolley would need to expand. Dehart explained about the property they are looking at and still available.

DISCUSSION ON THE 2023 FAIR AND CARNIVAL COMING AT NO COST WITH SIGNED CONTRACT; POSSIBLE ACTION

Brenda spoke about the carnival and how it has always come at no cost to the county saying they work with the carnival on wristbands. They are selling advance tickets for the wristbands with a new booklet coming next year. The Carnival this year is Terry Schneider Amusements. Dehart directed Al Flannery

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to send a copy of the signed contract to the Clerk. Al explained usually it is just a handshake but, they do have a contract this year, he will send the Clerk a copy of the signed contract right away tomorrow. Michelle Gobert asked about the Fair judges and whether the horse judge was the same one as last year; Brenda told her they already have them picked and the horse judge is not the same as last year.

DISCUSSION ON ALLOWING THE FOREST COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY USE OF THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE FOR HISTORICAL EXHIBITS DURING THE 2023 FAIR; POSSIBLE ACTION

There was plenty discussion on the Little Red School House as the Historical Society has asked to use it for exhibits during the Fair. Brenda told the committee that the building was always used for youth exhibits and since Covid there had not been much interest but, they have interest again this year and probably will use it. Michelle Gobert explained the building is historical and was purchased with a grant in 2011 for use as a 4-H building. Weber thought it would be better for the youth to exhibit in the other buildings and the Little Red School House could then be used by the Historical Society. Al Flannery questioned if there would be anyone available all day to watch the building and Gobert assured there would be. The discussion continued as to who the building belonged to. Dehart told everyone the building is County property and the two entities should work it out as to using the building. Gobert respectfully retracted her request so as to not cause any issues.

DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO CHANGES TO CHAPTER 160 OF STATE STATUTE THAT GOVERN THE FAIR AND FAIR BOOKS; POSSIBLE ACTION

It was asked about the new Chapter 160 statute updates governing the Fair and Fair books and if they were updated. Brenda told the committee she had spoken to the state and since the Fair books were already printed they are not updated this year but, will be for next year.

DISCUSSION ON FAIR BOOKS, PUBLICATION COSTS AND PREMIUMS; POSSIBLE ACTION

The Fair books are printed; Michelle Gobert pointed out the UW-Extension information has the incorrect email and website and asked them to update it in the 2024 book.

DISCUSSION ON A NEW LOCATION FOR THE FAIR, SOUTH ON HIGHWAY 55 AND CONSIDERATION TO RELOCATE IF NECESSARY; POSSIBLE ACTION

There is still the property the committee has been looking at with 10.70 acres. The land is owned by lawyers and when they sell, they donate money to schools. Lukas will bring the discussion of land purchase to the Forestry committee and also someone should bring it to the Highway as it is right by the Highway property, they could use the gravel if any is available.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Property Purchase
- Possible Joint meeting on July 12th 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Skallerud to adjourn, second by Weber. All present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.