

RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS
Okanogan County Fair Advisory Committee
May 21, 2015

The Okanogan County Fair Advisory Committee met in regular session on May 21, 2015, with Chairman, Kathleen Maltais, Ali Thomas, Jill Scott, Wanda McFarland, Sam Buchert, Naomie Boesel, Trampas Stucker and Tracey Reagles present. Clerk Kathleen Descoteaux was also present.

Mike Egerton, Kris Sims, Erin White and Ali Thomas were not present.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:07pm.

Public Comment

Jean Berney, 1750 Conconully Road, Okanogan made a public comment. She came to make a donation to the Fair in memory of her mother. She just passed away. She is donating \$500 for any needs of the Home Ec building and would like a report of what is being done. The clerk will deposit the funds into the appropriate budget line and provide reports for Mrs. Berney.

Kathleen Maltais inquired further about Mrs. Berney's mother and Jean had the opportunity to tell the FAC of all the things her mother did at and for the Fair. Jean herself began at the Fair in 1950 and her husband has also been involved.

Approval of Agenda

Clerk added poster discussion and revolving bank discussion to the Agenda.

Trampas Stucker moved to approve the agenda and Naomie Boesel seconded. All were in approval. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Trampas Stucker moved to approve the minutes for April. Jill Scott seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Correspondence

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Naomie Boesel brought a letter in regards to the mandatory tagging requirement. Someone had concerns that there was not adequate notification and not enough consideration was given to how busy the kids are.

New Business

- a. Superintendents requesting more funds for judges fees. Crystal Gage wants to give \$700 for her judge and Denice Hires wants to give \$200. It is not in the budget for this year. Trampas Stucker said that if it were closer to Fair, they might be able to see where extra funds could be found to pay. Jill Scott agreed. The FAC recommended to the Superintendents that they give their pay recommendations earlier so it could be budgeted for.
- b. Poster for Fair: The poster will be made of the original artwork or the cover of the book. Wanda is concerned that the original is off the table. Naomie suggested that using the book would provide continuity.
Trampas Stucker moved to use the Fair book art to make the posters. Jill Scott seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- c. Books were handed out earlier this month to:
Denice Hires delivered books to Buyers and the Junction in Tonasket.
Shelby Hendershot took them to Prince's and Frontier in Oroville.
Sheila Corson took them to all the Omak District School buildings.
Jackie Pryor is handing hers out at tagging event.
- d. Scheduling a meeting with the Commissioners. A meeting was scheduled with the Commissioners on June 23 @ 4:00pm.
- e. Fair Hours: The Fair hours are in the book as 10pm, but the music and grounds will be on until Midnight.

Subcommittee (Team) Reports

a. Queen

Lexi Howell – Katie Fergus is the new royalty advisor.

b. Commissioners

Jim Detro, Ray Campbell, Sheilah Kennedy

The Commissioners did not attend.

c. Fairgrounds Operation

Discussions were had about volunteering to fix things on the Fairgrounds. The FAC will work with the Fairgrounds Office to make smaller repairs that do not require Commissioner approval. Volunteer Days were discussed but not scheduled.

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d. 4-H

Ann Fagerlie

Ann Fagerlie did not attend.

e. Team

i. Finance

Budget Report

Naomie Boesel asked Sam Buchert if the Rodeo and Race people can be paid ahead of time because the racers and rodeoers are paid by the contracted company out of what they are paid by the County. The Clerk recommended that this issue be brought before the Commissioners at the upcoming meeting.

ii. Camping

Jill Scott (CH), Kris Sims, Ali Thomas, Wanda McFarland, Naomie Boesel

Jill Scott said that the Camping committee needed to pick up the camping applications from the Fairground Office. Jill Scott suggested that the camping committee meet closer to her or Kris Sims' house. An appointment will be made later. The contracts and payments are due July 15, so they need to get on the ball, according to Wanda McFarland.

Naomie Boesel suggested that Okanogan Truck and Tractor's camping application be given to them and then said she would be the one who made sure they got it. Their application was somehow not delivered last year.

A June 7th, 3:00pm meeting was suggested. Jill Scott will work on it and send everyone an email.

iii. Vending

Jill Scott (CH), Mike Egerton, Wanda McFarland, Trampas Stucker, *Heather Carrington*

iv. Exhibitor

Tracey Reagles (CH), Trampas Stucker

Tracey Reagles wants to find out what repairs need to be done for the superintendents. Denice Hires said that there is no lighting near the Mutton Busting. There's cement in the

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goat barn that is cracked and keeps tripping people. She wants repairs made and has made the request in the past. Naomi Boesel gave her a form to fill out. The clerk recommended to all present that Repair and Maintenance forms should come to her because many of them have to be brought before the Commissioners.

v. Livestock

Ali Thomas (CH), Wanda McFarland, Sam Buchert

Livestock Coordinator Report: The sheep tagging date is on May 30. Clerk asked that the sheets be kept less dusty. Jackie Pryor said that if Ali Thomas can't make it, it's okay.

Sam Buchert moved to eliminate mandatory weighing and tagging from the 2016 Fair; this is a rule change. Naomi seconded. Jill Scott and Kathleen Maltais opposed. Motion carried. Discussion ensued. Comments were made about cheaters cheating and that only a few cheaters would cheat. Jill Scott suggested that a born date might be better than weighing and tagging. Trampas Stucker suggested that registration be done the same as the pig registration. Jill suggested that weighing was a real learning experience that could not be had if it were eliminated. Wanda McFarland asked about the policy. Tracey Reagles was asked her opinion and she said that she heard so much flack about it that it doesn't seem like something that was worth the trouble. Trampas said that it's a real pain for people now because weighing can only happen on the Fairgrounds because of liability issues. Jill says that kids aren't always available to weigh, but the parents bring them. The weight is important, not who brings the cow. Sam Buchert suggested they could weigh them at home, but Jill said not everyone has a big scale. Naomi Boesel suggested that if it's not a mandatory rule, weighing can be done around the community and is not a liability issue. Jill said that not one parent complained this year at weighing. It was great and everyone was happy. It was an opportunity to halter and tag. It was great. Sam said he had to look at what the requirement was. He doesn't like the weighing and tagging. Trampas said the FAC can still do registration. Wanda said that part of the reason is that some years some people have just gone in and gotten some cow off the range and they are awful. Weighing and tagging prevents losing profit on livestock sale. The cheating isn't the biggest issue.

Straw and Shavings for the Fair

Who pays for it? The Market Stock Fund usually pays for straw. Ali Thomas is going to be directed to contact Gwen Whitley to discuss whether or not the Market Stock fund will cover the shavings, too.

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Stock Fund Contract: Should the Market Stock Fund have a contract. The Commissioners created their contract last year and the FAC believes that the Commissioners should still be in charge. Wanda McFarland asked the clerk to verify that a contract was written last year. She said she would. *UPDATE (5/22): Gwen Whitley says that the Market Stock people have never had a contract with the Fair or the County, but they will if it is necessary.

vi. Parking

Kris Sims (CH), Jill Scott, Trampas Stucker, Scott Reagles

vii. Advertising

Kathleen Maltais (CH), Naomie Boesel, Jill Scott, Sam Buchert, Erin White

A project proposal from local marketing agency. Review of a proposed letter from the marketing agency. This will be included in the minutes.

Kathleen Maltais would like to have a full-length story every 2-4 weeks in the local papers concerning the Fair. Major issues and issues that need to be brought to the fore need to be put on the radio and in the newspapers right now and should be on-going. It costs no money. They will either do a press release with or without pictures and will also take all ideas for any items that can be put in an article.

If it is acceptable to the FAC, she will move forward with the articles. Sheila Corson already does articles for the Chronicle. The FAC has a favorable view of this tack.

Kathleen Maltais also submitted a list of ideas, which will be attached. Naomie Boesel suggested that Teresa Good contact Kathleen to discuss putting some of the things she is trying to put together on the stage during the entertainment schedule down-times. The FAC and attendees were excited about the idea.

Wanda McFarland asked what was spent on advertising last year. The total budget for 2014 was \$7,148.63. A discussion about a billboard was discussed and there are ideas in the works to put one on private property with donated materials.

Reuse of last year's banners was discussed. It is possible and a good idea. Reusing the things from last year by putting stickers over the items that need to be changed was brought up. It is a cheap and realistic way to get more use out of banners from the previous year.

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Naomie Boesel met with Blackhorse Productions, Bill Black, in Okanogan. His expertise is in marketing. He is willing to take over all the Fair's advertising and do it for the Fair and has presented a proposal to the FAC. He is saying he will help out this year for free, but he would like the contract (\$7,000) to do all of the advertising in 2016. He also wants to join this year's advertising team. Trampas Stucker thinks it's a great idea but Kathleen Maltais does not think it's a good idea because she and her family have far too much experience in advertising to turn over money to a company when the FAC can do it for free.

Bill Black ran the casino marketing for twelve years. Sam Buchert says he is a genuinely concerned citizen. Naomie Boesel says they hired Teresa because she is an expert and could provide expert help. She is interested in hiring Bill Black to advertise for the same reason. He is an expert and can provide the Fair with professional help. Jill Scott suggested trying it for one year to see if it was worth the price. Naomie said again that he wants to help this year. Kathleen Maltais said that she has what's best for the community at heart as well. She has roots in the county and says that she is an expert advertiser and can provide the same expert service for free. Jill suggested that Kathleen Maltais contact Bill Black and discuss what he's offering for free and see what he can do. Naomie Boesel said that Bill Black has said that the FAC has done no advertising this year and they should have done something by now.

Naomie Boesel suggested selling advertising space on the grounds to raise extra money.

Trampas Stucker suggested that the FAC needs to create a consensus about pricing because everyone needs to be on board delivering the same information.

We will put the sponsorship advertising space on the next agenda. Selling advertising space, not getting sponsors.

Kathleen Maltais said that the advertising is becoming commercialized. She is saying that she has all sorts of time to do whatever has to be done. She does not like the direction of too much commercialization and is it healthy? It's supposed to be a community fair, not the fair of the Tribe or anyone else. There's nothing that addresses the Hispanics and she thinks that selling advertising space and hiring Bill Black would be going in the wrong directions.

viii. Rules

Wanda McFarland (CH), Ali Thomas, Kris Sims, *Lona Fritts*

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Auction Sales: Trampas Stucker wants to know why during the Fur and Feather auction younger kids (younger than 8 years old) can't sell their goats. He believes that if you are able to show your animal, you should be able to sell your animal. He also thinks that bottle babies should be sold by the younger kids. The FAC is discussing what constitutes a large animal. Wanda McFarland has watched younger kids show animals. Are they considered large animals because they are hooved? Is it because they are considered livestock? Is that why the younger kids can't sell? Denice Hires suggested that the younger kids don't know what they are doing. Trampas countered that there are lots of (older) young people who don't know what they are doing.

The scheduled Fur and Feather auction time is bad because the Fair used to close at 5pm but now closes at 3pm. Debbie suggested that the auction be had on Saturday before the Livestock auction. There would be a conflict with the livestock auction. To have it at 11am would create a conflict with the Parade of Champions. It was suggested that the Fur and Feather exhibitors go first at the Parade of Champions. It was tabled until Fall because nothing can be changed for this year's Fair.

There was some discussion about Superintendent rules because of conflicts and things that may not be printed in the Premium Book. The FAC is proposing a unified set of rules, expectations and guidelines for all Fair superintendents for next year.

ix. Admission

Trampas Stucker (CH), Mike Egerton, Kathleen Maltais

x. Entertainment

Naomie Boesel (CH), Jill Scott, Wanda McFarland, Erin White, Tracey Reagles, *Marnee Cleveland, Brock Hires, David Fletcher*

Chainsaw Artist: There is no budget to pay for the Chainsaw Artist, but there is a donor. The Chainsaw Artist said he could be where the Shriners usually are or where Hamilton is usually situated. This will be something that has to be discussed with Mike Egerton, who is not present. Chainsaw Artist has agreed to stop working at critical times. The Tribe has offered to donate the funds. The big concern is about the noise because he will be running his chainsaw most of the time throughout Fair. His fee is \$3K. Perhaps near the Quonset Huts is bad. Naomie is concerned that the noise is too great. To come for a shorter time would be better.

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Sam Buchert moved that they not hire the Chainsaw Guy for the entire weekend. Jill Scott seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Naomie is able to discuss a different contract with the Chainsaw Guy.

Contracts: Lace and Lead, Banner Days, Good4U, Jessica Lynne?, The Wicks. The FAC approved these contracts for distribution.

Trampas Stucker moved to approve the contracts for Lace and Lead, Banner Days, Good4U, Jessica Lynne and The Wicks. Naomie seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Stage Cover: The cover has been reserved for \$1800, up \$400 from last year.

ATV/Lawn Mower Races: Head to head races on Saturday night during the truck and tractor pull. David Fletcher is organizing it.

Clerk requested an updated entertainment schedule.

Trampas Stucker is working on the Bull Riding part of the entertainment.

xi. Executive

Mike Egerton (CH), Wanda McFarland (VC), Sam Buchert (T), Kathleen Maltais (S)

Old Business

1. The revolving account for the Fair at NCNB requires two more signatories. Jill Scott and Wanda McFarland have volunteered and directed the clerk to make the appointment with the County Treasurer and then tell them the appointment time.

Announcements

- a. Next meeting: June 4, 2015 @ 6:00pm; Commissioners' Hearing Room
- b. Naomie Boesel resigned from the FAC. Resignation letter attached (copy).
- c. A field trip to the Fairgrounds was discussed, but it would be difficult to take minutes throughout for the clerk.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Dated at Okanogan, Washington this ____ day of _____ 2015.

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OKANOGAN, WASHINGTON

ATTEST:

Mike Egerton, Member

FAC Clerk, Kathleen Descoteaux

Wanda McFarland, Member