

YORK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of March 19, 2024

The Board of Directors of the York County Agricultural Society met Tuesday March 19, 2024 at 8:00 p.m. in the York County Extension Office for their regular monthly meeting. The meeting notice was published publicly on or before March 12, 2024 at the York County Extension Office, York County Court House, York State Bank (York Main Office), Cornerstone Bank (Waco Branch) and the York County Fair Website.

Thirteen (13) Directors were present; Cast, Chrisman, Ditloff, Gloystein, Heine, Heskett, Hoffschneider, Jackson, Quiring, Ziegler, Ziemke and Zoubek. Two (2) Directors were absent; Holtmeier and Rathjen.

Guests present: Adam Watson, Lonnie Brown, Erich Heiden and Kyle Heiden from the Benedict Men's Club; Tanya Crawford UNL York County Extension Youth Educator and Macee' Parish Secretary York County Extension Office

President Gloystein called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

Secretary Ziemke announced to all those in attendance that the Open Meeting Act has been placed on the meeting table for one and all to examine.

Additional items added to the agenda: AED Units under Old Business.

Minutes and Financial

Minutes of the February 20, 2024 York County Agricultural Society meeting were reviewed. There was one correction and no additions: Replacement tables for the 4H Building were \$435.00 each.

The Board reviewed the February 2024 Financial Report. Discussion on: Big Red Communications internet went up just over \$2.00 per month by adding the Extension Office and new Ticket Booth. York Fire Department ambulance call during the 2023 Figure 8 for a Justin McReynolds (not transported). Transferred \$2,650.00 of donations/memorials to the York County Fair Foundation. There are still a few small donations/memorials to be transferred. Motion #1 duly made by Zoubek to accept the Minutes of the February 20, 2024 meeting with the one correction and the February 2024 Financial. Seconded by Hoffman. No further discussion. Thirteen (13) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #1 carried.

Under Old Business:

Memorial Donations and Grant money at present date: Memorials and donations are in the process of being moved over to the York County Fair Foundation.

AED Units – Heine has received confirmation that we are the recipients of a \$1,000.00 grant to be used toward the purchase of AED Units. We should have at least two AED units on the Fairgrounds. Is the grant \$1,000.00 total or \$1,000.00 per unit? Motion #2 duly made by Quiring to have Heine proceed with the purchase of two (2) AED Units. Seconded by Jackson. No further discussion. Thirteen (13) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #2 carried.

Building Committee Report:

Fair Office – Ziegler reported that Mike Wright has started the removal of the damaged vinyl siding.

Crow's Nest – T&D Construction will be starting the concrete foundation and flatwork soon.

Home Economics Building 5 Ton AC unit – Down payment has been paid and the unit should be installed very soon.

Ditloff has some coworkers that would like to do some volunteer work at the Fairgrounds. Are there some ideas of items that they could work on? First item that came up was to paint the stage that goes under the tent.

Quiring's 4H group will be doing some landscaping either in late June or early July to help spruce up the Fairgrounds.

Update on Dave Peters – His cancer has gotten worse and he has now been placed on hospice.

Quiring stated that if we are shorthanded on the grounds her father, Brian Bedient, may possibly be interested.

New Business:

Benedict Men's Club – Possible beer garden at the Ranch Rodeo

- The group would be interested in putting on a beer garden at the Friday evening Ranch Rodeo.
- They would also be interested in our Thursday evening event at the Grandstand if the Knights of Columbus are not interested in putting a beer garden on that evening.
- How much does the Club want to do? Possibly everything.
- How will we keep the beer garden contained in order to meet the State liquor license regulations?
- How will it work with the beer that is already being brought in by the participants and their following spectators?
- If we say no alcohol allowed in from outside, locking the shop gate and manning the north gate and searching for alcohol, are we going to reduce the number of teams that show up for the event? Would Preston Hawley help us with letting the teams know that no outside alcohol is allowed if that is our decision?
- Just beer or other types of alcohol also?
- The Men's Group would have to contact the State to apply for the license and also possibly meet with the City of York.
- Applying for the liquor license is now totally online and takes no less than 3 weeks if everything goes well. It is best if you plan on applying at least 45 days prior just in case the State has questions.
- Same split as with the Knights of Columbus, 50% - 50%
- However we contain the beer garden, we do not want to chase away spectators or participants.
- We can limit the vehicles to only park on the east side of the arena.
- We can fence off the stands on the west side of the arena and contain the beer garden in that area.

- We need to make sure that we advertise that there will be a beer garden during the Ranch Rodeo.
- Can Preston Hawley attend our April meeting so we can run these ideas past him?
- Do we need to work on any of the bleachers?
- We should have a security guard at the entrance to the beer garden.
- Wrist bands.
- Benedict Men's Club should be in charge of checking I.D.s also.
- Chrisman will continue working with the Benedict Men's Club and also contact Preston Hawley about attending our April meeting.
- Gloystein will contact Jason Purdue.

Culpepper Circus – Madonna Mogul contacted Heskett about the circus using our parking lot on July 17, 2024. They utilized our west parking lot two years ago. The board agreed that they could utilize our west parking lot again this year and access water from across the street to the east as they did last time. The Chamber of York Ambassadors helps us man Grandstand gates during the Fair so we will not charge for the use of the parking lot or water.

Camper spot rental issues

- We had an extra ordinary event of a person staying over two weeks without permission.
- Gloystein made a couple of calls to the individual.
- We have not received the last of the camper spot rental as this time.

York County Fair Foundation

- A meeting was held last night March 18, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
- The Foundation is going to do a calendar raffle again this coming year.
- We have a Foundation board member who is willing to work to find a visual way to acknowledge the gifts that are given. We need at least two or three people to join that individual on a committee.
- We would also like to form a committee to put together a fund raising event sometime in 2025.
- In order for any monetary funds from the Foundation to be utilized on a Fairgrounds project there should be a formal written request to the Foundation with an approximate dollar figure for the project and then a final written letter to ask for the funds to be gifted from the Foundation to the project.

2024 Fair Plans (August 1 – 4, 2024) Acres Of Fun

- Heskett heard back from Chris Cox, they would charge \$16,000.00 to come and play under the tent if all they had to do was plug into someone else's sound and lighting. It's \$2,000.00 extra if they bring their sound and lighting.
- The tentative schedule of events was handed out to board members.
- Friday evening under the tent – Blinker Fluid \$1,500.00, no cover charge.
- Thursday evening in front of the Grandstand – Free event – Go Cart Races, \$3,000.00. Hopefully beer sales will cover part of the cost of the Races.
- Tanya Crawford:
 - Move the animal shows back to 9:00 a.m. from 10:00 a.m. The board is fine with doing the move. The 4H Council will make the final decision.
 - There has been a request to have a Yearling Bull Calf Show.
 - Currently our rule book states that there is to be no intact male animals on the Fairgrounds.

- Would they stay for the whole Fair or would they be allowed to go back home after the show like the feeder calves?
 - FFA allows the class at the State Fair.
 - Would we be doing it for one animal in one class?
 - Age parameter of 12 or less months.
 - Currently breeding heifers born after January 1 can go home after the show.
 - Would this open up a possibility of shows for intact male sheep, goats or swine?
- We have hired Brody Nemecek, assistant Judge Coach at Kansas State University to be the judge of all species for this year's Fair.
- There were questions of who can help an exhibitor do their chores at the Fair. A few years ago, we changed to the State Fair wording of the rule and it includes anyone acting in a mentoring capacity.
- Fair book question – who is the official Veterinarian for the Fair this year?
- Waffleman vs Pancakes – 4H Council is to make the decision.
- Home Economics Building, Ag Hall and Mercantile Building will close at 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday buildings will open at 10:00 a.m.
- Buildings will be open from Noon until 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.
- Petting Zoo hours 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m.
- Fairbook – Adams County's book uses 8.5 Font and we use 11.0 Font. If we went to smaller Font our book would decrease in page numbers.
 - Tanya will get prices of 300 books versus 350 and 8.5 Font versus 11.0 Font. Also, if we went 8.5 Font on 4H and FFA and 11.0 Font on Open Class.
 - Tanya will get the quotes to Gloystein.
- Ribbons are ordered through Gina Schoch.
- Pins are ordered.
- We will need security for Saturday evening.
- Carnival:
 - Thursday 6:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Wristbands \$30.00.
 - Friday 5:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Wristbands \$30.00.
 - Saturday Noon until 11:00 p.m. Wristbands \$30.00
- 4H and FFA awards are moved from Thursday to Friday at 7:30 p.m.
- Cornhole Tournament? Ditloff – Yes.
- Volleyball tournament?
 - Sunday? 9:00 a.m.? Mud? Sand?
 - Ziegler, Hoffschneider and Michaela Stuhr are trying to work out a location, time, and feasibility.
 - Would the York Parks & Recreation department have nets and volleyballs?
 - Is the person or group that were requesting a volleyball tournament willing to volunteer with setup and running the tournament?
 - Would it work in the horse arena?
 - Will it work with the Antique Tractor Pull going on?
- Pickleball Tournament on Sunday? Zoubek will look things over to see if North Nebraska Avenue west of the Sheep and Small Animal Barn would work as courts.
- Lana passed out a revised sponsorship letter.
 - Same donor levels as last year.
 - The second paragraph should have "we" changed to "York County Agricultural Society".
 - Letter goes out in May.

- The letter will be updated with changes so it can be revisited again in the April meeting.
- Lana will be ordering the glasses for Taps, Tastes and Tunes.
- Pee Wee show time is moved up to 12:30 p.m. on Sunday to help with congestion.
- Muttin Bustin
 - Do we need to charge an entry fee?
 - Cost for the Muttin Bustin is \$2,600.00 which figures about \$60.00 per participant.
 - Crete charges an entry fee.
 - All participants also get a medal.
 - In the future should we move it to the intermission of the Ranch Rodeo? What would that do to our Sunday crowd since there is no carnival?
- Virtual Reality Trailer – VRGameTruckNebraska out of Norfolk
 - Saturday and Sunday – 4 Hours each day.
 - \$2,620.00 total, \$500.00 for the first hour & setup, \$200.00 each additional hour, plus milage and Hotel.
 - Some Fairs charge for the experience.
 - Where should we locate them?
 - Ziemke will contact Mike Lynch to see if the Virtual Reality Trailer will work within the contract we have with the carnival.
 - Central City had the Virtual Reality Trailer and Lynch does their Fair.
- Holtmeier said the Ice Cream guy called and would like to come back this year. We never received any payment from him last year.
- The coffee trailer will be here Thursday and Friday only.
- Could the coffee truck out of Osceola be here on Saturday?
- Holtmeier has ordered the tent, tables, chairs and curtains.

Do the Cattlemen need all four bleachers in the Cornerstone Building for the Beef Progress Show?

Cornerstone Ag and Event Center show ring and floor tear-down will be Monday April 1, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

2024 NAFM District 1 Spring Meeting will be held at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Fairbury April 7, 2024. Is anyone interested in attending. Gloysteins will attend. Anyone else wanting to attend please get in touch with Ziemke before March 29, 2024.

There being no further business to come before the Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Douglas Ziemke

Douglas Ziemke
Secretary