

FLATHEAD COUNTY FAIR COMMISSION

Meeting minutes from September 12, 2013

The September 12, 2013 meeting called to order by Wes McAlpin at 6:34 pm in the 4H Building at the Flathead County Fairgrounds

Roll call of members: Wes McAlpin, Sam Nunnally, Butch Woolard, Michael Moffitt, and Gary Krueger were present.

Guest present: Sharon Askelson.

Agenda approval: Sam moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Butch. All were in favor.

Previous Meeting Minutes: Sam moved to approve the minutes from July 11th regular meeting and August 14, 15, 16, 17, 18th Fair Safety meetings. Michael seconded the motion. No further discussion, changes, or additions were presented. All members were in favor.

Public Comment: Sharon feels any logo change costs could be better spent on building improvements such as fans, ventilation, or new buildings. During the fair, she encouraged Directors to view the buildings. No further comments.

Manager's Report: Mark touched briefly on the Commissioner's update dated August 2013. Mike encouraged upgraded power in the camping area and with sufficient utilities could increase the fees. Comparable locations were talked about with weekly prices ranging from \$75 to \$100 per week. Mark shared the web-site visit report for August showing 88,089 total visits. Discussion followed. The July financial statement was shared and August will be sent as soon as it's prepared.

Correspondence included a draft memo to Human Resources regarding manager's contract in respect to the ongoing salary survey. Gary stated that other language in the contract also needs to be addressed. He asked for some time to work through these aspects before formalizing the memo. It was recommended that Mark continue to work with Tammy at Human Resources on the items.

A thank you note was shared from Shelly Anzeck regarding the outstanding ground for barrel racing. A note of concerns from Charlene Kleinschmidt about parking fee for handicapped seniors was shared.

Committee reports: Mike shared another Fair's philosophy about free senior parking but discounted admission & a coupon book. Shuttles were provided by the Fair. Discussion followed with no immediate resolve. Possible golf cart shuttles would be efficient. Wheel chair rentals have also been requested. Gary asked about grants for disability access, has it been sought? Restrooms, Grandstand seating, and transportation are key areas that improvement are needed.

Old Business: CIP status is focused on the Grandstand roof project. Still hopes to get it moving before winter sets in. Smaller internal items include a drain line repair and fire monitoring panel in the Trade Center.

New Business:

2013 Fair de-briefing – Mark thanked each of the Board members for their support roles and asked for their review items.

Sam

- handicapped access issues need attention
- bee and wasp issues
- good feedback on the Oldies Concert and handling of Chris Young cancellation
- Fire/Medical calls need better coordination for access points of ambulances responding
- Other emergency accesses and carnival support worked well

Butch

- No negatives. Least comments he's heard

Wes

- Vet inspection of livestock went smoothly. Schedule the hogs for 8am – 12 noon as the vet wants to watch them on the move for lameness issues
- The vet student was excellent
- Possible new superintendents
- No negatives on beer sales were heard
- Carnival operations were all positive
- Add a Dairy Cattle sign on the Trade Center (along with the other exhibits on display)
- The drive-through livestock drop-off worked very well

Mike

- ADA access in the Parking and Grandstands needs attention
- Good comments on the food. Addition of new items such as Pizza would be helpful
- Power in the campground area
- All gate personnel were positive and friendly
- Ask the community what they want to see as a show in the Grandstands
- Children rides in the north were better but needs to have better directions and signage
- Need more arts and crafts vendors – feature the talent of the area
- The business displays in the Expo were well received

Gary

- Always a good time and event

Mike noted to the Board that he has contacted FVCC about a marketing intern to work on new marketing ideas and media aspects. FVCC is willing to build a curriculum for credit and support the concept. The individual(s) could be brought on to seasonal status prior to and during the fair. They want to meet in person for further details and development.

Gary touched on the master plan efforts of the fair and would like to help in any way he can. A workshop about this matter is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17th at 6 pm. The key points were discussed by all with a consensus on moving the master plan forward. A location will be finalized and agenda distributed.

No further business was discussed. A motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 pm was made by Sam, seconded by Butch; question was called with all in favor.

Submitted by: mc

Approved as submitted:

W - McCaff
Chair

10/10/13
Date