



COMMITTEE: Oneida County Fair Planning Team

PLACE: UW-Extension Conference Room, Lower Level, Airport Terminal
3375 Airport Road, Rhinelander, WI 54501

DATE: November 7, 2017 **TIME:** 6:00 pm

Members Present: Theresa Seabloom, Jim Perlberg, Jean Platek, Bill Freudenberg, Fred Andrist, Jim Winkler

Absent:

Excused: Cheryl Salzman, Robin Harrison

Others Present: Nancy Gehrig, Lynn Feldman, Tim White, Myles Alexander, Sarah Thompson, Dakota Sherek (WJFW)

MINUTES:

- 1. Call to Order and President's Announcements:** Vice-President, Bill Freudenberg, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. The meeting was properly posted. The facility is handicap accessible. No announcements.
- 2. Approve Agenda for Today's Meeting:** A motion was made by Andrist, seconded by Perlberg, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
- 3. Approve Minutes of October 3, 2017:** A motion was made by Andrist, seconded by Perlberg, to approve the October 3, 2017 minutes. Motion carried.
- 4. Treasurer Update:** The Financial report shows a grand total of \$10,372.30 (includes carry over money). Gehrig pointed out that we haven't seen a bill from the McNaughton Camp yet; however, she notes they have been booked for the 2018 Fair already.
- 5. CUW Committee Rep Report:** Winkler reported he and Andrist met with the Oversight Committee and discussed the Coordinator job description with them that was provided to him by Nancy Gehrig, which included a month-by-month timeline and how she managed this position. It was decided this position will be posted externally. Some members of the Oversight Committee announced they want to see the Fair become self-sustaining and want to take away the previously allowed \$6,000 addition to our contingency. As of now, the County money allowed the Fair for 2018 will be \$10,000, as recommended by the Oversight Committee. Andrist stated his concern, that the County is forcing the Fair to charge admission (which the Fair objects to) by cutting County money to us. This will be decided at the Oneida County Meeting, where a 2/3 vote is needed to pass our request for the continuation of the added \$6,000 funds from the County, to total \$16,000.
- 6. Election of Officers for 2018 (Pres, V-Pres, Treas, Sec):** Andrist suggested we table the election of officers until the December meeting. We presently have a Vice-President and Secretary which allows the committee to move on and give us a chance to see what the Oneida County Board decides in regard to supporting the Fair. It was agreed the election of officers will take place in December.
- 7. Fair Coordinator Search Process and Timeline:**
 - a) Position Description Review – Refining. Winkler is drawing up a Coordinator Position Description, using the detailed overview and list provided by outgoing Coordinator Gehrig to successfully carry out the process of making the Fair happen. It was agreed we immediately advertise the position using the media, Facebook and the Fair website, with a deadline of November 24th.

- b) Contract Review: It was agreed to use the same contract, leaving off the name and the dollar amount, which can be dependent upon experience and agreement.
- c) Hiring Committee – Interviews: It was decided a Sub-Committee of Andrist, Freudenberg, Winkler, Gehrig and Seabloom will meet on Monday, the 27th at Trigs to view any applications and consider who to interview, hopefully as soon as December 11th. The Oversight Committee will be informed of the interview dates if they choose to be present during the interviews. It would be good to have a new Coordinator before the January Fair Convention in Wisconsin Dells so that person could have a chance to attend.

- 8. **Committee Members Moving Forward**: It is determined we currently have eight left on the Committee and must promote membership. A news article will be submitted to advertise for Fair membership, especially for representation from the whole district and how to get an application. A question was asked regarding if background checks are still required for membership as in the past. Feldman agreed to look into that.
- 9. **Fair District Mtg in Merrill Report**: Winkler, Gehrig, and Seabloom attended this meeting. Seabloom reported of shared information, agricultural issues, topics, etc. Winkler reported on acquiring information from all the attending Fair Committees of how they financially support their fair. First of all, they have their own grounds and buildings to rent out as storage, charge for parking, grandstands, some County money, etc. Our Fair lacks in most of these advantages and don't have a lot in common with the usual Fair situations.
- 10. **K&M Amusements Contract**: Winkler reported getting a call from Linda of K&M Amusements. He told her we will be using their carnival and will send them a contract. A motion was made by Andrist, seconded by Perlberg, to start the process of having a contract made up with the help of the County attorney, to send to K&M Amusements for 2018. Motion carried.
- 11. **Correspondence (specifically addressed to Committee)**: None.
- 12. **Public Comment**: Vice-President Freudenberg chose to address this Item at the beginning of the meeting due to visitor Sarah Thompson having her young child along. Ms Thompson read a letter addressed to the Fair committee from Hillary Marken, leader of the Lakeland Loons 4-H club, which stressed how important the Fair is and how it contributes to the education, experiences, and fun for the 4-Hers. Thompson also, hearing of the problems of the Fair, shared her feeling with the committee. She feels it is a good outlet for her six-year old and that it is like a traditional fair coming back in the area, and that it needs to be saved. She wants to encourage and thank us for the Fair, stressing that it remain free and able for families to afford. She named five other families who she spoke for in coming forward to support the continuation of the Fair.
Freudenberg remarked to her that it is all about finances right now and the need for more committee members. Thompson suggested perhaps having a battle-of-the-bands or a talent show and charge for it. Tim White stressed we need the community to speak up to the County Board. It was suggested Thompson bring people with her to the County Board meeting on Tuesday, November 14th at 9:30 am to voice their opinion.
- 13. **Items to be included on Next Agenda**: Election of Officers, Coordinator Resumes, Contract Review
- 14. **Date of Future Meetings**: Tuesday, December 5, 2017 at 6:00 pm in the UW-Extension Conference Room at the Airport.
- 15. **Adjournment**: Motion was made by Perlberg, seconded by Platek, to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm

Respectfully submitted by Theresa Seabloom, Secretary

Signed by President _____

Or Vice-President _____