

MINUTES
BAKER COUNTY FAIR BOARD MEETING
Of March 10 2004

Members Present: Chair Ron Rowan, Vice Chair Dean Defrees, Mark Johnson, Andy Barr, Bob Borgen, Lynn Perkins

Members Not Present: Rob Ellingson

Advisory Board Members Present: Nellie Forrester, Janice Cowan, Dave Noble

AB Members Not Present: none

Others in Attendance: Andi Sexton (staff), Peggy & John Sisk, Commission Chair Fred Warner, Jr., Ron Brinton and Jim Van Duyn

The meeting was called to order by Chair Ron Rowan at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Dean and 2nd by Mark to approve the minutes of February with the following addition: To add discussion of the volunteer form. Motion passed.

Discussion Regarding the Small Animal Tent: John and Peggy Sisk were in attendance on behalf of the 4H small animals. They voiced a couple of concerns with having a tent: Security – can it be locked; since even during day last year, items were stolen off cages in the Show Barn. The board thought we would have a fence around the entire grounds so security should not be an issue. Also, it was asked who would setup the tent. The Board informed the Sisks that the Board would setup the tent 1 week before fair. The proposed size of 60' x 40' is in agreement. The Sisks also want sides that rollup. It was decided that John Sisk will work with Andi on purchasing the tent so that all concerns are addressed.

Discussion Regarding the Community Center Project: Jim Van Duyn thanked the board for their patience. He still believes in the value of the CC building, and understands the Board's position of having an excess of buildings and lack of dollars to take on any financial obligations associated with renovating the CC. Ron Brinton said he would like a meeting with government reps, meaning City and County officials to see if can get any support for government grants. Ron said he believes the facility really is a government facility, and should have support of local government entities. Mark Johnson said a performa is needed to show \$3,000 annually for maintenance of the facility. Fred Warner Jr. said it is very difficult to get 100% of the building paid for with grant dollars. He doesn't see a sense of support from the county. He recommends getting all players together to decide a course of action within 1 month. **Dean Made the motion to setup a meeting ASAP to get group consensus one way or another, prior to May in regard to the Community Center Building being a government project. Mark 2nd the motion. The motion passed with all in favor.** The players requested are: Fred Warner, Jr., Jerry Gillham - the City Manager, Jennifer Watkins, of Community Development, Chuck Rouse of Economic Development, Fair Board Members and Jim and Ron. Fred will have Robin setup the meeting for April 6th at 3:00 pm at the courthouse.

Fred also discussed having county council research the Fair Board's authority over making decisions regarding the Fair facilities. It was found that the Fair Board only has to consult with the County on issues regarding liability; however the "Fairgrounds" needs to be defined. The questions asked were "Is there an existing description of the Fairgrounds?" and "Is it everything that has a covenant?" (Covenant: property given to the County for public good/benefit.)

There is \$190,000 in the County Budget, leaving us with \$21,000 instead of \$50,000. The Budget Board will meet mid-April. Our next steps include making a presentation to the County Commissioners as well as the Budget Board.

House/Lot Across the Street: County/Fair Board are co-owners, if the County Commission passes a resolution, the Fair Board can become full owners which may eliminate the need to put anything out to bid. We need to find out the process. Our intent is to sell the property and use the monies toward the Old Armory project.

Armory Site Plan: We need to know what the boundaries are for our planning purposes. Not clear if fence is theirs, or ours and where the line is. Fred has the information and Mark is to get it from him. Mark Bennett has information as well.

Financial Documents: Mark made the motion and Dean 2nd to accept the financial documents as discussed. Motion passed. The board reviewed documents that Andi requested from the County regarding our insurance policy and what is/is not covered. Rob is working with Kevin Bell on reducing premiums for coverage we do not need, and to delete premiums on buildings we no longer have, yet have been billed for. It was recommended that we add into our reports \$30,000 for carry-over as an expense line. Questions raised regarding New Directions NW, if their OTEC meter exceeds rent value.

Equipment Rental – Issues Raised: A letter to Edna Harrell regarding our equipment policy was reviewed. Edna and her employees disputed the policy of renting equipment per day of use (bleachers at McKenzies and Harrells). The board recommended sending out a letter to all renters and a press release to announce our changes in policies so that future misunderstandings can be reduced. It seems some folks have a 'it's always been this way so therefore it should not be different' attitude.

FAIR 2004:

Theme Picked: Hot Days, FAIR Nights

Judge Contracts: Dean made the motion to approve Lodging at \$75.00 and mileage at 30 cents per mile. Lynn seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. Janice will see if the 4H Association will provide meals at 50% of their costs.

Premiums 3,2,1

Judging 6,5,4,3,2,1

State Contests- We will do exactly what we did last year. FFA, Food, Fashion Review Again, same as last year.

Location for Entertainment & Small Carnival: We need to know if the Leo Adler Field can be rented out or if it can be used without being paid for. Andi has a small carnival that can come, but we need a place for them. Julie Paxton has not returned Andi's calls.

Friends of the Fair discussion: Brainstorm of possible directors and/or interested folks: Bob Moon, Carl Stiff, Ron Rowan (President), Gordon Smith (dad), Craig Ward, Edna Harrell, Bob Thomas, Jack Wilson, Meredith Wilson, Dan Warnock, Bob Evans, Vicki Sumner, Clyde Conklin, Bobby Harrell, Dwight Siddoway. It was suggested to have one Board Member from Fair as an ex officio (advisory).

Area 8 Meeting: April 17th – Fair Board Potluck in the Old Show Barn. Andi is to see if we can have Old Armory for our meeting.

Master plan: Andi distributed the latest version of the Master Plan. Board members are to submit comments/edits to Andi by April 1st. We need the Master Plan for presentation to the County Commissioners, and for the Friends of the Fair and grant applications.

Home & Garden Show: Electrical stuff: Mark will buzz Barry. Get amps needs from the vendors.

Correspondence: John Goodyear wrote a letter concerning the Church of Christ's use of our facilities. The letter said that they have decided to pay for the use of the facilities, not trade for work.

Tomorrow 4:30 pm is Andi's 1 year Review. If you have any comments get them to Dean and Ron.

The meeting was adjourned by chairman Ron Rowan at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Andi Sexton, Fair Manager