

August 10, 2010

The meeting of the Green Lake County Agriculture, Extension Education and Fair Committee was called to order by Chairperson McConnell at 8:31 a.m., on Tuesday, August 10, 2010, with certification of the Open Meeting Notice, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

S. McConnell, M. Schweder, M. Stoddard, and M. Whirry

EDUCATORS/STAFF/GUESTS PRESENT

J. Kauffeld, D. Slark, M. Spaulding, and K. Zills
Dan Priske, County Board Chairman; Merlyn Soda, Farm Bureau; Richard Swanke

LIBRARY SERVICES REPRESENTIVE(S) PRESENT

C. Carrol

AGENDA

Motion/second (Stoddard/Whirry) to approve the Amended Agenda. Motion carried.

MINUTES

Motion/second (Stoddard/Whirry) to approve the July 13, 2010 minutes. Motion carried.

LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT

Written report on file. Carrol reported that summer programming has been completed at the county libraries. Registration and attendance was down for the Summer Reading Programs in 2010. Rural Rembrants will be present at Berlin Library, along with movie nights starting in fall 2010. The libraries had good attendance at their session held at the Green Lake County Fair. Green Lake's Caestecker Public Library, which has Sunday hours staffed by community volunteers, has very high library attendance on those days.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS

Merlyn Soda (Green Lake County Farm Bureau) reported that the organization's budget is failing because the Green Lake County Fair requires 10% of the gross sales receipts from the Farm Bureau's farm sales. He wants to know what state statute allows the committee to take 10% of gross sales; he believes it is illegal. He wants the committee to change the policy to reflect 10% of net sales. Richard Swanke asked Soda about other fund raising opportunities, besides the 4-day fair, Farm Bureau has throughout the year to raise funds. Whirry commented that the percentage of gross and net are two very different things, and the committee will review the policy at the September 2010 Agriculture and Extension Committee meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Open House for Jean Hollander will be held at Markesan City Hall on Saturday, August 21, 2010, at 1:00 p.m.



Fair Committee Discussion – 2010 Fair

A & P ENTERPRISE SHOWS REPORT – DISCUSSION

Phyllis from A&P Enterprises reported that attendance and sales were up in the carnival. However, the gravel that was put down for the carnival in 2010 was not enough to fill in the holes. A rough estimate for adequately filling the entire carnival area with gravel will be about \$2,000 to make it workable for the 2011 fair.

FAIR COMMENTS/CONCERNS – DISCUSSION

A water leak was reported down by the carnival during the 2010 fair. Zills contacted Scott Weir, Green Lake County Maintenance Department Supervisor, who will examine the leak and report back to the committee about whose responsibility it will be to take care of the repair bill.

Zills presented gross receipt records for A&P Enterprises and the Demolition Derby, which were both up over 2009. The gate receipts for the ATV races were only \$2,200, which is \$500 less than the amount loaned to them by the fair. At a future meeting, the committee will consider whether or not to continue with the ATV races.

Richard Swanke, who ran the Truck and Tractor Pull and the Demolition Derby, reported that gate receipts for the Truck and Tractor pull were \$7,800. He would like to ask that his 10% contribution (\$780) to the fair be waived. The Thursday evening beer garden reported \$1,800 in sales. Swanke suggested that in 2011 beer be available to anyone with a wrist band on both sides of the track, but not allowed to

leave the track area. Swanke also made several comments and suggestions for the Fair Committee to consider for the 2011 fair, including:

1. Move the track bleachers back five feet on each side for all the track events.
2. Leave small strips of grass un-mowed in the parking lot so they could serve as temporary curbs and help guide fair attendees when parking.
3. Label the breakers in the track, as lights in the pit area were left on from Thursday through Sunday.
4. Eliminate the lawnmower class during the 2011 Demolition Derby.
5. Utilize a clip-on microphone for rabbit, poultry, and swine judging so that other exhibitors and spectators can hear what the judge is saying.
6. Secure four more portable bathrooms for the 2011 fair.
7. Clarify with Jerry Paulus that there will not be access to a skid-loader run by Jerome Jahnke or other fair maintenance staff. Also, Paulus placed all local entrants in the Demolition Derby in one heat and all his circuit clientele are into another heat, which gave an unfair advantage to his circuit drivers.
8. Assure that track event announcers are providing accurate information to fair attendees.
9. Repair the electric on the south side of track and consider installing several 110 outlets to accommodate for a beer stand, should the committee continue to pursue that in 2011 and beyond.
10. Allow beer sales under the dairy show ring on Friday night with a disc jockey.
11. Give permission to whoever organizes each evening's track event to also be responsible for securing a vendor for the food shack currently run by Kiwanis.

Additionally, Whirry suggested arranging for a shuttle to transport fair attendees to and from the parking lot at the new Justice Center. The fair could also advertise the courthouse and old human services parking lots for parking during the fair.

CARCASS CONTEST – ABSENCE REQUESTS

Motion (Stoddard/Whirry) to approve the excused absences from the Carcass Contest for youth who are currently showing at the Wisconsin State Fair for the following: Leah Mace, Morgan Fox, Mariah Schulz, Mercedes Schultz, Lucas Schulz, Cody Friday, Kim Graff, and Linda Walker. These youth will still be eligible for receiving their Carcass Contest premium. Motion carried.

BREAK

10:25 a.m. - Meeting reconvened at 10:33 a.m.

UW-Extension Committee Discussion

EDUCATOR REPORTS

1. Slark: Slark presented a mini-lesson that he teaches to 4-H Adult Leaders entitled "Learning Styles." Each member of the committee participated and shared his/her preferred learning style. Slark uses the results of this activity to tailor his teaching to the audience's preferred style. Written monthly report on file.

2. Q&A of Educators' Submitted Monthly Reports

Ghimire: Written report on file.

Kauffeld: Written report on file. Kauffeld stated that UW-Extension intern Diana Amend did a wonderful job helping the EIC with their fair booth displays.

Spaulding: Written report on file. Spaulding reported that her annual unduplicated educational contacts average between 1,000 – 1,300 Green Lake County residents, with 60-70% of her contacts with females and 30-40% of contacts with males.

Motion/second (Stoddard/Schweder) to approve out of county days for the educators: Ghimire (2.0), Slark (2.0), Kauffeld (2.0), and Spaulding (0.5). Motion carried.

CONTRACT BETWEEN GREEN LAKE COUNTY & UW SYSTEM

Motion (*Whirry/Stoddard*) to sign contract with University of Wisconsin System for the UW-Extension professional staff for July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011. Motion carried.

SURVEY TO 4-H MEMBERS & LEADERS

McConnell and Whirry would like to survey 4-H Members and Adult Leaders about project-area leadership, involvement in 4-H, and concerns about Livestock Judging at the fair. Whirry suggested that young-retirees in the county be approached to become 4-H leaders, as youth need guidance for what they should be doing to raise livestock for the fair. Whirry also recommended that a team of judges use a score sheet to review each animal, and this total be used by the show ring judge before placing because judging is too subjective. Whirry was concerned that youth exhibiting livestock were not allowed to question the judge's decision, but Slark explained that all judging concerns are brought up with the Livestock Committee and Department Superintendents after the fair. Judges are not invited back to future fairs if there are concerns. Slark also noted that he worked with UW-Extension intern Diana Amend this summer to develop a survey of 4-H youth and adults; Slark will share this survey with committee members for review and additions before distributing it.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION – REPORT OF LAST MONTH’S COMMITTEE MEETING – INCLUDING Q & A

- a. Property & Insurance Committee – Stoddard reported that the Justice Center opening went well and 1,500 people attended. The Maintenance Department is very busy, and Green Lake County jail inmates that were previously housed in other counties have returned to the new jail.
- b. Personnel Committee – Schweder reported that Personnel Director Brenda Keller has not renewed her contract with the county. The committee reviewed the county cell phone policy and also the nursing mothers’ room.
- c. Finance Committee – McConnell reported that there is a 0% increase in budgets across the board, except for personnel costs. The county is on track to balance the budget for 2011.

VOUCHERS – AGRICULTURE/EXTENSION EDUCATION & FAIR

Motion/second (Schweder/Whirry) to sign vouchers. Motion carried.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 14, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in the Courthouse Demonstration Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second (Whirry/McConnell) to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Molly Spaulding
Family Living Educator