

SAN JUAN COUNTY FAIR BOARD

Meeting Minutes
February 11th, 2022

Opening:

The regular meeting of the San Juan County Fair Board was called to order at 9:02am on Feb. 11th, in person and virtually through Teams, by Barbara Bevens.

Present:

Barbara Bevens, Jennifer Rigg, Brad Fincher, Josephine Bangs.

Staff: Jennifer Allen, Carlene Balcomb-Bartok, Brandon Cadwell (Teams), Angelica Hadeen.

Community: Nathan Kessler-Jeffrey (Teams), Christine Minney, Wendy Waxman

Approval of Agenda- Motion was made by Barbara, seconded by Josephine.

Approval of Dec. 2021 Minutes- Motion was made by Barbara, seconded by Brad, moved with full approval of the Fair Board.

Open Forum

Fair Board Applicants: Nathan Kessler-Jeffrey would like to be on the Board.

4-H Update: Wendy Waxman; numbers are low, but the deadline is March 1st so we will see what they look like then. She is going over to Orcas & Lopez to do some recruitment. They have 28 volunteers and more coming in. They will be having elections at the next meeting. Premium book deadline is March 1st and an Auction Committee meeting soon.

Council Liaison Message: Christine Minney

She is now the Council Chair & Cindy is the Vice Chair. The County has received money to put toward Child Care, upgrading the Marie Boe as an EOC, and covid upgrades to other County Buildings. New LTAC- requests are due in March, this will be an extension from 2020 and needs to be spent in 2022.

Chair Message: Barbara Bevens; The Board needs to start tracking volunteer time, this information is needed for Grant applications. She would like to see TV/Computers in each department with "Fair Life" showing on them, photos of the past two years or more. Master Plan, where are we at with it and is the Planning Commission involved? Jennifer said they were involved and provided recommendation, originally, and would be involved again. Barbara will start working on Fair publicity and get it sent out. Start thinking about reducing Fair hours (maybe 11 to 7 for vendors) and staffing needs.

New Business:

FAIR: Poster Art; Board and staff to send Jennifer an email with 2 top picks.

Theme song- Bingo was his name-o.

Matts departing date is May 6th, restructuring position & title and hope to fill before Matt leaves.

Coordinators: what we need/don't need. Discussion on Entertainment/Art demos/AG tent/Fiber Arts and Historical talks at the Cabin.

Contracts: Discussion on ticket gates, just front gate as sales. Garbage; asking the Scouts or other groups. Janitorial is going to be hard to find.

Media: we are going to need more presence. Last year's social media was good, and we should consider

going with Treehouse again. Maybe add a tile on SJ Update for the year. Adding more advertising, more Instagram/FB/Twitter, cross posting with 4H. Brandon would like to combine the social media outlets for Parks & Fair ("one voice"). Add this conversation to next months meeting.

Sponsorship: Discussion on who we are reaching out to, what we can offer, what department they would like to sponsor. Advertising on the arena fence- revisit this again.

Step and Repeat with a Bingo theme and Sponsor logo.

Tents: Looking at the Theaters, they are a lighter weight, 20 x 40, not industrial, Brandon is looking into purchasing them. What can we do to move departments/people around and using the existing covered areas. The horse tent is not available.

Carnival: they are coming, 8 rides, food, and games. The contract is moving forward.

Old Business:

Master Plan: Update? Brandon presented to Council.

Fair Layout: Similar to 2019, just less tents. Mix live and Virtual. Move 4H into all departments (folding them in).

Superintendents: Ask the Library to take over Island Writers Department. Fleece move to the Main Building, No word from Fiber or Textile Arts. Still on the lookout for new supers.

Planning & Vision Discussion: moving forward with Jeff, he was helpful. Next meeting we will work on the Fair this year.

Announcements: Brandon had an update on Pickleball, the plan moving forward is in the food court area. Island Rec. would manage it and pay for the upkeep, but it would be a County asset and have additional stipulation that would need to be met through an interlocal agreement before any construction begins.

Discussion on Brandon's conversation with the Council about breaking up the Fair into smaller events, this was a misunderstanding, it was more about climate change.

Update on the Scout House, nothing yet, but Brandon will follow up with Eric.

Jennifer Rigg asked about moving the Fair merchandise booth closer to the Chicken and Rabbit tent so she could be closer to her department. Or did the Fair want to staff the booth this year, add Parks merchandise.

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 10:57am.

Next meeting will be Friday March 11, 2022, at 9am

Minutes submitted by: Carlene Balcomb-Bartok