

Mission- To promote the diverse agricultural and cultural heritage of Marion County through active participation of its citizens.

Marion County Fair Board Monthly Meeting

Fairgrounds Floral Building

July 10, 2024 5:30 PM

Meeting Convened: 5:30 PM

I. Call to Order/Introductions

In Attendance

Board Members: Dana Castano, Brandi Crandall, Amy Goulter-Allen, Shannon Gubbels, Greg Martin, Victor Sanchez, Pam Zielinski

Guests: Joseph Billington, FFA; Melanie McCabe, 4H; Jill & Scott Ingalls, Ingalls & Associates

Staff: Nicole Beatty, Fair Temporary Office Staff; Denise Clark, Community Services; Kelli Weese, Community Services;

II. No Public Comments

III. **Approval of June 5 and June 18, 2024 Meeting Summary Notes.** Brandi made a motion to approve the notes; Greg seconded. Motion passed.

IV. Items of Special Interest

Updated Advertising, Canvassing/Soliciting and Dissemination of Written Materials Policy- Denise Clark
Denise said that the fair board requested that this be updated due to the current social climate of individuals or groups trying to get attention at large gatherings such as the fair.

Jill noted that there are all types of free speech activities that are allowed. A person can petition, gather signatures, set up a table, walk around with signs, and more. They do have to pay an admission fee to get into the grounds. The things they can't do include impeding traffic, employing a trip hazard, cause a disturbance, or do any blocking of ingress and egress. She said it's not so much about their activity/agenda, but more about their actions.

Greg made a motion to approve the updated Advertising, Canvassing/Soliciting and Dissemination of Written Materials policy; Amy seconded; motion passed.

V. Other:

Jill noted that some budget change items will be coming in the future, including the rental of fans and adding shade tents. The hotel costs also went up. With the DSP Connections picnic additions, the cost of sponsorship has gone up.

Adams' Rib is covering the VIP hospitality catering.

Shannon said that there were some concerns regarding the 4H pigs. A person was using ties to attach cords for providing power for fans placed over the pigs' pens to keep them cool. This is a State Fire Marshal concern and so they were removed. This angered families. Scott has since rented fans and placed them near the pens to appease everyone. Melanie checked with the state vet; the animals are not in the direct sun and therefore are not in danger.

There has not been much pushback on the new security cameras around the pens policy.

Discussion has been held regarding parents handling animals. Kids are supposed to be fully responsible for their animals. However, parents can step in when there's a safety issue. People are not to handle any animal that isn't their own.

Parking:

There was a meeting with state fair today and it was "civil." We will address all of our concerns with them post fair.

- Parking management has agreed to operate with "grace" as we institute the new parking policy. State fair is responsible for the parking. They will put up the ADA parking spots; we don't know where they will be placed. It was noted that there are currently some signs outside of the gray gate. Those need to be moved to the blue gate as the gray gate is a ticket taking gate only.
- The vendor lot has been identified as on the corner of 17th and Silverton Rd. Volunteers will park in the oak grove area.
- Jill noted that most fairs charge for parking. Post fair we'll look at all of our parking options with state fair.

Jill reminded everyone to pick up their fair board member shirts after this meeting.

There will be a volunteer meeting following this meeting to go over the fair emergency plan and to go over any specifics as to what a volunteer needs to know about the fair. Also on the agenda will be tips on good customer service responses. First year fair board members should "act like a sponge" taking in as much as they can about the fair.

The barns setup started July 1.

Scott and his crew set up the tables and chairs; the state fair gives us their furnishings to use.

Pat Wood, our entertainment buyer, has helped fill the community stage. His job is to make sure the national acts "get what they need." He fulfills their contracts including what's in their "riders," addendums to the standard contract. He communicates with the national acts' manager and the road manager that shows up at the fair. Pat coordinates such things as food, lodging, transportation, and a power drop for their bus if needed. Pat is working with the local/regional acts also- attractions, walkarounds, and the two stages. (His wife owns Puzzlemania.)

We have to secure a van for transporting the big name entertainment. Greg has been authorized to drive the van. We will get a 12-passenger van from Public Works.

Tomorrow (Thursday's) opening ceremony is at noon; the fair board is encouraged to show up for support.

Melanie said that tomorrow there is a 4H horse meeting at 7:30 AM and an 8 AM all 4H participants' meeting. The junior market auction is at 1:00 PM Saturday; last year \$2 million was raised. The auction animals leave that evening but there are still Cloverbuds' (the youngest 4H participants) animals here on Sunday.

The legislative reception (Opening Day BBQ) is on Thursday following the Honor Day ceremonies.

VI. Meeting Adjourned: 6:22 PM