

VAN BUREN YOUTH FAIR ASSOCIATION  
“THE FAIR WITH A FUTURE”  
PO BOX 271  
HARTFORD, MI 49057  
269-621-2038

MEETING MINUTES – February 3, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Vice President, Sharon Harrell. The meeting was held at the Van Buren Conference Center in Lawrence, Michigan.

Directors present: Stephanie Zabavski, Debbie Glover, Steve Serdel, Ken Tomsa Sr., Gary Consford, Colleen Burke, Brian Rumsey, Corey Conklin, Iris Swift, Paul Garrod, Melva DeVries and Sharon Harrell.

Visitors: Julie Rumsey Jennifer Chandler, Mike Stamp, Matt Butler, Dan Hostetler, Bill Yankovich, Candis Yankovich, Kevin Novotny, Terri Tripp and Janice Zerbe.

President, Stephanie Zabavski asked for approval of the Agenda. Colleen Burke moved to accept the agenda. Gary Consford seconded. Motion passed.

Secretary, Iris Swift, read the minutes from the December 2, 2019 meeting. Colleen Burke moved to accept minutes with the corrections. Sharon Harrell seconded. Motion passed.

Correspondence and Bills: None.

Treasurer: Brian Rumsey, Treasurer presented Treasurer’s report as of 2- 3-2020.

Checking and Savings	\$154,879.88
Prepaid FIT	\$ 2,342.78
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$833,691.06

Treasurer, Brian Rumsey, explained how a “Sweep Account” works. President Stephanie Zabavski placed the treasurer’s report on file for audit.

Old Business:

Sponsorships – Colleen Burke asked everyone to provide her with new contacts to request sponsorships. We received \$3,000.00 from Allegan Credit Union.

Hillside Events – Stephanie Zabavski reported on the nightly events for the Hillside for the 2020 Fair:

Monday – Magic Cloud Balloons and MHBA Horse pulls  
Tuesday – NTPA Tractor Pulls  
Wednesday – Unique Motor Sports – Demolition Derby  
Thursday – KOI Drag Racing  
Friday – Super Kicker Rodeo  
Saturday – Unique Motor Sports – Mud Runs

Jennifer Chandler requested we add snowmobiles to the flyer we have posted on the VBYF website for the KOI Drag Racing.

Educational Class Requirements – Janice Zerbe. Stephanie Zabavski, President, explained the Fair Board had met and discussed the recent information received from MDARD concerning processors rejecting all swine that have been fed the additive ractopamine. The VBYFB decided to require YQCA class for all exhibitors for the 2020 Youth Fair. This class would fulfill the educational class requirement for all species. This class would also be good for all fairs for 2020 if they required the YQCA class in connection with the new ractopamine restrictions by processors.

Janice Zerbe reviewed the basics of the class and presented the schedule for 2020. Some things to know are as follows:

1. Class age is actual age the day of the class.
2. Registration is online and is open now.
3. Cost to take through Janice Zerbe's classes is \$5.00 per exhibitor.
4. Ages 6 and 7 must take the class in person.
5. Ages 18 and 19 must take the class online - \$12.00 per exhibitor.
6. The YQCA is required for all exhibitors for the 2020 Fair.

The YQCA class information is on the VBYF Website and has been distributed via mail, Facebook, etc.

Ladies Day and Senior Citizens Day – Iris Swift requested to move Ladies Day and Senior Citizens Day from Thursday to Tuesday beginning with the 2020 Fair. The times would remain the same. The reason for this is because Thursday is very busy with the Large Livestock Auction. As of this year the Differently Able Program has been moved to Thursday, Tuesday does not have any special programs scheduled. Iris Swift moved to have Ladies Day on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon and Senior Citizens Day from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Colleen Burke seconded. Motion passed.

Building Repairs and Improvements – Steve Serdel reported he did not have anything new for tonight. He is still gathering information.

Credit Card Processing – Brian Rumsey stated we could buy another credit card machine to assist with gates, etc. There are no discounts to purchase multiple machines.

ATM for Fair Week – Brian Rumsey has not contacted the bank to date.

Fair Signs – Stephanie Zabavski announced we need bigger directional and informational signs for the fairgrounds. WE are looking for ideas and suggestions.

New Business:

4-H Horse Council – Request for Fair Use – Iris Swift presented a request from the 4-H Horse Council to have a horse show and clinic at the fairgrounds on June 26, 27 and 28, 2020. Ken Tomsa, Sr. moved to approve these dates. Melva DeVries seconded. Motion passed.

Young Explorers/Horse Committee Horse Show – Jennifer Chandler presented a proposal to hold a horse show at the fairgrounds on June 19 and 20, 2020. She presented a program. Iris Swift moved to approve the dates with the details to be clarified as to camping, stalls, etc. Ken Tomsa, Sr. seconded. Motion passed.

Open Comments:

Mike Stamp voiced his concerns and objections to the 2020 Fair Book Rule change to disallow swine exhibits coming from Michigan Livestock Expo to be exhibited at the Van Buren Youth Fair. After a detailed discussion President, Stephanie Zabavski thanked Mike for the information.

Bill Yankovich request the dates of September 4 and 5, 2020 for the Old Engine and Tractor Show at the Fairgrounds. Ken Tomsa, Sr. moved to approve the dates. Melva DeVries seconded. Motion passed.

Steve Serdel stated we are going to need personnel and equipment to facilitate the clean-up of the track area after the Mud Bog to be ready for the Old Engine Show tractor pulls.

Bill Yankovich requested assistance with the Barrell Rides on Wednesday, Kids' Day. We are going to request the Fair Royalty help with this project.

Melva DeVries says she turned in money tonight for trophy sponsors.

Sharon Harrell move to adjourn meeting. Ken Tomsa, Sr. seconded. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Iris Swift  
Secretary

Next meeting is Monday, March 2, 2020 at the Van Buren Conference Center in Lawrence, Michigan beginning at 7:00 p.m.