

St. Joseph County Grange Fair

Board Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2023

Fair Office

St. Joseph County Grange Fair

316 East Charlotte Street

Centreville, MI 49032

President Keith Bower called the St. Joseph County Grange Fair Association Fair Board Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Fair Office located on the Fairgrounds of the St. Joseph County Grange Fair in Centreville Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance: The St. Joseph County Grange Fair Association Fair Board Directors stated the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:02 p.m.

Present: The St. Joseph County Grange Fair Board Members that were present; Keith Bower, Angie Mingus, Christina Yunker, Mindy Timm, Charlie Carpenter, Gary Clark, Deborah Davis, Kristine Kirsch, Bill Lindsley, Tom Miller, Betty Persons, Tricia Ulsh, Penny Waltke, Barb Weston, and Bill Younts.

Absent Directors: All the Fair Board Directors were present.

Excuse any absent Directors:

All Fair Board Directors were present. There were no absent Fair Board Directors.

Tricia Ulsh – Address the Fair Board regarding the Office:

Tricia Ulsh wanted to address the Fair Board that Ella Yunker is doing an amazing job in the office, and she is very professional.

4-H Update – Kayla Mitchell:

Kayla Mitchell attended the Fair Board Meeting to give an update on 4-H. There are currently 506 club members (ages 8 – 19 years old), 130 Clover Bud Members (5-7 years old) and 204 Volunteers. Kayla introduced Ava Moser from the 4-H Dog Program. Ava shows dogs, rabbits, and poultry. Ava is asking the Board if they have a dog on site in their booth during Fair Week. The dogs will be vaccinated and licensed. There will be one dog at a time and a leader will always be present with the dog. The 4-H dogs will be identified a 4-H Dog.

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Kristine Kirsch

Motion was made to allow the 4-H Dog Program to have one dog at a time in their booth during Fair Week, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Kristine Kirsch.

Motion passed 14-0

District 15 Representative:

Michelle Goshornan and Mike Fleetwood presented the Fair Board asking for a break on the \$700.00 arena charge. They are asking for \$350.00 for a day for the arena charge, this includes the bathrooms. The High School division has three meet shows, Regionals, and State show. The Junior High Division has one show a year.

MOTION by: Tricia Ulsh, Second by: Kristine Kirsch

Motion was made to make an expectation for this one day even MIHA on May 21st for \$350.00 for one day, was made by: Tricia Ulsh and the second was made by: Kristine Kirsch.

Motion passed 14-0. This was a hand vote.

Sturgis Bank and Trust:

Kamil (Relationship Manager), Tommy Littlefield (4-H Auction), Josh (Centreville Office) presented the Fair Board. Questions were asked regarding our loan for Building#53 and interest rates. Kamil suggested paying cash now instead of borrowing money.

Review and Approval of the Agenda:

MOTION by: Kristine Kirsch, Second by: Tom Miller

Motion was made to approve the meeting agenda as presented, was made by: Kristine Kirsch and the second was made by: Tom Miller.

Motion passed 14-0

Adopting of the Minutes:

MOTION by: Kristine Kirsch, Second by: Tricia Ulsh

Motion was made to approve the April 3, 2023, Fair Board Meeting minutes with stated corrections, was made by: Kristine Kirsch and the second was made by: Tricia Ulsh.

Motion passed 14-0

Recognition of Visitors:

Visitors at the meeting were: Stacey Bower, Adyn Bower, Taya Bower, Norma Switalski, Pam Cook, Derek Maystead, Amy Maystead, Nyla Erhardt, Ella Yunker, Jeff Brazo, and Jim Susemihl.

Public Comments:

The following people stood up and spoke during public comment:

- Jeff Brazo
- Jim Susemihl

Treasurer's Report:

Fair Board Treasure, Christina Yunker presented the Fair Board with the following Financial Reports: Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flow, and Statement of Activity from January 1, 2023, to April 30, 2023.

MOTION by: Tricia Ulsh, Second by: Penny Waltke

Motion to place on the record the Treasure's report that was presented to the Fair Board was made by: Tricia Ulsh and the second was made by: Penny Waltke.

Motion passed 14-0

Correspondences:

There was no correspondence.

Director Reports and updates for the Committee's each Director Head's up

- ***Bill Younts –***
 - *4-H Extension and Liaison Committee-* No report to give.
 - *Grants/Legacy Committee-* Christina Yunker must fill out a request form once a month for our County Grant we received for the internet.
 - *Birthing Tent Committee-* No report to give.
- ***Debbie Davis –***
 - No report to give.
- ***Keith Bower***
 - *Entertainment Committee-* The Executive Committee met with a local group to see if they are interested in putting on the Dirt Drags for us for Fair Week.
 - *Ice Committee-* No report to give.
- ***Charlie Carpenter – Charlie was absent from the meeting; he was sick.***
 - Buildings and Grounds Committee – No report to give.
 - Fair Week Maintenance – No report to give.
 - Harness Racing – The group with the Harness Racing will be at the Fairgrounds on May 6, to look at the track.
- ***Gary Clark***
 - *Courtesy Cart Committee –* Gary is currently working on courtesy cart sponsors for Fair Week.

- **Angie Mingus**
 - *Machinery Dealers/Tractors Committee*- No report to give.
 - *Beer Tent*- No report to give.
 - *Heritage Park Committee* – Heritage Hall Committee Meeting May 9 at 6 p.m.
 - *Food Vendors and Commercial Barns* – No report to give.
 - *Marquee/New Digital Sign* – We are waiting on the signs for the new static sponsors.
 - *Personnel Committee* – Stacey Bower is the new Personnel Committee Chairperson. Stacey Bower reported that Christina Yunker sent in her counteroffer and we as a board need to either accept it or not accept it.

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Mindy Timm

Motion to accept Christina Yunker's counteroffer that she presented to the Fair Board, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Mindy Timm

Motion passed 8-6 with 1 abstained. Christina Yunker abstained from voting.

This was a roll call vote, and the voting was as follows:

Keith Bower – Yes	Gary Clark - Yes	Betty Persons – Yes
Angie Mingus – Yes	Deborah Davis – No	Tricia Ulsh – Yes
Mindy Timm – Yes	Kristine Kirsch – No	Penny Waltke – Yes
Bill Younts – No	Bill Lindsley – Yes	Barb Weston – No
Charlie Carpenter – No	Tom Miller – No	Christina Yunker – Abstained

The Personnel Committee will now be working on a contract that the Fair Board and Christina Yunker will agree upon.

- **Bill Lindsley**
 - *No report to give.*
- **Tom Miller –**
 - *Hall of Fame/Awards Committee*- No report to give.
 - *Porters and Security*- No report to give.
- **Tricia Ulsh**
 - *Grange Building Superintendent*- Wendy is sick but she turned in all her information and changes for the Premium Book.
 - *Milking Parlor* – No report to give.
 - *Policy and By-Laws Committee* – The committee has lots of proposed changes to the by-laws. For the changes to pass there must be a 2/3 majority vote of the present members at the Fair Association Annual Meeting. The proposed changes will be sent out with the Annual Meeting Notices.

- **Betty Persons**
 - *Superintendent of the Home Arts Building*- No report to give.
- **Barb Weston**
 - *Community Tent Committee*- The committee will be meeting May 8, 2023, at 7 p.m. here in the office.
 - *Free-Stage Committee*- The committee will be meeting May 8, 2023, at 7 p.m. here in the office.
 - *Fair T-Shirt* – Currently working on sponsors for the Fair T-Shirt.
- **Penny Waltke**
 - *No report to give.*
- **Mindy Timm**
 - *Fair Advertising and Marketing* – Mindy, Keith Bower, Stacey Bower, and Christina Yunker attended the MAFE Zone 1 Meeting April 24, 2023, in Lawrence. Centreville Garage Sale and Vintage Market is Saturday, May 6, 2023. Mindy presented the Fair Theme Image to the Fair Board. Mindy will be submitting the USTA Matching Grant on Friday, May 5, 2023. Christina Yunker and Mindy Timm have been working on getting the giveaway items and passes ordered. Everything that needs to be in the brochure needs to be sent to Mindy by June 18th at 8 p.m.
- **Kristine Kirsch**
 - *First Aid Station* – Kristine Kirsch will oversee the First Aid Station again this year.
- **Christina Yunker**
 - *Finance, Wages, and Budget Committee* – Report was given during the Treasures report.
 - *Technology Committee* – Gave a deposit to Markie Trowbridge to get started on the internet around the Fairgrounds. He has 60 days to get the items done and report back to Christina Yunker.
 - *Parking Lot Committee* – No report to give.
 - *Sponsorships* – Christina Yunker has been working on all sponsorship opportunities for Fair Week.

Old Business

a) ***Golf Cart Permit Money – \$25.00 for each golf cart permit sold goes to the principle of Building #53.***

i. ***Motion to discontinue the motion regarding this policy that was made at the November 7, 2022, Fair Board Meeting, was made and passed at the March 6, 2023, Fair Board Meeting.***

ii. ***From Policy Book***

- ***Saturday, January 24, 2015 – Motion made by P. Leeth, supports Hart that \$5.00 per golf cart permit be put on the principal amount of the loan for building# 53. Motion carried. 14/0.***

- ***Saturday, January 26, 2019 – Motion made by Hofstra, support Baker to raise the fee to \$50.00 and that \$25.00 per golf cart permit be put on the principal amount of the loan for Building# 53. Motion carried. 10/1.***

iii. ***We need to decide how we want to move forward with this.***

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Deborah Davis

Motion to not apply the \$25.00 for each golf cart permit sold to the principle of the loan for Building #53, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Deborah Davis.

Motion passed 10-4. This was a hand vote.

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Deborah Davis

Motion to rescind the motion that was previously made to not apply the \$25.00 for each golf cart permit sold to go on the principle of the loan for Building #53, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Deborah Davis.

Motion passed 15-0. This was a hand vote.

ADMENDMENT TO MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Deborah Davis

Motion to add an exception to the 2022 year to not apply the \$25.00 for each golf cart permit sold to go on the principle of the loan for Building #53, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Deborah Davis.

Amendment to Motion passed 14-0.

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Deborah Davis

Motion to make an exception to the 2022 year to not apply the \$25.00 for each golf cart permit sold to go on the principle of the loan for Building #53, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Deborah Davis.

Amendment to Motion passed 12 -3. This was a hand vote.

b) Winter Storage – Any amount over \$75,000 that is collected for Winter Storage will go to the principle of Building #53.

i. Motion to discontinue the motion regarding this policy that was made at the November 7, 2022, Fair Board Meeting, was made and passed at the March 6, 2023, Fair Board Meeting.

ii. From Policy Book

- Saturday, January 9, 2016 – Motion made by Carpenter supports Hart that any amount after \$75,000 collected for winter storage will be put on the principal amount of the loan for Building#53. Motion carried. 14/0.***

iii. We need to decide how we want to move forward with this.

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Deborah Davis

Motion to make an exception to the 2022 year to not apply any amount over \$75,000 that is collected for Winter Storage to go on the principle of the loan for Building #53, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Deborah Davis.

Amendment to Motion passed 10-5. This was a hand vote.

New Business:

a. T-Shirts from the previous years – Christina Yunker

Christina Yunker asked the Board what we are doing with previous years Fair T-Shirts. The Board agreed to sell them at the Garage Sale for \$10.00 each.

b. Draft Horse Pulls – Kristine Kirsch

Kristine Kirsch asked the Board if they still wanted the Draft Horse Pulls on Wednesday night of Fair Week. The contract is \$2,500.00 and she will work on sponsors.

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Tricia Ulsh

Motion to have the Draft Horse pulls on Wednesday night of Fair Week, was made by: Angie Mingus and second was made by: Tricia Ulsh

Motion passed 14-0

c. *Fair Board Meetings Fair Week – Tom Miller*

Tom Miller addressed the Fair Board regarding the meetings during Fair Week and if we need to call them meetings or discussions. Concern is having to notify the Association of our Meetings and the meeting minutes. Mindy Timm stated she takes notes and if there is a vote, she does record it. The Fair Board Directors had discussion. Everyone agreed to keep it the way we have been doing it.

d. *Draft Pony Superintendent – Kristine Kirsch*

Kristine Kirsch addressed the Board regarding the need for a Draft and Pony Horse Superintendent. She will do all the grunt work but does not want to be named the superintendent. The Fair Board agreed to make Tom Miller the Superintendent and Deborah Davis the Assistant Superintendent.

e. *Fair Board Roster with terms included – Kristine Kirsch*

Kristine Kirsch addressed the Board regarding talk in the community of people running to stack the Board. Kristine would like to have a sheet with all the Director's information on it along with their term years and to have a copy in the office and every director has one. Mindy Timm stated she would work on this and put the information on the website as well, just the director's names and term year.

Adjournment of Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Penny Waltke

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Penny Waltke.

Motion passed 14-0

Meeting Minutes taken and prepared by: Mindy Timm – Fair Board Secretary