



## **DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD- GUEST SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 AT 5:30 PM**

**WEBEX VIRTUAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

### **Meeting**

**Attendance:** Pam Spradlin, Dick Sabulsky, Jean Sabulsky, Michelle Bartlett, Dean Elliot

**Fair Re-cap:** Dean gave kudos to the committee that they did a great job considering all the hurdles from this year. Dick and Sonia worked well together to make sure everyone had a job and was busy doing something. There was duplication with the yellow shirt volunteers and ushers for the rodeos. This was a minor issue and was easily resolved.

Dean thanked Dick for his idea of using the Events Center for the Livestock Sale buyer dinner before the Livestock Sale. He asked the committee how they felt the shuttles went during the dinner. Dick wished more people had taken the shuttles that night. The most feedback Jean got on Friday was 4-H people needing rides from the Indoor Arena to their cars. They were very grateful for the rides.

Michelle explained that the duplication with the ushers during the rodeo was because when it came time to contract the company for the ushers, we did not know the number of volunteers who had or would sign-up at that time.

This year was hard because of the restrictions with numbers that we all had to abide by. Jean and Julie were great in the Volunteer Command Center. Everyone had a great time and wants to come back next year.

**2020 Volunteer Stats:** Dean gave volunteer stats for this year. There was one volunteer who had court ordered volunteer hours in the past who came back this year because they had such a great time before. There are a few others that came back as well.

Jean talked with Commissioner Thomas during Fair and she said that she was very pleased with the way everything ran.

Pam said that the only place that could have used volunteers was for the Livestock Sale clean up on Saturday. Phil had mentioned this to her. Normally there would have been yellow shirt volunteers to help with this, but the committee didn't feel it was necessary this year. Phil would like them to help again next year.

Overall, the stats were good this year considering.

**Ideas for 2021:** Michelle is talking with Linda O'Dell to see if we can assign different roles on Volunteer Connect so that the committee can view the results and pull reports.

Pam asked Dick and Jean what kind of feedback they got from our guests. Dick received no comments from guests, but while interacting with volunteers everything ran very smoothly. Jean said that she had heard from those who came to the rodeo about the lack of food options, but they were happy with what was there.

Michelle clarified that this year was hard because with the limited number of people allowed on the Fairgrounds, a lot of food vendors didn't want to take a chance on no sales.

Dean felt that a good thing from this year was that Fair Board and Fair Foundation were a lot more engaged in helping and volunteering. He thought that everyone enjoyed helping. Dean would like to continue this in years to come. It was good for them to interact with people and be a part of that process.

Next year the committee would like to again work together with Sonia to balance her volunteers and yellow shirt volunteers.

Dean would like to get some sort of mailing out to recap the Fair and thank this year's volunteers for volunteering. Kind of a "Hope you will join us again next year!"

Jean expressed that even after the rodeo had started, people still came up and were wanting to buy tickets. In the future, if we are in this situation again, Dean feels we should still sell a few tickets the day of to alleviate this situation.

Dean also expressed that it was good for Dick and Jean to get out of the Volunteer Command Center to talk to the fairgoers and get their opinions on how Fair was going.

**Action Items:**

1. Come up with a mailer to send out to all past volunteers.
2. Since Dean will be the Fair Board Chair next year, the committee needs to start thinking about a new chair for this committee. Dean has some ideas on Fair Board Directors for this committee but believes it would be a good thing to see if we can get those repeat volunteers to come to the meetings and be a part of the committee.
3. Dick asked if the committee should be thinking about volunteer compensation in some way and should think about this for each of the individual shifts. Something like gift cards, etc.

Pam thanked everyone for all their efforts. Everyone did a great job getting it done!

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, November 10, 2020

**Comments:**