

Greater Grand Forks Fair board meeting 10-14-2020 at Fair office

Present: Mark, Pam, Dennis, Connie, Darren, Kenny, Bill, Keith, Diane, and Jeanie

Bill called the meeting to order.

Mark passed out financials that Terry had provided and minutes from the July meeting. Dennis made a motion to approve the minutes. Kenny seconded the motion. Motion passed. All current bills have been paid. Dennis made a motion to accept the financial report and approve for filing. Darren seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Lighting was replaced in the barn with LED lights. Lighting in the Commercial building was also replaced with LED lights. Both buildings had a lot of bulbs and ballasts out. Electricity draw in the Commercial building is approximately half of what it was with all of the lights missing. Bergstrom Electric also has some outdoor lighting for the horse arena that they may be able to donate. Storage is starting to come in pretty quick now that the lighting is done. Keith raised the price for storing cars to \$200 from \$150.

Made enough money from the barrel racing to pay for the new lights in the barn. The North Dakota Quarter Horse Association is interested in doing a show in our arena in 2021. They are interested in possibly June, but will need to work around other events scheduled in the arena.

Mark reported on the conventions. The Heartland Association convention has been canceled. The Association is planning a series of online workshops through the winter at no charge. The schedule will be sent to the board. IAFE canceled the in-person convention. It has been changed to a 2 day virtual convention. The registration is \$199. The sessions will be recorded and available through the month of December. More information will be sent to the board.

Dates have been finalized for the Fair. We are a week earlier than normal, June 23-27. Mark and Jeanie are working with the entertainers to reschedule them to the 2021 dates. The pig races are planning to be back. Cowboy Circus and the 3 Ring Circus are trying to work out their schedules. The FAME racetrack people have not returned calls yet. When those acts are all finalized we will discuss any replacements that might be needed. IV Play is only available on Wednesday, Johnny Holm is only available on Thursday, and Diamonds and Whiskey are only available on Friday. The board agreed that we should rebook all 3 bands. Mark is waiting to find out about band availability for Saturday.

The board discussed ways to improve communications on the board and with the County Commission. The committees need to be reformed. We need to set up a planning meeting to start discussing outline of a plan for the grandstand renovation project. The board members were assigned to make lists of projects that have been completed in the past decade, and projects that we need and/or want to be done in the near future. The lists will be used to define the renovation project(s) and that will help determine the actual fundraising needed. The planning meeting will probably happen before the next regular board meeting at a time to be determined.

We have an opportunity to purchase a smaller trailer set up to haul people during the Fair. It was built by one of the people associated with the Horse Club. Keith made a motion to purchase the trailer for \$1,800. Connie seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Darren made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned.

