



Board of Directors
92937 Walluski Loop
Astoria, OR 97103

Board Meeting Minutes

July 7th, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Autio, Chair
Kallie Linder, Vice Chair
Brittany Israel
Jack Edwards
Jack Ficken

In attendance:

John Lewis, Fair & Expo General Manager

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm by Mike Autio, Chair.

Public Comment

No Public Comment Made

Consideration of Agenda & June Meeting Minutes

Kallie Linder made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Jack Ficken, second. Motion passed.

Old Business

Report from John Lewis, Fair General Manager.

Monica /Joana

Monica Steele, Assistant County Manager/Budget and Finance Director, addressed The Fair Board about their previous months conversation about potentially adopting personnel policies. She went over the draft she sent out the week prior, that is similar to the County's Personnel policies, but revised to fit the Fair Boards needs and management policies per their current MOU. Monica reminded the Board that they are in charge of managing their employees, however they are still County employees, and adopting the policies relieve any liabilities that come with not having policies in place. After some discussion, Jack Ficken made a motion to approved the Fair Board Personnel Policies as presented, Kallie Linder, second. Motion passed by The Fair Board.

Monica also brought up the Pay Equality Law passed in January of 2019. And asked the board what they thought of the scale. After some explanation, it was determined that the Manager's scale and current pay was not included. So the Board decided to decide on Pay Schedules at the August 4, 2020 meeting.

New Business

Report from John Lewis, Fair General Manager.

Internet

The internet got an upgrade yesterday. There has always been fiberoptic line just down the road, CenturyLink was requesting close to \$20,000 to bring it to the Fair Grounds. A deal was worked out that if a 6 year contract was signed, the fees for accessing the fiberoptic line would be waived. The download and upload speeds have been increased significantly and the line is a dedicated line to the Fairgrounds versus the previous community line. This means, during Fair and other Large Events like Wine and Seafood Festival, the speeds can actually be manipulated to account for the increased usage to be able to keep up with the influx of users. Live streams, like the upcoming auction, should also run much smoother, as well as the WIFI connections.

Playground

John presented his idea of creating a playground on the property, over the course of a few years. He has found that not only during Fair, but during large events, there is a need for activities to keep young ones occupied and away from other activities that may cause damage to the property. He also wanted to provide a place for anyone to come let their kids play. He presented a few pieces of equipment that he thought would be fitting and their costs. He also let The Board know that he had some ideas about how to get businesses involved in possibly donating money for the structures in return of signage/plaques with their business information. He let The Board know that he did check with the County and a playground does fall under the liability insurance, so no changes would need to be made there. The Board thought the idea of the playground was good and agreed that options should be looked at for creating it.

COLA

John reiterated what Monica had said earlier in the meeting about the COLA this year coming out to .8% increase. However, the Board had budgeted 3% based on last years COLA. The Unions require a 2.5% minimum increase so the County Commission will decide on those figures at their July 8, 2020 meeting. The Board decided to wait until they hear what the County Commission decides before approving a COLA amount. The COLA will be decided at the August 4, 2020 meeting.

Financial Statement

John Lewis presented Final '19-'20 Financial Statement. Mike Autio noted that even with the COVID cancellations, the budget faired pretty well. He also noted that the '20-'21 budget for Revenue would see an early hit for the 2020 Fair cancellation.

Board Members/Staff Communications

Brittany Israel asked about the Farm House and where the process of it is at. John let the Board know that the potential taker of the house has had a hard time finding a barge to move the Farm House. He is not sure if its due to pricing or liability, but he said he will speak with the man interested in it again and see where he is at. But, John also advised that the contractor the man was using was interested in the timbers, and thought that maybe that would be the other option, of dismantling and taking it in pieces.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Next Meeting Date

August 4th, 2020 - 5:30 pm @ Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall.