

Green Lake County Ag, Extension Education & Fair Committee
MINUTES
May 8, 2007

The meeting of the Green Lake County Ag, Extension Education and Fair Committee was called to order by Chairperson Hollander at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, May 8, 2007, with certification of the Open Meeting Notice, Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance.

Committee Members Present: M. Hollander, W. Williams, M. Stoddard, V. Ammentorp and S. McConnell.

Agents/Staff Present: J. Hoffman, C. Hargrave, M. Haak, D. Slark, K. Zills and A. Leppin.

Library Services Represented by: V. Duhr.

M/S(Stoddard/McConnell) to approve the Agenda. Motion carried.

M/S(Williams/Ammentorp) to approve the April 10, 2007 minutes. Motion carried.

Library Services Report: Written report is on file. Lucy Hazlewood, Markesan librarian, will be returning to Papua New Guinea for two months, and she will return to Markesan in July. Duhr explained that the Rubber Chicken Fling was an event to promote downtown Princeton and scheduled to coincide with the opening of the Princeton Flea Market. Markesan is promoting storytelling using Flavor, the Cow. Zills presented the committee with a Read & Win and Come to the Fair ribbon which the libraries will use for the fair sponsored reading program.

Public Appearances/Comments: None

Correspondence: Leppin thanked the Committee for sponsoring her for the Tri-County Leadership Initiative program this past year.

Educator Reports: Written reports are on file.

Hargrave: Reported the on-farm research trials are across from the Green Lake Conference Center. She will be monitoring a soybean plot on the Wayne Albright farm this summer and also two new experimental soybeans plots on the her farm for aphid resistance. She reported that the Annie Project is part of Women's programming like Heart of the Farm, dealing with record keeping, cash flow, and other financial areas.

Haak: Announced that there will be an Islamic Speaker on May 31st at Thrasher Opera House, who will address Islamic practices, teachings and will touch on terrorism. The program is free.

Slark: Reported that he attended the SYFAR Conference in Chicago and felt the seminars were very useful dealing with youth and families at risk. Green Lake is the host county for the American Spirit Trip and Slark is busy planning the trip which takes place at the end of June with 42 youth and 5 chaperones from Central District attending. He has received around 25-30 surveys back regarding the Youth Coalition. Slark reported that Clothing Review will be June 9th at Green Lake. Twenty-five youth participated in Foods

Review at the Markesan Resident Home, and seven youth did demonstrations. He stated the numbers are up from last year.

Hoffman: Hoffman reported that the Literacy Council is ready for the next step. Creating literacy awareness in the county is an issue, however, there are not enough people to carry out the issues and strategies they have made. The board consists of five members, of which two are ADVOCAP employees. Hoffman stated that more than 19% of the county's population has some form of illiteracy. He explained that literacy does not just mean reading and writing, but in the broader sense, involves financial, language, work needs and health issues. He invited committee members to attend the next Literacy Council meeting on June 5th at Prairie View School (Headstart) at 7:00 p.m., when he will explain the literacy plan.

M/S(Stoddard/Williams) to approve out-of-county dates for the educators: Hargrave: 2; Hoffman: 7; Slark:2; and Haak: 3.5. Motion carried.

Discussion about Jeff Hoffman Facilitating a Community Meeting to Discuss the Courthouse Building Project: Hoffman requested the Ag/Extension & Fair Committee's approval should he be asked to assist/facilitate a meeting with the County Board regarding the building project. Discussion held. **M/S(Stoddard/McConnell)** to lay this item over to next month's meeting. Motion carried.

M/S(Stoddard/Ammentorp) to take roll and move into Closed Session per ss.19.85 (c) Considering Employee Evaluations: Roll Call taken: Stoddard = Aye; Williams – Aye; Ammentorp = Aye; McConnell = Aye; and Hollander = Aye. Motion carried. Committee moved into closed session at 9:15 a.m. to conduct employee evaluations.

MS(Stoddard/Ammentorp) to move into Open Session: Roll call taken: Stoddard = Aye; McConnell = Aye; Ammentorp = Aye; Williams = Aye and Hollander = Aye. Motion Carried. Committee moved into Open Session at 9:30 a.m. No findings announced from closed session, discussion only.

Break: 9:30 a.m. Meeting Resumed at 9:35 a.m.

Fair Committee Discussion – 2007 Fair:

Fair Maintenance and Entertainment Contracts - Approval: Zills presented the contract for Clark Buchanan, and three entertainment contracts: the game show, karaoke, and the child care providers. **M/S(Ammentorp/Stoddard)** to sign the contracts as presented. Motion carried.

Schedule of Events – Review: Zills shared the new preliminary format for the Fair Brochure she designed for this year's fair. All liked the new format. The committee was asked to look it over and call Zills by May 18th if they have any changes.

Bleacher Rental – Review: Zills presented the bleacher rental costs to the committee. She is recommending the one day rental of a 160 unit, with a cost of \$500. Discussion held. **M/S(Stoddard/Williams)** to rent the 160 bleacher unit for one day at a cost of \$500 which will be used for the Demo Derby. Motion carried.

Use of Community Service Workers – Meeting: Zills and Hoffman met with Sheriff Podoll and Melissa Sonntag to discuss the use of community service workers for this year's fair. The Fair has requested two workers to assist Jahnke when he begins his duties in July, and other workers will be used for the front gate and some at Farm Bureau. Podoll said that the Sheriff's department will man the Sheriff's booth at all times.

Game Show Entertainment – Update: Zills reported that there was a contractual change in the Game Show Entertainment. She checked with Corporate Counsel, John Selsing, who stated that the fair is not bound to the initial entertainment offer. Zills received an offer for the same type of entertainment from another company at approximately \$1000 cheaper. The company has already returned a signed contract.

Sheriff's Proposal for Fenced in Evidence Area: Ammentorp and Hoffman stated they both have been in contact with the Highway and Sheriff's Departments about the location of the evidence area. Discussion held. **M/S(Ammentorp/McConnell)** that the Agriculture/Extension and Fair Committee does not recommend placing the Fenced in Evidence Area on the Fairgrounds/Highway Grounds. Motion Carried. The committee suggested that the Sheriff's Department consider using the Highway Shop 2 site on Highway 73 by Manchester.

Committee Discussion:

Property & Insurance Committee: Stoddard reported that John Simpson has been hired as head of the Maintenance Department and he is doing a good job.

Personnel Committee: Hollander reported that the committee is working on filling vacant positions at HSS, telephone use, attendance and special needs policies, and working on job descriptions.

Finance Committee: Ammentorp reported that a new carry-over policy has been recommended for the county.

Agriculture/Extension Education and Fair Vouchers: **M/S(Stoddard/Ammentorp)** to sign vouchers. Motion carried.

Next meeting date; June 12, 2007.

M/S(Stoddard/Williams) to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Arlene Leppin
Administrative Assistant