



DOUGLAS COUNTY FAIR BOARD- ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 2023, AT 5:00 PM

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFERENCE ROOM

MINUTES

Meeting:

Attendance: Sarah Fischer, Debbie Mills, Lisa Turner, Tori Thelen, Teresa Kutt and Zach Burns

2023 Entertainment Feedback- The entertainment committee agreed the magician, bubble show, and tower were not valuable entertainment acts. The cost for these acts was high and not highly attended. Tori discussed new ideas for having a cost-effective bubble zone for kids that the committee can create. Positive feedback for the petting zoo, trapper, Safari Sam, Tres Amigos, photo booth, mechanical bull, and Barn Dance artist. The committee would like to see all these acts return. Tres Amigos prefers a dirt location but was happy with the main entrance. There were scheduling conflicts discussed with the Kirk Hall stage as well as the midway stage. Kirk Hall was underutilized, and the committee discussed alternative ideas to use Kirk Hall during the Fair & Rodeo. The committee prefers to see more bands and performances on the midway stage. There were complaints during the concert that the scissor lift was obstructing views of the show. Food vendors remained busy. The committee discussed the Knights, possibly requesting higher prices and removing competing food items for 2024. Food Vendors complained about their fees and said they can not compete with them. The committee would like to revisit bar locations for 2024. The carnival did well and was happy to participate in the 2023 Fair & Rodeo. David and the team mentioned how well the grounds were kept and how pleasant people were. Concerns about ride prices and no change were brought to the staff's attention. The committee hopes they will return in 2024, offering more rides.

Farm to Table- Zach discussed that the BOCC wants to see Farm to Table be a net 0 event. Farm to Table 2024 will be a proper brunch menu and begin earlier. The committee discussed a second smaller vendor tent to host the vendors so that the heat does not keep traffic from coming to visit the vendors. All agreed SALT did a great job, and the food was fantastic. Colorado Keys was hard to hear outside the tent. Hiring for music is unnecessary, but a playlist can be played inside the tent. The band should be inside the main tent if a music act is hired for 2024. Debbie and Sarah suggested having greeters or hosts to help seat attendees. The committee wants the tent to be used for a second event in 2024 and

utilized as an asset. Ideas for a second event were: beer garden, BINGO, corn hold competition, or VIP sponsorship hosted dinner. A variety of vendors, like custom hats, was discussed for 2024. Debbie recommended having all our yard games available at Farm to Table. The committee agreed that the Farm to Table brunch should remain at 250, and the tent was roomy and great for that number of people.

2024 Entertainment Brainstorm- The committee discussed ideas for entertainment in 2024. Some of the entertainment ideas were tractor pull, more musical acts on the midway stage, more interactive and walkaround entertainment, vintage farm equipment, balloons, acapella groups, ventriloquist, barnyard Olympics, RC car race, battle of the bands, Harmony Farms horses, juggler, and racing pigs.

Committee Meeting Time- The committee was happy with their meeting time of the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Other- Debbie discussed bunting in the Barn Dance to simplify the setup. Todd with Wide Open Saloon is happy to sponsor for 2024 and has ideas for bands. The lighting was too bright in the barn dance; it needed to be more intimate, like a concert. Sarah suggested placing the photo booth in the barn dance with the mechanical bull. Debbie discussed the Fair & Rodeo's involvement with the Cattle Drive. She would like to see more participation in 2024. Debbie suggested starting the concert at 8:00 p.m. to allow for more presence and events following the Cattle Drive. Debbie talked about a possible cowboy poetry involving the Cattle Drive.

Additional Items:

Next Meeting – November 8th, 2023