

## Minutes of Wednesday, January 18, 2023

### El Paso County Fair Board Meeting

<b>Board Members:</b>	Mel Trafton, Kate Watson, Grant Harris, Amanda Hensen, Lou Taylor, Mike Publicker, Ed Dills
<b>Associate Members:</b>	Michael Miller, Dan Fields, Jeff Lapsansky, Jennifer Gates, Kirsten Swenson
<b>Staff:</b>	Theresa Odello, Adam Baker, AmyJo Fields, Seth Taylor, Dana Nordstrom, Emily Green, Jonathan Vrabec, Andschana Aljets
<b>Guests:</b>	Donie Miller, Patty Woodard, John Hill
<b>Excused Absence:</b>	Matt Zeiger, Don Watts

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mel Trafton at 6:36 p.m. Everyone was welcomed and introduced. This meeting was held at Bear Creek Nature Center with many attending online via Teams due to inclement weather.

#### **Meeting Minutes**

Kate Watson made a motion to approve the November 16, 2022 meeting minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Publicker, the motion carried with approval.

#### **Public Comments**

None.

#### **Board and Staff Comments**

- Jeff Lapsansky, Kirsten Swenson, and Jennifer Gates were welcomed as the Fair Advisory Board's newest Associate Members.
- Kate Watson and Amanda Hensen thanked the Fair Advisory Board and any additional volunteers for their help with the Fair Queen Clinic.
- Ed Dills, Mike Publicker, Grant Harris, Amanda Hensen, and Lou Taylor were all moved to the title of Fair Advisory Board Voting Members.

#### **Action Items:**

- A. Theresa Odello presented the proposed 2023 Annual Meeting Schedule. Motion to approve the 2023 Annual Meeting Schedule was made by Grant Harris, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kate Watson, and the motion carried with approval.
- B. Theresa Odello presented the proposed 2023 Sunshine Act Memorandum. Mike Publicker made a motion to approve the act as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lou Taylor, and the motion carried with approval.
- C. Andschana Aljets proposed the endorsement of the 2023 Major Entertainment plan. A presentation was provided and various minor question were answered. Kate Watson made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Publicker, and the motion carried with approval.
- D. Andschana Aljets proposed the endorsement of the 2023 Major Events plan. Mike Publicker made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lou Taylor, and the motion carried with approval.

- E. Theresa Odello led the conversation on 2023 Fair Advisory Board Officer Elections. Mel Trafton nominated himself for the Chairperson position, Kate Watson nominated herself for the Vice-Chairperson position, and Grant Harris nominated himself for the Secretary position. Motion to approve these nominations was made by Lou Taylor, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Publicker, and the motion carried with approval.
- F. Andschana Aljets provided information on the El Paso County Fair 2022 Volunteer Hours. Mel Trafton and Mike Publicker were recognized for their hours and outstanding service. A volunteer hours section has also been added to the Fair Advisory Board sign-in sheet.
- G. Theresa Odello provided information on the Fair Advisory Board's Committee Review. Sign-up preferences for 2023 committees will be sent out via email at a later date.
- H. Emily Tobler proposed the endorsement of the 2023 4-H Premium Book Changes & Fair Schedule. Conversation on a few minor mistakes in the schedule and edits in the livestock section of the premium book was held. Grant Harris made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike Publicker, and the motion carried with approval. Mike Publicker made a motion to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kate Watson, and the motion carried with approval.
- I. Dana Nordstrom proposed the endorsement of the 2023 Sponsorship Plan. The Sponsorship Brochure was presented to the board.

### **Fair Board Committee Reports**

- A. Adam presented the Facilities and Grounds report. This report covered updates on improving the outdoor sound systems, providing more power options throughout the fairgrounds, and installation of a water filter for the Hog Barn.
- B. Andschana Aljets gave the Programming Committee report. There was conversation and updates on plans for Fair Zone and the 2022 IAFE Convention.
- C. Seth Taylor gave the Vendor Committee Report with updates on the 2022 Holiday Fair, 2023 El Paso County Fair vendor registration, and updating the Vendor Handbook.
- D. Dana Nordstrom presented the Sponsorship Committee report. Dana was commended by the board for already reaching 108% of the goal revenue set for the 2023 El Paso County Fair.
- E. AmyJo Fields and Kate Watson gave the Marketing & Queen Committee report. A new El Paso County Fair and Events Center logo is in the works to provide a more uniform brand with other county entities. The Fair Queen Clinic saw a record number of attendees. The board was invited to both the Open Ride on January 28<sup>th</sup>, and the 2023 Fair Queen Contest on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Miscellaneous Reports**

- A. Seth Taylor presented the Non-Fair Programming & Facility Use update. The next highlighted event is the Boots in the Park Fundraiser on March 1<sup>st</sup>. Volunteers are welcome with a sign-up sheet being sent via email at a later date.
- B. Emily Tobler presented the 4-H Report. The current focus is on premium books and enrollment in 4-H events. Emily reported that livestock enrollment numbers are currently higher than normal.

Next Meeting: Fair Advisory Board meeting, February 15, 2023 @ 6:30pm – EPC Fair and Events Center

Mel Trafton adjourned the meeting at 7:53pm.