

**Kitsap County Fair & Stampede Board Meeting**  
**January 9, 2013**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Staff – Jim Dunwiddie, Billie Schmidt; Fair Management Team – Sunny Saunders-Housen, Johnathan Miller, Gus Housen; Fair Board Members – Linda Moran, Jim Rye, Cassie O’Hara, Danise Barnes, Doug Dillon, Mike Brady, Maaren Stroble, Joe Drouin, Diana Pheasant

**Meeting was called to order** at 7:00pm by Jim Rye

**Minutes** were reviewed and Jim Dunwiddie had been notified that there was to be a change on the first page to say “the contests would be done by the end of March, not January 1<sup>st</sup> and that the ribbons would be done by January 1<sup>st</sup>.” With this change, Cassie O’Hara moved to accept, and Mike Brady seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Directors’ Reports**

**Diana Pheasant – Entertainment** - reported she is busy scheduling entertainment, the stage schedules are being agreed on, ribbons have been ordered through Norma Shaal and there has been a decision to make more generic ribbons to cut down on prices and to be able to use the unused ones for the following year.

**Mike Brady – Parking** - reported there is a RFQ coming out for a 3 year contracted parking group. There will be an annual review for either party to get out of the contract if desired.

**Maaren Stroble – Commercial Exhibits** – reported she and Sunny met and they have changed the application a bit. She is waiting for the final draft so she can mail it out.

**Linda Moran - Still Exhibits** - reported she is meeting next Monday with Barb Schultz to work on the Premium Book. She has been in conversation with the Grange on making some changes to their displays.

**Danise Barnes – Admissions** – said she had no report at this time.

**Doug Dillon – Concessions** – reported he met with Sunny in regards to the concessions contracts and will begin sending those out.

**Cassie O’Hara – Livestock** - reported she is making Premium Book updates and will do a fairgrounds barn walk-through next week with Mark Boardman. Norma Shaal has met with the 4H group regarding ribbons.

**Joe Drouin – Rodeo** – said he and Johnathan Miller met at the NFR Conference regarding which scoreboard to use and made a decision; he also said his wife talked with rodeo contestants who gave the Kitsap County Fair & Stampede lots of compliments for their hospitality area.

**Jim Rye – Security** – said he had no report at this time.

**Queens Committee Report** – Cherie Hart announced that she and Susan Krawiecki will co-chair the committee. She distributed the committee contact sheet. She said they met on January 5<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at Michele Kolbas' home. April 18<sup>th</sup> is the pageant, they are currently accepting applications. Crystal Hart and Addison Kolbas went to the Christmas Tree Lighting event and Crystal went to Las Vegas for the Miss Rodeo America event. Cherie presented the board with an autographed framed Omak Stampede poster. Jim Rye told Cherie that at the March meeting, the board would want a financial report.

**Top Hands Report** – Dennis Woods reported that the group had been diligently working on completing the Hay Barn, had missed the month of December due to holidays, but would start again this month. He will have a financial report ready for March's meeting.

**Cowpokes Report** – Cowpokes representative was not present, but Sunny Saunders-Housen reported that she had met with Ken Bagwell and that the Cowpokes had agreed to pay for talent – Keith Isley, Chuck Loteman, and Randy Corley. This support will help to afford the larger video screens for the rodeo. She also reported that they would be working on an MOU for the 2013 Fair.

**4-H Report** – Shannon Harkness, New 4H Coordinator, reported that they will have a small farms expo on February 9<sup>th</sup> at Olympic College which will have 20 classes and workshops. March 9<sup>th</sup> will be Super Saturday at Faith Fellowship and there will be public presentations on April 12 & 13 at Faith Fellowship. She also announced they need judges for this event.

**FFA Report** – No report other than that spring fair is coming up.

**Parks Director Report** – Jim Dunwiddie announced that the contract renewal with the Fair Management Team was being processed. He also said that they would be submitting a state Agriculture Grant which has a deadline in February. He noted that the operating budget is not contingent upon the receipt of the grant. In response to Joe Drouin, Mr. Dunwiddie responded that there is a plan to put a retention pond on the south end of the property to protect the Olympic High School from flooding due to runoff from the Fairgrounds.

**Office Staff Report** – Billie Schmidt reported that the LID projects with the Conservation District were still in design phase – those projects are: gutters on the barns, infiltration system between the Van Zee and Presidents' Hall and an infiltration system at Thunderbird Stadium. She also said that the detention pond near the manure pile on the northeast corner of the Fairgrounds was taken out and replaced with an infiltration system. This area is also in design to get a cover to prevent water contamination.

**Fair Managers' Report** – Sunny announced that Kitsap Bank has again agreed to be the Title Sponsor for \$25,000. She is in the process of collecting outstanding sponsor payments from 2012 Fair from several sign sponsors and doesn't anticipate any issues. She met with Harrison Hospital regarding the Farmer's Market, and is working with a potential new sponsor on a \$7,000 package. She met with Doug Dillon on renovating the applications to make them more user friendly, and changed the booth spaces to 10 foot increments. She met with Maaren and got rid of the Wi-Fi Fee that some booths were paying for since the building comes with wi-fi.

She announced that the Fair would no longer process insurance applications for vendors. She met with Diana to work on the paid acts.

Johnathan Miller reported that he and Joe Drouin met at the NFR Conference and chose the largest video screen with camera support. This has more ad space and a higher impact on the audience – getting them closer to the action. Mr. Miller also reported that he and Mr. Brady would meet with Silver Spurs in partnering again for the parking there this year. He announced that the team has been working on several ideas and options for the Sunday performance.

Doug Dillon asked about the past due sponsors and Ms. Saunders-Housen reassured him that it was just a matter of billing the sponsors and she was sure they would pay once they received an invoice.

Ms. Saunders-Housen reported that the three management team members have divided responsibilities with the board for communication efficiencies. The breakdown is as follows: Johnathan Miller will be the liaison to Jim Rye, Mike Brady, and Joe Drouin. Sunny Saunders-Housen will be the liaison to Doug Dillon, Danise Barnes, and Maaren Stroble. Gus House will be the liaison to Diana Pheasant, Cassie O’Hara, and Linda Moran.

Gus Housen reported that he was working on two projects:

1. Farmer’s Market – this would be on the south side of the road lining the main entry into the fair. Mr. Housen is hoping the Kitsap Food Coop will manage the market. The idea is not to make a profit on this but have it there for folks as they leave to buy fresh Kitsap County grown produce and meats (no far away grown produce will be allowed). There will be 10-20 booths a day. Hours of operation for the market are not set yet. Harrison Hospital is being asked to sponsor it and they are showing an interest in it.
2. Wine Garden – Mr. Housen is currently seeking a non-profit group that would like to take on running this. The idea behind this would be a teaching wine garden – educational talks on wine making will be scheduled as well as wine tasting. Local wines will be featured.

## **Old Business**

Jim Rye also announced the Fair is getting out of the ice business. Last fair the vendor cancelled and the fair took on selling ice. They are working on two options for getting this out of the fair management hands – bringing in a new ice vendor company, or asking a non-profit to take this on (anticipate 4 staff per day to run this activity).

## **Retreat**

Jim Dunwiddie reminded everyone that the Fair Board Retreat will be held on January 26th at 9am at the Silverdale Community Center. Items that will be addressed at that retreat are: Work Schedule in February, Fee Changes, Marketing, Theme, Concert (whether or not to have one, and if so, who), Sunday options. There will be a fair management meeting the Tuesday prior to this, which might generate additional items. Expect to stay for as long as it takes (could be 4-6 hours).

## **New Business**

Jim Rye announced a request from the Silverdale Chamber of Commerce. They provide teacher awards and have requested 4 Fair passes and 4 Ride Bracelets. In the past the Fair has supplied these. Mike Brady made a motion to provide the request. Cassie O'Hara seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **Comments From the Public**

1. Pat Johnson asked what was going on with the Rodeo Director position, and why was he the only one of the board members up for re-appointment who hadn't yet been re-appointed? Jim Rye told him that there were other candidates for his position and this was out of the board's hands. The commissioners approve fair board members. Dennis Woods said that the longer the delay in getting the rodeo director approved, the bigger the effect this will have on the rodeo. In response to questions, Jim Rye said it would be up to John Miller to take on Rodeo tasks until someone is placed on the Board. Cassie O'Hara suggested that if someone had a concern about this they should contact the commissioners, which are very responsive to e-mails and calls. She said their contact information is on the county web site. She urged them to be respectful and diplomatic in their wording.

Dennis Woods then said that the folks in the audience were there to support Joe Drouin. Jim Rye said the board wasn't happy with this matter either, but it was out of their hands. Cassie said that all board members were in favor of all of the board members who were up for re-appointment to be appointed. Jim Dunwiddie added that this was the first year that all candidates were interviewed even if they had no opposition, so said the process may have changed. Jim Rye said in the past the Fair Board was involved in this process, but not this year. Dennis wanted to relay a request through the board to the commissioners that the Wranglers are in turmoil due to the delay, not to make it worse if there is a change in leadership. There will already likely be a delay, but if a new rodeo director comes in, it will turn the Wranglers program into "garbage" due to the change. They all work hard because of Joe Drouin's leadership. Jim Dunwiddie said he would pass that on to the commissioners, but encouraged them to communicate with the commissioners themselves.

2. Dennis Woods, Treasurer for the Wranglers, asked what was happening to the check from a sponsor (Top Hands?) that was supposed to cover a new chute. John said they were also trying to get the check cut, and would stay on top of it until it was paid. Dennis then suggested there be a re-structure of the Wrangler/Top Hands agreement. Keith Roarke asked if the MOA with the Cowpokes was a public document and if so, could they get a copy. Jim Dunwiddie said yes, it is a public document and if they come by on Monday the staff could produce a copy for them.

Jim Rye asked if there were any other public comments, hearing none, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48pm.