

Mitchell & District Agricultural Society  
General Meeting

January 25, 2020

1:10 PM

Vice President Leroy Skinner called the meeting to order at 12:37 PM and welcomed everyone back from lunch.

27 members were in attendance as follows: Leroy Skinner, Winnie Linton, David Kemp, Vicki Williamson, Robert Norris, Lisa and Brad Rapien, Bill and Ruth Osborn, Gladys Connolly, Jacquie Mohr, John Miller, Constance Clarke, Byron Morris, Margaret Luyten, Bev Louwagie, Cheri Bell, Margaret French, Spencer Dunsmore, Dave Jacob, Phil O'Donnell, Robert Mitchell, Bert and Audrey Vorstenbosch, Richard Skinner, Jean Gloor and Janet Williamson.

Leroy presented the agenda for approval. Two additions were made:

*Bert Vorstenbosch made a motion to accept the agenda for January 25, 2020 General meeting with the additions of Amateur Photography and Exhibitor payouts, seconded by Cheri Bell, carried.*

The minutes from the last meeting were presented. Spencer Dunsmore questioned the accuracy of the Convention dates listed. Janet confirmed Thursday Feb. 13 to Saturday Feb 15 was correct.

*Lisa Rapien made a motion to approve the November 27, 2019 minutes as presented, Winnie Linton seconded, carried.*

Treasurer's Report was presented as of December 31, 2019 with Income of \$900 and expenses of \$2,348.10.

*Bert Vorstenbosch Sr. made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2019 seconded by Margaret Luyten, carried.*

Property Report: Winston informed the membership that he is resigning from all of his committees; Beef, Horse and Property, due to the increased responsibilities at home. He hopes to still be available to help set up for the fair. Currently, Leroy Skinner, David Kemp, Bert Vorstenbosch Sr. and Paul Barnes are still on the Property committee.

*David Kemp made a motion to accept with deep regret, Winston's resignation of duties from his current three committees and thank you for the many years of dedicated service, seconded by Winnie Linton, carried.*

District 8: Spencer Dunsmore asked about the arrangements for the Father's Day Tour. Steve Mohr was going to work with Janet Cameron, District Secretary, and plan which farm businesses will be included.

Events:

**Strawberry Social:**

*David Kemp made a motion to host the Ham Supper Strawberry Social on the third Thursday of June, 2020, seconded by Jacquie Mohr, carried.*

**Fair Derby**

*Winnie Linton made a motion to hire Edge Motor Sports to run the derby again this year at a cost of \$3500, seconded by Lisa Rapien, carried.*

**Ponderosa:** Cheri has sent out emails to tent, security, bands etc to procure contracts for this year. Small Town Strip Club is willing to come back again this year and Warren Hoy of County Road Band will be playing in the arena. Winnie has started compiling her list of singers. The Legion Band would like to play one full hour before the Ambassador Program.

*Ruth Osborn made a motion to get the Mitchell Legion Band to play from 6:30 to 7:30 in the arena, seconded by David Kemp, carried.*

**Friday Night Tractor Pull:** Lisa is having difficulties finding a sled that is available. She will speak to someone at convention.

**Elimination Draw:** Lisa Rapien will chair this committee with Janet Williamson's assistance.

*Byron Morris made a motion to have 600 tickets at \$10 per ticket, same as last year, seconded by Margaret French, carried.*

**Silent Auction:** Colleen Johnson and Linda Vivian will run this again this year.

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**Saturday Night Supper:** Jennifer Fell and Mary Beth Nevin will run this event. They are looking for helpers. Dave Linton is available to BBQ the chops again.

**Opening of the Fair:** Audrey Vorstenbosch suggested the President do it, while Lisa Rapien thought the outgoing Ambassador could do this as her last event.

*David Kemp made a motion to put this decision off until the February meeting, seconded by Cheri Bell, carried.*

**Committees:**

**Wine:** Ruth needs more people with experience. She would like to put up a poster “Looking for Help”. The judge for this committee is also the sponsor. She would like to find another judge.

**Fine Arts and Hobby Craft:** Lisa Rapien and Jean Gloor will help Micaela with this committee. Valerie Chessel was suggested as a judge for this year.

**Amateur Photography:** The definition of “Amateur” needs to be put in the fair book. It was suggested that the committee revamp Photography Class and make sections for professionals too.

*Spencer Dunsmore made a motion to add the definition of Amateur as “a person who receives no money for their photos” or they forfeit their prize money, seconded by Winnie Linton, carried.*

**OAAS Posters:** Spencer Dunsmore has observed that this class does not ever have a judge. The other class judges cover this while they are at the arena.

**Dairy:** John Miller asked about the Keterson Park Project and the demolition of the cattle barns. Cheri Bell, councilor, informed us it won't happen soon. There is a five year plan and they are waiting for grant money to hopefully cover ¾'s of it. Animals will be allowed in the new pavilion that will replace the barns.

**Beef:** Spencer Dunsmore, Russell Gordner, David McKay are the members left of this committee.

**Horse:** David Jacob and Roger Rice will work with Carole Gethke and recruit new members.

**Fair Theme 2021:**

*Winnie Linton made a motion that we all think about next year's theme ideas and bring them to the February meeting, seconded by Margaret French, carried.*

**Parking and camping:** Janet will order mirror tags which will be handed out to those that have paid to be in Keterson Park for the fair. All those unauthorized campers and vehicles without a mirror tag will be visited and charged the going rate of stay.

**Exhibitor Payouts:** Bev Louwagie had reviewed other fairs payouts and thinks we are lagging. Winnie Linton suggested a 10% increase across the board, rounded to the nearest \$0.25. Lisa Rapien would like to see a total tally of the proposed increase.

*Bev Louwagie made a motion to ask each committee to review their payouts and come back at the February meeting with their plan, seconded by Jean Gloor.*

*Lisa Rapien asked to amended this motion by adding “and supply a list of possible sponsors to cover the increase”, carried.*

*David Kemp made a motion to amend Bev Louwagie's motion and ask all committees to review their payouts and increase 10 to 15% for this year, seconded by John Miller, carried.*

**Church Speaker:** Vicki Williamson has procured Bob Haywood from Exeter as the speaker. We will let him choose a charity that he would like the church offerings to go to.

**Sponsors:** Winnie and Janet will have sponsor lists, letters and envelopes available at the February meeting for the committees to begin the “sponsor drive.”

**New Business:** Ritz Villa donation request has been deferred to the February meeting.

**Next meeting:** February 26, 2020 at 8 PM at the Crystal Palace.

Dave Jacob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:43PM.