

Mitchell & District Agricultural Society  
General Meeting

**September 25, 2019**

President Steve Mohr called the meeting to order at 8:05 PM and welcomed everyone.

24 members were in attendance as follows: Steve Mohr, Winnie Linton, Cheri Bell, Byron Morris, Marion McKay, Winston and Sheila Jibb, Carole and Ron Gethke, Jean Gloor, John Miller, Spencer Dunsmore, Pauline Skinner, Leigh Winston, Hilary Horn, Bev Louwagie, Lisa Rapien, Serena Hinz, Robert Mitchell, Bert and Audrey Vorstenbosch, Bert J Vorstenbosch and Janet Williamson.

Steve presented the agenda for approval.

***Bert Vorstenbosch Sr. made a motion to accept the agenda for Sep. 25, 2019***

***General meeting, seconded by Winnie Linton, carried.***

Steve asked if anyone had to declare a Conflict of Interest with the agenda material. There were none.

Steve then asked if everyone had read the minutes of last month.

***Winnie Linton made a motion to approve the July 31, 2019 minutes as presented, seconded by Winston Jibb, carried.***

**Treasurer's Report** was presented containing a list of current invoices that require payment totaling \$5,829.09. Bank balances, cash on hand, deferred revenue and expenses were also listed with preliminary Fair income (\$97,253) and Fair expenses (\$63,085).

***Jean Gloor made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as of Sep. 25, 2019 and pay the outstanding invoices, seconded by Byron Morris, carried.***

***Winnie Linton made a motion to transfer \$11,000 from the BMO Lottery account into our TD operating account, seconded by Lisa Rapien.***

**Dance Committee:** Spencer Dunsmore reported \$160 was brought in for the August 50/50 and \$140 for the September 50/50 draw, half of each was paid out to the winners, Stew Taylor and Beatrice Noble. Jean Gloor reported they had 88 attend the Aug dance which made a profit of \$181.45. The September dance had 89 attend with a profit of \$271.65.

**OAAS:** No report.

**District 8:** The annual district meeting in Zurich is Oct 22. Pauline Skinner, Jean Gloor, Janet Williamson, Winnie Linton and Ambassador Serena Hinz will be attending.

***Winnie Linton made a motion to host the District 8 Ambassador Competition on May 2, 2020, seconded by Hilary Horn, carried.***

Mitchell and Stratford were asked to host the "Farm Tour" for next year. Stratford has declined. We need to enlist six farms or agriculture businesses for the Tour. Steve Mohr, Lisa Rapien and Bert Vorstenbosch Sr will form the committee to find the farms to be toured

"Farm Tour" suggestions:	Sandy Brock	Charlie Moore –horses
Webers Dairy and Cheese	Rose Bank Seeds	Nancy French – horses
Glausers	Skinner (oldest family farm)	Connie Bull – horses
Black Creek Flower Farm	Spring Valley Maple	

***Lisa Rapien made a motion to help District 8 with the 2020 Fathers Day Farm Tour, seconded by Spencer Dunsmore, carried.***

**Property Report:** Winston said Fair set up and clean up seemed to go better this year. We have a new clock to replace the old one that no longer keeps up with the time. The town has hired a company to mark and map the underground services, part of the Keterson Park improvement project. Steve Mohr has asked the town about moving the skate board park. A letter will be drawn up and sent to town stressing the concern about the vandalism that is occurring out there and requesting the town take over the cost of repairs to the hydro boxes. There is an open meeting Oct 1 and 5pm to show the drawings for the new pavilion. We received \$220 from

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auctioning off the old wood snow fence that has been taking up space in the storage barn. Thank you to Dave Jacob Auctioneer for donating the auction fee.

### Events

**Ambassador Cake Decorating** fundraiser was held in Brussels. Serena Hinz attended and said the event went well. The cakes were then auctioned off.

**Media:** Graham has designed the Fair thank you with next year's book cover. If you would like anything on the website email Bert at [bnjzev@quadro.net](mailto:bnjzev@quadro.net)

### **Fair Issues and Comments:**

**Curling Club** helped at the Ponderosa Bar again this year.

*Cheri Bell made a motion to pay the club \$500 for their help, seconded by Bev Louwagie, carried.*

**Dogs** have been seen wandering the fairgrounds during the fair. There are "No Dogs Allowed" signs posted on the fence and are not allowed except during the pet show.

**Pet Show** received complaints about adults showing their children's pets. Our rules state "Exhibitor must be under 14 years of age". These adults should be disqualified.

**Opening Ceremony** program will need to list the attending Dignitaries to allow them time to speak to the crowd. Whomever we choose to "Open the fair" needs to be instructed to announce or say "I declare the Fair Is Officially Open"

**The Elimination Draw** was held in the barn outside the Crystal Palace this year. It was suggested to replace this draw with a booz draw: 1000 tickets x \$10 = \$10,000 and 5 winners: \$1000, \$500, \$250 and two at \$125 value of Beer and LCBO gift cards. This Draw could run from December (after senior dance lottery runs out) until April 1<sup>st</sup> (before the dance lottery starts up again) or run the same time and still be drawn at the fair. Option 1 gives us some income during the winter months. (Potential \$7,800 profit)

**Arena Coordinator** is required for next year as Winnie would like to give up this position so she can see the rest of the fair. This person will MC and organize/ book the entertainment for the arena. Jennifer Fell would also like some help with the Saturday supper.

**The Horse Show** went very well. Ron and Carole and their team solicited a lot of sponsorship.

**The Parade** sections will need to be reviewed for next year. Bikes and clowns may need to be eliminated as we have not had any entries for years. We again did not have Police presence or a "Lead Car"

**Trees** in the park need to be trimmed.

**Ax thrower** that we had last year was requested this year by some fair goers.

**Seniors in the Arena** would like to see more inside entertainment geared for seniors and less for the children because they are usually outside. OR we need to announce on the loud speaker outside half hour before a children's entertainer starts in the arena!!

**Fine Art and Hobby Craft** will need a new convener or it has the potential to be discontinued as we had no one show up to set it up or judge it this year.

**Down on the Farm** has been informed by the Public Health Unit that animals (even in cages) will require a second fence barrier so the public can't touch the animals.

**Amateur Photography** needs a more specific definition of "Amateur" in the book.

**Demolition Derby** team needs to have a training session. They also need to use air horns and flags.

**Sponsorship** letters will be printed and ready for our January meeting. Janet and Winnie will coordinate the Sponsor drive as we have had complaints of multiple Fair People asking the same people for money.

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**Other Business:**

JNB Heavy Haul sent a request for a donation of a present for their annual Christmas party.

***Winnie Linton made a motion to table that request, seconded by Winston Jibb, carried.***

Municipality of West Perth would like us to write a letter of support for their government grant application requesting funds for Keterson Park Project.

***Bert Vorstenbosch Sr. made a motion to support the Municipality with their grant application, seconded by Cheri Bell, 17 for, 1 against, carried.***

The arena coordinator, Ashley Nevea, emailed to confirm the Dec. 24 date, 2 to 3:20 pm free skate that we agreed to sponsor and would like to know if we would like to sponsor a second Public skating date.

***Winnie Linton made a motion to only sponsor the one Public Skating date, seconded by Byron Morris, carried.***

**Next meeting:** Oct 30, 2019 at 8 PM at the Crystal Palace.

Byron Morris adjourned the meeting at 9:34 PM.

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President –Steve Mohr

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Secretary Treasurer –Janet Williamson