

UPSF Department Advisory Committee (DAC) Minutes

March 9, 2024

Members present: Dairy: Melissa Gatien, Kris Havelka (Zoom)

Sheep & Goats: Carol Quist, Sally Ebsch (Zoom), Rochelle Sundstrom, Lindsey Kronemeyer

Beef: Veronica Wallace, Connie Wells, John Stapleton, Steve Palosaari (Zoom), Jan Strieter

Swine: Sue Baumler, Jodi Spaude, Lee Marciniak **Draft Horse:** Crystal VanElsacker (Zoom)

Poultry/Rabbits: None **Community Arts:** Kate Oman, Jacqueline Beach

Equine: Jesse Willour, Judy Nelson **Skillathon:** Sandy Gill (Zoom)

Junior Rep's: Bridget Paidl **Management:** Vickie Micheau, Kelly Zellar

Others: Ed McBroom, Ann Harrington, Dave Radloff, Lori Dalgord 22 voting members present, 5 zoom

Guests: Laci Mitchell

1) Introductions:

2) Public Comment: None

3) Adoption of Agenda: Veronica moved, Missy supported a motion to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

4) Approval of meeting minutes from January 6, 2024: Rochelle moved, Jan supported a motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

5) Buildings & Grounds report: John reported. Committee met yesterday, working on grandstand railings, beef barn bathrooms have been completely remodeled, men's is now the women's, women's is now men's, 4 toilets in womens, will need good signage for the change. Dairy barn bathrooms have also been renovated. New sound system for dairy barn. Monitoring electrical usage to determine if need new rental rates. Has new agreements in place with Steam & Gas and Escanaba Raceway. The committee approved hiring an engineer for the DNR Trust fund grant campground bathroom project. A bid was received for beef barn arena improvements to extend roof, cement, replace damaged poles, bleachers, Vickie working on a grant will know in May. Probably not be completed this year. Some cost estimates have been received on a replacement building for the existing highland barn, \$325,000 without electricity and cement. Very expensive at this time. Working on a sponsorship to have a track skid steer for the fair. Butler building- a grant has been requested to repair the roof and another for a total rehab. Matt needs everyone's maintenance lists, and what and when you need things done before the fair.

6) Management Report: Vickie. If we can get an **Americorp team** before the fair, would like to use for fair barn set-up. Superintendents would need to be available for the teams education. 5-7 kids on each team. A schedule would be set up. **Contractual Service agreements:** Will be added that Superintendents need to report and document any code of conduct breaches or unbecoming behavior. Need the documentation. Signed CSA's & W-9's are needed from everyone. **Miracle of Life** volunteers needed. Possibly kids to clean stalls in exchange for daily ride passes. **Grants:** Working on numerous grant opportunities for building improvements. Received 15 letters of support for the Butler building rehab. \$100,000 from MDARD to rehab beef show arena. Letters of support are needed. Jr. Market, June beef show and any users of the arena. Arena would be more ADA accessible. Send to vmicheau@up.net. Fair convention comments are available from attendees for review. Zone 6 (UP fairs) meeting will be on fairgrounds May 4th, where Jackie Hurley will be given her M.A.F.E. Heritage award.

7) Exhibitor Department Report: Kelly-a) 71 beef pre-registered b) Working on a communication App for exhibitors' phone to be used during the fair. Each department will be in a group and they will have a QR code for exhibitors to access. c) Working on judges. d) Need sound, maintenance, TSC wish list forms ASAP. e) Champion banners-Poultry, rabbits, sheep, goats, dairy have them, not sure if will do if everyone doesn't have. Ann-a) Reminder-LBM grant due 4-15. b) Updating premium book, reducing rule repetition, Kelly will update on the computer. c) Camping will not go through Showworks this year. Management will handle it again. Mailings went out to campers that were not obviously tied to exhibitors to determine their relationship to the fair. Previous campers will be getting letters shortly. Fair weekly rate will be \$200 for exhibitors, \$250 for general public. New market exhibitors will be identified from pre-registrations and will be sent camping information. d) Showworks update: have added new features. Exhibitors must pre-register and have fair tags before they can enter their final registration. e) Met with

Molly to establish a horse jumping show on Thursday during the fair. Also a fun show for kids. **f)** YQCA: Attended a class Dave and Liana (Marquette MSUE) had. They did a good job, good attendance throughout the U.P. Covers a lot of ethics, medication, herd health plans. Attendees **MUST** pre-register at the YQCA website before attending an in-person class, this needs to be better communicated. YQCA has stall card templates we can use for our market animals. All market species do use. We can print banners. Dave has told kids to display certificates. YQCA due when DNA is due. **g)** Dr. Averill will be the fair vet. We will need a vet to draw blood from the pulling horses on Saturday, Vickie will be asking Dr. Wehner or Dr. Hoholik to help. Each department will do their own urine sampling, there will be 3 this year per department which will need more volunteers. Will also need to verify Dr Averill is comfortable aging beef animals.

8) Old Business

- a) Medical Emergency Rule-Kelly** Rule previously approved: At the discretion of the UPSF management on a case-by-case basis, if a Junior Market Livestock Exhibitor is unable to show during the judging due to a medical emergency, a substitute exhibitor may be used. Upon written verification of the emergency from a licensed medical profession, another Junior Market Livestock Exhibitor (preferably a family or same club member) approved and designated by the Department Superintendent and Exhibitors Manager may act as a substitute exhibitor to show and/or sell the animal. The animal must meet all eligibility requirements, a completed record book must still be entered, and the showmanship class requirement will be waived. The Exhibitors Manager and the Department Superintendent must be notified as soon as possible to request this exemption approval, with enough time allowed for the necessary medical verification.
- Kelly would like to add 'after July 15th' date for when the emergency has happened. Ed feels date should be earlier. Judy & Dave questioned why need a date if have discretion. Ann stated the concern is we could get requests for kids hurt early in the year, or Ed stated a kid could be hurt before they purchase animals. **Kelly moved, Ann supported a motion to add June 15th date to rule. Motion passed unanimously.** Extending to other Junior exhibitors: Jesse & Missy did not want it for their departments. Most departments have an open show where that animal can be shown by anyone. Consensus was to not extend to any other exhibitors beyond market exhibitors.
- b) Junior show rules #6-** Ann Proposed new wording due to urine testing the top 3 animals: **If the Grand Champion is disqualified, the Reserve Grand Champion will become Grand Champion, and the 3rd place animal will become Reserve Grand Champion. If the Reserve Grand Champion is disqualified the 3rd place animal will become Reserve Grand Champion. If both the Grand & Reserve Grand Champion are disqualified, the 3rd place animal will become Grand Champion. No other animals will be advanced. This rule applies only to the market beef, market lamb, market goat and market swine shows. -Ann moved, Lori supported motion to adopt the above wording. Motion passed unanimously.**
- c) Community Arts proposed changes-Kate.** Suggested changes were previously emailed. Proposing to change definitions of classes in Art department. Eventually would like to change the wording from exhibits to competition to attract higher quality art. Other state fairs are competitions, they charge entry fees and they sell the art work or possibly have an auction. **Kate moved, Sue supported a motion to adopt proposed changes as provided with the following changes Department 19-Art: Classes will now be 1-12 as described with the included definitions (same as Iowa State Fair) Dave amended, Rochelle supported: Department 22 Folk Art: Class 3904-delete 'must represent American history', move stuffed animals to its own class, all of Division 2 classes moved to division 1, Division 2 (for exceptional persons) will be exactly the same as Division 1, Department 26 Hobbycraft: add fabric dying class. Motion with amendments passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.** Ed thanked Kate & Jacqueline on the great job they did reviewing and suggesting changes to the Community arts departments.
- d) By-law committee report-Ed.** Changes are for discussion at this time. Information was distributed and should be reviewed for a vote at the next meeting.
- Change maximum number of voting members. Ann questioned why that is needed, it was agreed it was not needed.

-Change voting: Only Superintendent or Assistant would have a vote. Rochelle questioned why Assistants could not vote, doesn't encourage Assistants to attend meetings. Connie felt it diminishes the role of the Assistants if they don't have a vote. Every Superintendent has the option to have an assistant. **Sue moved, Connie supported a motion to strike this change. Motion passed unanimously.**

-Remove dept. 29 (old auto show)

-Change milk house representative to milk house superintendent

-Change mailed to mailed electronically

-Change protest committee chairman verbiage

-Mandatory meeting attendance establish as August & October. Ann questioned those particular meetings as being required; most decisions are made at other meetings. John asked what the member removal process is if they are not attended. Article III Section 4 States 'The committee has the ability to review members meeting attendance and may choose to appoint a new member for that position if there has been no attendance'. Missy stated meeting attendance is in the Superintendents contracts. Kelly & Sue are in favor of those 2 meetings as required attendance.

-Continue Open Meeting Act, although as a committee of the Authority the DAC is not required to follow the open meetings act. John agreed with this recommendation. Ed felt we should follow as much as possible.

-All special contests (skillathon, team fitting, queen, overall showmanship) would be divisions under one department overseen by Exhibitors Manager, no voting rights, can still participate in meetings. **Dave moved, Missy supported a motion to move all special contests under one department in the premium book. Motion passed unanimously. Motion applies to premium book only at this time, not to a change in by-laws.**

Special contest leader vacancies will be opened up to current DAC members for volunteer first, then to public. UPSF management team will undergo hiring procedures.

-John questioned quorum at 25% which Ann stated would be 8 people right now. He recommended at least 50% of voting members, would be 16 currently. Judy questioned the wording 'voting membership present'. **John moved, Veronica supported a motion to change the quorum required to 50% of the voting membership. Motion passed with Judy dissenting.**

-Dave questioned voting by zoom. John is afraid we might end up with everyone attending by zoom. Ed stated we can allow members to vote by zoom as we are a committee. Connie & Dave felt that if a voting member is attending via zoom they should be able to vote. **Dave moved, Connie supported a motion, If a quorum is present other members can vote by zoom, if no quorum in person zoom cannot vote.**

-Dave questioned Department 27 not having a vote. He is currently Department 27 & MSUE representative. Dave & John suggested no members are allowed more than 1 vote.

-Ann will update the bylaws with the proposed changes and provide to everyone for review prior to the next meeting.

e) Ribbons-Kelly. Will be ordering special skinnier ribbons for community arts & recordkeeping. She would like to retire 4th-12th place ribbons as we are running low on 4th & 5th place and would like to not order anymore. Skillathon stated they would still like to be able to use through 10th place, they would only need 3 of each place. The fair will keep enough on hand for the skillathon only.

Questioned which departments give out ribbons for Danish system. Swine & beef do not. Sheep, goats, dairy do. Each department should have a ribbon recycle box available. Judy feels junior horse exhibitors would like to continue getting ribbons. Steve suggested using stickers for community arts and they could ask for ribbons. Kate & Jacqueline were not in favor as their exhibitors collect ribbons.

9) New Business:

a) Fair Banners-Travis Miller. His business is Northern Front Sign & Design, and he is located in Pickford. Lindsay presented information on what he can offer. This will be emailed to all DAC members for review. Dave stated GreenStone will now be presenting banners in place of trophies for the recordkeeping winners. Carol, Sue and

Lori stated they currently use Sign-Up Graphics and have been very happy. Ed stated we can certainly consider another supplier and Travis is considered 'local' also being located in the U.P.

10) Department reports-Summaries only

Youth Representatives-no report

Recordkeeping-no report

Community Arts-Dave. Department 17 changes were handed out. **Dave moved, Sue supported motion to adopt the proposed changes. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.** He is still

working with a quilt group for changes in those classes. Ann brought up having a junior community arts auction, many other fairs do. Vickie stated there was a year when baked goods were auctioned. Ed suggested adding an Ornamental corn class in Agriculture class. Kate will consider changes to Agriculture & Floriculture after this year's fair. Kate requested in her TSC wishlist seed packets to hand out as giveaways. Would like to supply a door prize possibly each day if TSC would donate. Everyone thought it is a great idea.

Dairy-Donation letters out. Provided everything to Kelly. Showmanship rule change to Kelly. Dairy department Christmas party in January, had a good time.

Beef-Provided everything to Kelly. Sponsor letters being sent this week. Ed brought up a public concern about nighttime security volunteers in the barns.

Highland-National Highland Association approved our show as a national points show again. Has been working with a committee concerning Highland housing. Nothing will be changed for 2024. May need to close the barn down at times to give the cattle rest from the public.

Sheep/Goat-Sponsor letters going out. Lindsey stated the Chippewa County fair does not recognize lightweight, mediumweight or heavyweight, only the top 5. Veronica stated we continue to award those classes.

Swine-They will be adding a rule that all hogs housed in the same location **will** be housed together at the fair. There are not enough pens to allow everyone to have their own pens. If they are raised together from piglets they are fine. Veronica suggested notifying exhibitors as soon as possible. Sue asked if they can get the holding pens from Dickinson County again this year? Vickie can check. Sue is still working on funds from the Lions Club for pens. May need to start purchasing as many pens as they will sponsor, may take a few years to accomplish updating all pens.

Skillathon-no report

Poultry/Rabbit-no report

Horse-New email- Jessewillour.horsesuper@gmail.com Very excited about Thursday jumping show. Fun show Monday afternoon to get everything started. She will be sending a welcome letter to all past exhibitors announcing herself and the changes she is making in the department. Sponsor letter is completed. She has opened a bank account. She would like to do Grand & Reserve awards for all classes. Plans to meet with Matt to suggest some improvements to the arena to show we are making efforts to improve it. Ed suggested meeting with Matt before the next Authority meeting so the Board can review any suggestions. Some ideas won't cost a lot, just need manhours. Ed stated has been a big issue for years. Jesse asked about their sound system, Kelly said they are working on it. She has been working with Vickie to purchase a timer for the fair, that could also be rented to other users of the arena. Cost estimates \$850-\$1,000. She would also like the LED screen to display times. Ann suggested she apply for a Lori Branstrom Grant for that purpose. Dave suggested applying for a Delta County Community Foundation grant (due 4-1) and they like to see matches which the LBM Grant could possibly be used. She has had questions concerning mules and crossbred draft horses showing in the horse show. There are no speed & pleasure classes available in the draft horse show. Ann reminded everyone about Jackie's concern with mules and horses not getting along and afraid a youth could get hurt when their horse is spooked by a mule. Jesse & Judy agreed there can be issues with some horses. There are kids with these animals and would like to show with their friends on youth day. Crossbreds could have their own classes. There are currently separate pony classes. Judy agrees no mules and crossbreds in the same class. Mules also cannot be warming up at the same time. Draft crosses are different than mules. Judy questioned what is a crossbred? Sue suggested setting different times for horses & mules to warm up. Ed stated if you're not ready, don't feel

pressured to make any additional changes for this year. Ann suggested taking input as this years fair before she makes changes. Judy suggested adding a few draft/cross classes this year. **Jesse moved, Sue supported a motion to add draft/cross classes for the 2024 fair. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**

Draft Horse-Proposing to add 6-10th placings into 1-5 payouts. Verbiage concerning following the Michigan Horse Pullers association could be a problem as we don't necessarily follow all of their rules including who inspects pullers collars for electronic devices. Crystal plans to perform the inspections herself. Has mailed some postcards concerning what exhibitors would like as an award. Working on getting judges to Kelly.

Queen Contest-no report

Overall Showmanship-Lindsey presented a Code of Conduct for all overall showmanship exhibitors to sign. It would be reviewed with each exhibitor and a parent. Hoping to reduce any abuse to animals. She will have someone observing exhibitors' behavior. Ed suggested Judge & specie Superintendent be available to watch. Ann suggests reviewing the code of conduct with the specie winners as soon as possible after their contest to give them time to learn correct showing techniques of other species. Will be sending sponsor letters. Veronica asked about cheating during the competition, which was disheartening last year. Ann asked if something addressing cheating could be added to the Code of Conduct. Ed stated it needs to be better monitored. Kris stated additional volunteers needed to monitor. Lindsay would like an Overall Showmanship officials group including Superintendents, Ed and Authority. The Code of Conduct spells out how someone could be dismissed from the competition. Jesse asked if something different could be done with the horses in the competition as it is difficult to get someone to bring one to the beef arena. Lindsay is considering moving it to the horse arena. Jesse suggested having the horse competition at the beginning of the show. She feels she can get more and better horses for the competition if it is in the horse arena. Jesse would still like horse exhibitors to be a part of it. Ed stated it was done that way in the past and it was difficult. Jesse said the jumping show may still be going on, but the show could take a break if needed. It could take place in the indoor arena. Sue asked if the competitors could practice ahead of time. Yes, they are encouraged to. The competitors usually work with someone they know to practice. Lindsay will update the code of conduct for approval at the next meeting.

Jr. Market Livestock-Gifts for each market exhibitor will be either a Sullivan or Weaver gift card. Buyer thank you signs will be made for each barn to display. Asking each Superintendent to provide 2 adults to volunteer to help during sale day. Looking to work with Wells Lions Club to offer some food options. Reviewing some of Janis's records, the first Jr. Market Livestock sale was 1952 with 13 steers. Ordering new thank you cards. Considering asking Superintendents to appoint 2 representatives to the Board to increase participation. Dave suggested using google forms applications. Requesting swine pictures sent to same email as last year by August 1st.

Youth Representative-none

11) Public Comment: None

12) Next Meeting Date: May 18, 2024, 10:00 am EST @ multipurpose building conference room. Next Authority meetings March 22 and May 24, 2024.

13) Adjournment at 1:00 pm.