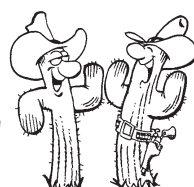


Fair events scheduled for the 2010 county fair



By Linda Schneider
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With most of the events scheduled for the 2010 fair, the Cheyenne County Fair Board members spent most of the meeting discussing the high utility bills, constructing more restroom space, and 4-H trophies and awards.

Paying the bills

Lacy Reed, treasurer, reported on the monthly bills going to AT&T telephone for \$40.97, Owens True Value \$853.90, which Mrs. Reed added that the United Methodist Church was going to share the cost; city of St. Francis \$153.39, and Midwest Energy bill due within the week. She added that realistically, the total would be approximately \$725; depending on the True Value and energy bills.

Nick Ketzner, vice president, asked why there is a monthly phone bill, and Dick Bursch, president, answered that it was cheaper to have a phone year round than to have it hooked up for the week of the fair.

Mrs. Reed added that there are times when the building is rented, such as Prom Night, that a phone is needed.

"Theoretically, the students are locked in the building and parents need to be able to contact them," said Mrs. Reed.

Mr. Bursch added the tool company that annually rents the building needs to have phone service also. Mr. Ketzner began discussing compiling a two-year average utility bill report.

More discussion about the high utility cost of some events, how some renters do not shut off the heating system when finished with rental, and other neglected items that cost the board money.

Brian Hobrock added that since he has come on the fair board, more time has been spent discussing the high utilities and rental problems than any other topic.

It was mentioned by Gary Cooper, secretary, that there was talk about installing a thermostat to shut off automatically. Clay Zimbelman, member, said that the only thermostat he could find was a digital, and if renters couldn't turn off the light switch, how will they turn off the furnace.

Mrs. Reed told the members that compared to last year at the same time, the utilities were cheaper. Mr. Bursch said the rental of the exhibit building, as written by the commissioners, was to break even, not profit. Still, members agreed that a two-year report to see where the costs are was in order.

Extension office

Linda Elfers, representing the extension office, reported on the fair management meeting she attended in Hays. She presented some ideas that she had learned at the meeting.

She asked the board if there had been any decisions made about awards and trophies, and if there was any progress with the fair book. She also brought in a duffel bag for the members to look at and discuss. Mr. Ketzner told her that nothing had been decided at the moment.

He and Megan Downey presented more duffel bags and said that embroidery would be done for free by Deb George. In addition, the duffel bags would cost between \$17 and \$25, verses the average trophy costing approximately \$12, larger trophies more expensive.

The discussion turned to how

many duffel bags were needed and to whom they would be given out to. It was estimated that 58 duffel bags would include livestock on grand champion and reserves; to total approximately \$1,400. Mrs. Elfers mentioned there may be a volume discount on the duffel bags. Motion carried to proceed with the duffel bags. Motion carried for Mrs. Elfers to get sponsors for trophies for small livestock and woodwork.

Mr. Ketzner went on to discuss the one-page fair book flyer, with events listed and sponsors listed on the back; at the estimated cost of 75 cents for premium paper and 65 cents less expensive per flyer. Motion carried to proceed with fair book flyer. Fair book with rules for exhibits will be made available for each 4-H Club family, judge, fair board members, and superintendents.

Restrooms

Mr. Bursch said there was need for adding more restrooms, but knew that it will not get done this year. He continued by saying it is a costly project and bids are difficult to get.

Mr. Bursch said that he talked to Billy Krien and got just an estimate on a 12- by 24-foot blocks only building, plus one partition was \$4,300, labor on the floor \$600, concrete floor for \$640. He is waiting on the plumbing bid from Lampe.

Discussion continued on where it could be located, types of materials used, how many stalls needed, and is there going to be any financial assistance. Mr. Zimbelman told the members he had talked to the Thrift Store and they were interested in helping, but could not finance 100 percent. Mr. Bursch asked the members to visit again with the Shriner's and local churches.

Mr. Hobrock said that he was hesitant to raise the money for a facility that will be used only one week out of the year. Mr. Bursch added that is the reason to be a little conservative on the stalls.

Derby

Mr. Zimbelman said that Colby ended up adopting the derby rules. Goodland also and wants back in on points, Syracuse is still not involved and Benkelman, Neb. is not having a derby this year.

He continued by saying this year there may be a state championship derby in Salina area, and the only way a participant can compete is by placing in a sanctioned derby. Trying to move forward a state-wide set of rules and everyone liked the direction of the Cheyenne County rules.

Presently, there are 19 derbies that are a part of this with Cheyenne County being one.

"It costs \$200 dollars for us to be sanctioned and I have already received offers from people who would pay it for us," said Mr. Zimbelman.

It was agreed to allow Mr. Zimbelman to proceed with participating in a state-wide derby.

Adding some humor to the conversation, he asked what the board thought about awarding the prize money with a huge check; however, Mr. Zimbelman said the check costs \$50. Mrs. Reed said that we could use a big piece of cardboard.

Talent show

Mr. Cooper reported that he had spoken with Ruth Milliken of the Music Club about the talent show.

He reminded the members that

he had originally offered to the Music Club a stage, a sound system, gate people to sell tickets, and splitting the ticket revenue.

However, it had been discussed to use the semi-trailer as the stage, but after speaking with Mrs. Milliken, there may be some dancing and concern was raised about the size being too small. In addition, obtaining the sound system was still in the works.

Mr. Cooper said that during the discussion, prizes were also discussed and he brought up the need for judges. He suggested that the music club hire the judges and award prizes, and the cost would be taken off the top of the gate money and then the money would be split.

The idea of pulling two trailers together was discussed and prize awards would be a good incentive for participants to sign up.

"But, we have committed to provide the stage," said Mr. Cooper.

Miscellaneous items

The board briefly discussed:

- That Skip Petersen will be the auctioneer at the sale this year.
- Gravel will be delivered.
- Wall soap dispensers will be installed to keep people from taking them or throwing them away.
- That new tables and chairs will be marked.

Next meeting

Next fair board meeting is scheduled for May 6.



NEWEST MUSEUM PIECE is a framed newspaper featuring Charles Lindbergh's flight to Paris. It was donated by Rachel Huffman. Museum co-currators, Janet Carman, left, and Sally Wiek find a place to hang the newspaper.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Museum pleased to have been chosen for project

The Museum of Cheyenne County has been chosen for a hands-on experiential learning project. It is sponsored by the Mid-America Arts Alliance, a regional arts organization serving cultural organizations in its member states of Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas. The museum

is one of 17 Kansas museums to participate in the project which provides museums with on-site, affordable learning opportunities that further skills in areas critical to successful museums today.

Janet Carman and Sally Wiek, co-directors of Museum of Cheyenne County said they were very

pleased to have been chosen for this project.

"We try very hard to make our organization a vital part of our community," Mrs. Carman said. "Receiving hands-on training to assist us in our efforts is a real privilege."

The hands-on project is a program of Mid-America Arts Alliance's Professional Development division, which develops and provides institutional advancement, capacity building, and professional development opportunities for Mid-America's constituents. It combines workshops, on-site consultant visits, and online tutorials to assist museums in goal-setting and evaluation.

Participating museums will concentrate on improvements related to nonprofit governance. Training will be directed to museum trustees as well as museum staff, paid or unpaid, and will focus on essential components of good governance.

Other Kansas communities besides St. Francis selected for participation include: Arkansas City, Bonner Springs, Blue Rapids, Dodge City, Emporia, Garden City, Goodland, Independence, Junction City, Kansas City, Lawrence, Liberal, Manhattan, North Newton and Wichita.

Mid-America Arts Alliance is implementing Hands-on Experiential Learning Project in Kansas in partnership with the Kansas Arts Commission and with support from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, The Ross and Marianna Beach Foundation, and the Capitol Federal Foundation.

For more information please contact Sally or Janet at 785 332 2504 or 785 332 3569.



CAR CLUB QUILT will be given away at the Cheyenne County Cruisers Car Show on May 8. The quilt, designed and made by Dorothy Smestad, commemorates the 10th anniversary and is made from nine of the T-shirts sold at each show. There was no T-shirt for the first show. The quilt will be on display at Schultz's.

Herald staff photo by Betty Jean Winston

St. Francis News

Guests of LaVera Beringer to help her celebrate Resident-of-the-Month of March at the Good Samaritan Village on March 11 were Jim and Elaine Wiseman, Fremont, Neb.; Carol Wiseman, Fremont; Alice Raile, Oxford, Neb.;

Amelia Meyer and Jerry Meyer, Bethune, Colo.; Larry Beringer, Sharon Springs; Kitty Jacobs, Wray Colo.; Darlene and Victor Zweggardt and Sylvia Queen, St. Francis.



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