

Rodney Aldborough Agricultural Society

Director's Meeting | Tuesday, March 26th, 2024

7:00pm | Rodney Recreation Centre | 135 Queen Street, Rodney

**Roll Call: Sandra, Michelle K, Rick, Alan, Laura S, Dan, Pete, Laura K, Ann S, Lynda, Liz, Kate, Trina, Anne N, Kelly-Anne**

**Call to Order: Sandra @ 7:10pm**

1. Adoption of Agenda

Recommendation: That the Rodney Aldborough Agricultural Society adopts the agenda as presented.

Added items 6h, i

Motion: Dan Second: Laura S Carried

**2. Additions to the Agenda**

- a. h - Update from Municipality (Dan)
- b. i - Fundraising (Ann S)

**3. Adoption of the Minutes**

Recommendation: That the Minutes of the Rodney Aldborough Agricultural Society meeting held on Tuesday March 12th, 2024 be adopted as circulated and printed.

Motion: Lynda Second: Michelle K Carried

**4. Business arising from the minutes:**

- a. Church service update (Laura K)
  - i. Heard back from Bob and Ruth Karn, they are willing to take on the church service again in 2024
- b. Mini chuckwagons update (Kate)
  - i. Les Sowden has confirmed that they are available on the Sunday of the fair (Sept 15th)
  - ii. 3x 30-40 minute shows, with at least 1 hr break in-between
    - 1. \$4250.00, awaiting contract
    - 2. Mini chuckwagon races, chariot races, and youth involvement
    - 3. Hoping to utilize the track space in front of the grandstands (arena will be in use all of Sunday by other events)

- c. Demo derby update (Kate)
  - i. **Ontario Demolition: (sourced from OAAS Convention)**
    1. Available on Friday, Sept 13th
    2. \$6000 + HST
      - a. \$2,000 utilized for prize money
    3. Driver's entry fees collected by company, anything exceeding \$2000 is added to prize money
    4. Encourage local participants to enter derby
    5. Same/similar requirements as I Am Demolition
    6. Does not provide trophies
  - ii. I Am Demolition: (sourced from Glencoe Fair)
    1. Only available Sunday, Sept 15th
    2. \$6,500 + prize money to be paid by the Board
      - a. \$1,500 deposit due at signing
    3. Provides trophies
    4. Can do power-wheels heat at no extra cost to us
    5. Requires PA system for announcer
- d. 50/50 draw at June 14th Cruise-In (Ann S)
  - i. Ann has talked to Judd, the Board can sell 50/50 tickets at the event
  - ii. We will need to acquire a lottery license (Municipality - James Blackmore)
    1. We are able to acquire all necessary lottery licenses for the year at one time, as long as we have all of the information needed
- e. Jersey Raffle / cash raffle
  - i. 250 perforated tickets, Dan will print at no cost to the Board
    1. Dan will send ticket template to Kate, Kate will design
  - ii. Need lottery license beforehand
    1. Requirements: number of tickets available, expected draw date, ticket number on both sides of entries
    2. Will need to provide a report post-event
  - iii. Grand prize: signed Bo Horvat jersey + ½ cash collected
  - iv. Draw date: Sunday of Fair weekend (Sept 15th)
- f. Paramedic company (Trina)
  - i. Still awaiting a quote for fair weekend
    1. Required: Size and landscape of grounds -> Trina to send a screenshot of aerial view/Google Maps
  - ii. Note: fire department is medically trained, will be in attendance
- g. Donation collection (Sandra, Laura K)

- i. Sandra has extra collection packages if needed, please reach out if in need
- ii. Ridgetown Foodland is donating \$100 in prizes (for prize table/midway)

Clarification/note: gift certificates donated to specific classes should still be listed in tiered list in the prize book, as well as under classes (i.e. Flower show specials)

- iii. In-kind donation from Santarossa's (of renting/paying for the kitchen) should be noted in the book in addition to his annual donation
- iv. The Board can write a letter addressed to Council in order to ask for a reduced fee for renting the rec center throughout the year

#### **5. Financials:**

- a. Report coming at the end of the month
- b. List of donations that have come in already have been sent to collectors in order to keep track
- c. Need a way to record in-kind donations
  - i. "Contra", no money exchanged, but allowing the value of a service
  - ii. Liz to look into and ensure everything is being recorded appropriately

Note: Gun show/kitchen breakfast netted around \$700 after expenses, woohoo!

#### **6. New Business:**

- a. Prize book cover (Kelly-Anne)
  - i. Deadline for schools to send covers back to us
    - 1. **Due back to us on Friday May 3rd**, to be voted on by Board in person at the meeting the following Tuesday
  - ii. Prize money awarded to winners in 3 groups
    - 1. Grades 1-3
    - 2. Grades 4-6
    - 3. Grades 7-8
    - 4. 1st: \$10, 2nd: \$8, 3rd: \$5
  - iii. Overall 1st place: cover of book
    - 1. Decided on by Board members
  - iv. Winners from each group get put into the prize book
    - 1. Could also display runner-ups in local shop windows

Kelly-Anne motions to accept and pay out the above mentioned prize money breakdown (total of: \$69) for the cover contest. Second: Dan Carried

- b. Decide on “deadline” for class updates for prize book -> send to Kate
  - i. **Deadline of May 3rd**, Kate has sent an email to superintendents
  - ii. Notes from Alan on prize book cover:
    - 1. Year, date, address, dog policy (as per Fergus Fair cover)
    - 2. 2024 donor list to be put in the front of the book, or on back cover page (to ensure maximum views)
- c. Music suggestions/Friday night entertainment (Trina)
  - i. Trina has enquired with several music groups for friday evening
    - 1. Grand River Band (Guelph) \$1200 for 1-2 hours, \$1500 for 3 hours, with recorded music played over PA while on breaks (country/rock)
      - a. Available Friday evening (post-demo derby)
    - 2. Laura Gagnon, Kevin Alderton (Easy Mark), Conner Wilson, Sheridan Band (St Thomas) via Liz, Back Pages via Laura K
  - ii. Trina to reach out to above mentioned groups/people
  - iii. Dignitaries to join us during opening ceremonies (Sandra)
    - 1. Sandra sent emails to: Hon. Robert Black, Taraesa Tellier, Karen Vecchio, Rob Flack (Elgin MPP)
    - 2. Town Crier from Dutton to host opening ceremonies
      - a. Cost: Tim Horton’s gift certificate and a ride to the Fair
    - 3. Official letter/Invitation to be sent to Council, the county, warden, mayors, councilors, etc
      - a. Sandra to type letter, Dan to deliver
- d. Heatwave Blacksmith (Trina)
  - i. Stephen, educational blacksmith
  - ii. Only needs a bucket of water (not a water hookup)
  - iii. \$500/day, 10am-5pm each day: total of \$1000 for the weekend
    - 1. Brings: 10x10 canopy, coal forge, no need for electricity, can be placed anywhere on the grounds, brings benches for guests to sit on
  - iv. Makes: knives from car springs, flowers, various objects
    - 1. Given away to spectators that are watching
  - v. Trina offers that White Hat Painting will sponsor \$500 of his fee, the other \$500 to be paid for by the Board (sponsored in part by: all “missing” names from 2023 sponsor tier list)

Dan motions we hire Heatwave Blacksmithing for \$1000 for the weekend (sponsored in part by: all “missing” names from 2023 sponsor tier list), and accepts that WHP will be paying for 50% of the cost.           Second: Kelly-Anne           Carried

- e. Games for midway (Trina)
  - i. Handmade games: chicken nugget bingo
    - 1. Building “cage” for chicken/bingo board (4'x6')
  - ii. Bean-bag toss games, ring toss games, music board/table
  - iii. Cut out photo opportunities
    - 1. Rob Russell photography, photo booth
      - a. Kate to inquire and get a quote for 2024
- f. Goat show (Kate)
  - i. Alan has cattle panels for use on Saturday
  - ii. Been in contact with local goat breeders and showpeople, trying to find a judge and enough participants to make it work
  - iii. Utilize grass space on the south end of the infield
    - 1. Will need bleachers, fenced off area
- g. Glencoe Tractor pull/track packer (Pete) + gun show
  - i. Member from Glencoe asked about renting the track packer (we rented to Melbourne in 2023)
  - ii. Some concerns: increased maintenance on packer, could have a conflict of interest with dates of both Melbourne and Glencoe
    - 1. Melbourne has nothing to offer in return, Glencoe could rent us their packer as well (we would both have access to 2 packers if that's the case)
  - iii. We share packer with municipality, with a stipulation being the borrower would have to float in out and back again
    - 1. Municipality does most of the maintenance
    - 2. Could form a committee to ensure packer stays maintained throughout the year
  - iv. Potential to have our fair logo on our packer if/when it's rented out
  - v. Gun Show
    - 1. 200 tickets sold, \$10/tickets
    - 2. Net profit, just under \$1550 after paying for the gun
    - 3. Dan donated tickets, Brian helped with lottery license and selling tickets
    - 4. Interest to do another raffle on June 16th, and again on Sept. 22
- h. Municipality update (Dan)

Dan has spoken with Lee Gosnell, received a quote for 2 set of bleachers (mentioned in a previous meeting that the municipality pays for the bleachers that we use at the fair, since they removed the grandstands many years ago), also that we are good for lighting for the weekend

- i. Dan to look after calling Lambton Sanitation for portable washrooms, municipality to pay for this service
    1. Dan to make sure the water is on come Fair weekend
  - ii. Dan to ask Fulline for gator rental again, ask for lots of signage to be placed around the grounds
  - iii. Todd Brooker still OK with coming (sound system)
  - iv. Pete to ask Trena to send Kate the info for security guards
    1. Kate will enquire and look into hiring for both friday and saturday night
  - v. We are to let the municipality know that we are using the meeting room on Tuesday nights (Sandra to contact Jennifer)
  - vi. There is no longer a formal legal agreement between us and the municipality (agreement/document is too old to reference anymore)
    1. Work with the new municipal clerk (Terri) to draft an agreement
      - a. We should write an acknowledgment of what it is that the municipality does for us without asking
      - b. Roles and responsibilities of municipality; fair weekend use, lighting, bathrooms, hydro use, water use, etc.
    2. Not a legally-binding document, but something that everyone agrees with
      - a. Will potentially need to be updated and looked at each time there are large personnel changes in Council
- i. Fundraising (Ann S)
    - i. Drive-through dinner at the Rec Centre: Ann will ask for dates in June
    - ii. Burns Chicken (Dresden), 3 pieces of chicken, 3 pieces of potato, coleslaw, roll/butter, cheesecake, takeout boxes and cutlery provided
    - iii. Cost to us is \$15.82 (with tax) + \$50 delivery fee
      1. Must be delivered in thermos boxes (to be returned)

- iv. Pre-sale tickets need to be sold a few weeks in advance
  - 1. Cost to public tbd (\$20 or \$25 pp)

**7. Next meeting: April 9th, 7pm**

- a. Discuss mosquito-spray for 2024

**8. Adjournment: Sandra @ 9:44pm**

Crinan community centre drive through roast beef dinner April 13th (See AI for tickets)