

Michigan Fiber Festival Board Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2019
Rutland Township Hall

Board Members Present: Kelly Brandt, Cynthia Ernst, Juanita Manning-Walsh, Nan Nichols, Melissa Powers, JeanAnn Wahl-Piotrowski

Board Members Absent: Karen Cote', Liz Stout, Darlene Ware

Office Staff Present: Sue Parker-Adams, Sue Pufpaff

Members Present: Sheila Henry, Jana Rolston

Called to Order at 1:04PM.

Darlene Ware has notified the office that she will not be able to continue on the board or as a chair because of health concerns. We accept her resignation with regret. In our October election, Jana Rolston received the next highest number of votes and is willing to serve on the board. Moved by Brandt, Second by Powers to appoint Jana Rolston to serve on the board until the 2019 annual meeting. Carried.

Minutes from November meeting: Moved to accept by Brandt, second by Powers. Carried

Treasurer's Report: Motion to table approval of report until questions can be answered by Brandt, second by Powers. Carried.

Office Report: Presented and placed on file.

Request was made to purchase a new computer. Keys are sticking and software is no longer being supported. Moved by Brandt, second by Ernst to allocate up to \$1486.55 for a new computer and software for the office. Carried.

Old Business

Directors Manual- board members are requested to read over the manual and submit any questions or problems to Kelly Brandt, Heidi Bukoski and Melissa Powers by February 3. The February meeting will be a work session to examine the whole document as a group.

Access to Documents: Secretary Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski will complete the task of providing password protected internet access to board members and committee chairs for MFF confidential documents; and, provide directions for accessing the documents.

Email addresses for committee chairs: Discussed, no action taken. E-mail procedures will be specified in the directors manual.

New Business:

Gate Fees: Moved by Wahl-Piotrowski, second by Rolston to change gate fees to \$5.00 per day or \$10.00 for a three day weekend pass. Carried.

"Lost Events"- Sue Pufpaff presented a list of festival activities that have not been offered recently for various reasons. Sue Parker-Adams and Karen Cote' will evaluate MFF finances/budget for funds to support revival of activities. Board members are asked to review the information and consider chairing one of the events. Moved by Brandt, second by Powers to accept Sue Pufpaff's offer to chair a fiber art challenge event with a Level 3 Membership awarded to the best of each three judging criterias. Amended by Brandt,

second by Powers to award seven Level 3 Memberships, one for each project category. Carried.

Committee Reports

Rabbits: The executive board conducted an e-mail meeting to consider the location of rabbits at the 2019 festival. It agreed upon three options: 1) house rabbits in the 4-H horse barn with the camelids; 2) house the rabbits in sided easy-ups outside of the 4-H horse barn; 3) house rabbits in the rabbit barn asking the rabbit chairs to find funding to cover the \$500 additional cost. Rabbit chairs continue to have concerns regarding the horse barn: dust, available space, and ventilation. Cynthia Ernst, alpaca/llama chair, shared the results of her investigation of the barn: electric has been updated and will accommodate any needed fans; the shape of the building allows cross ventilation; power washing the building shortly before festival would eliminate surface dust and firm the clay floor; the barn is easily big enough to accommodate camelids & rabbits; stall spaces will allow safe closing of farm booths if needed; grassy area outside of barn will facilitate demonstration of animal care & handling. Rabbit chairs agreed to meet with Ernst to examine the horse barn in the spring. Moved by Nichols, second by Roston if rabbit barn is available and deemed necessary, MFF will pay the rental cost up to \$500. Carried with one abstention.

Signs: New, bigger signs will be made for all animal areas in an effort to attract more visitors to the barns.

Skein competition: Divisions for children and juniors have been added to the skein competition.

Farm booths: Rabbit table fee will increase to \$15 to be consistent with other species. All other guidelines will remain the same as last year.

Chairs are needed for Art Show and Camping!

Chairs must be members of MFF - dues are due by the end of January!

Adjournment: Moved by Powers, second by Ernst to adjourn at 2:59PM. Carried.

Next Meeting: February 17, 2019 @ 12:45, meeting to begin at 1PM @ Rutland Township Hall.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Ann Wahl-Piotrowski, Secretary.