



**CITY OF MERRILL**  
**FESTIVAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES • THURSDAY JANUARY 4, 2018**

**Regular Meeting**

**Bierman Building**

**6:00 PM**

**I. Call to Order**

In the absence of Chairperson Norton, Mayor Bialecki called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Excused	
Tim Meehean	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Present	
Bill Bialecki	Mayor	Present	
Paul Russell	Aldersperson - First District	Present	
Neal Christensen	Food Vendor Rep.	Present	
Bryan Bloch	Rodeo Assn. Rep.	Present	
Brad Becker	Fair Assn. Rep.	Present	6:03 PM

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Festival Grounds Manager Richard Bjorklund, Diane Wais and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A student was in attendance to tape the meeting for Merrill Productions.

**II. Minutes of previous meeting(s):**

**1. Minutes of December 7, 2017 meeting**

Food Vendor Rep. Christensen asked for and received clarification on the fee amount to be charged to Relay for Life for their 2018 event.

Motion (Meehean/Russell) to approve the minutes.

<b>RESULT:            APPROVED</b>
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**III. Agenda items for consideration:**

**1. Continue discussion and reporting of alcohol licensing**

Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund requested that consideration of this be delayed until further information is received. Without objection, it was so ordered.

**2. Fair financial report/update from Fair Assn. Rep. Becker**

Fair Association Rep. Becker reported that financial information on the 2017 is not yet available.

Several fair board members will be attending the upcoming Wisconsin Fairs Conference.

Discussion was held on the scheduling of grandstand shows for the 2018 fair.

The 2018 fair will feature a different carnival. It is anticipated that this carnival will provide a minimum of 25 rides at the fair.

### 3. Summary of 2017 activities

Information on 2017 events was in the meeting packet.

Diane Wais reported that there are currently no events scheduled for January, 2018. One event has been scheduled for February.

Food Vendor Rep. Christensen requested that an “ongoing” 2018 events calendar be available.

## IV. Monthly Reports:

### 1. Food Vendor Rep. Christensen

Food Vendor Rep. Christensen reported that their group met on December 14<sup>th</sup>. They are currently preparing a one-page information sheet on the seven permanent stands, including contact information and other information on the seven stands.

### 2. Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund

The monthly report was distributed at the meeting.

Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund reported verbally that he and Public Works Director/City Engineer Akey are currently assembling a Capital Improvements listing for the Festival Grounds.

Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund then reviewed the monthly report, which contained information on the following:

- General
- Tractor Pull
- Rodeo
- County Fair
- Bierman Expo Hall

A sympathy care will be sent to the family of Pete Annis, who passed away recently. For many years, Mr. Annis was a driving force behind making the rodeo a success.

## V. Public Comment Period

Rodeo Association Bloch reported that he has located some reasonably-priced clay, and is doing further research on pricing. He explained that this could help resolve the concerns with loose gravel in the arena area.

## VI. Establish date, time and location of next meeting

Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at 6:00 P.M. in the Bierman Center.

## VII. Adjournment

Motion (Russell/Bloch) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:37 P.M.