



CITY OF MERRILL
FESTIVAL GROUNDS COMMITTEE
MINUTES • THURSDAY MARCH 7, 2019

Regular Meeting

Bierman Building

6:00 PM

I. Call to Order

Alderman Norton called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael Caylor	Food Vendor Rep.	Present	
Rob Norton	Aldersperson - Seventh District	Present	
Tim Meehean	Aldersperson - Eighth District	Present	
John M. Van Lieshout	Aldersperson - Fifth District	Present	
Derek Woellner	Mayor	Absent	
Bryan Bloch	Rodeo Assn. Rep.	Present	
Brad Becker	Fair Assn. Rep.	Present	6:10 PM

Also in attendance: City Administrator Dave Johnson, City Attorney Tom Hayden, Festival Grounds Manager Richard Bjorklund, Diane Wais, Ron Liberty, Bill Bialecki, Jerry Leopold, Colton VanLieshout and City Clerk Bill Heideman. A representative from Merrill Productions was present to videotape the meeting.

II. Minutes of previous meeting(s):

1. Minutes of December 6, 2018 meeting

The minutes were in the meeting packet.

Motion (Van Lieshout/Bloch) to approve.

RESULT: APPROVED

III. Agenda items for consideration:

1. Bierman Grant Discussion - Sell Building/Bathroom

City Administrator Johnson reported on funds that will be received from the Bierman Foundation. The Fair Association will be receiving Bierman Foundations funds for new lights. The City will be receiving \$80,000 for work on the Sell Building and \$20,000 earmarked for restroom work.

2. Labor Day - Mobil Food Vendors/Contract

The contract was in the meeting packet.

The Parks and Recreation Commission has established a \$25 fee for mobile food vendors for Labor Day only. This fee pertains to mobile food vendors only, not craft or other non-food vendors.

Motion (Bloch/Meehean) to establish a \$100 fee for mobile food vendors setting up on the grounds for Labor Day festivities. Payment in advance would be required. Motion carried.

Ron Liberty (Merrill Lions) and Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund will work together on issues related to this subject. Consideration of the contract will continue at the April meeting.

3. Proposal - Fourth of July returning to Merrill Festival Grounds

The proposal was in the meeting packet. Food Vendor Rep. Caylor reported on the proposal.

City Administrator Johnson reported that the Lincoln County Humane Society is not in favor of having fireworks at the Festival Grounds on the Fourth of July. Food Vendor Rep. Caylor responded that he was told by a humane society official that the humane society would have no problem with the fireworks being held on the grounds.

Alderman Meehean stated that, because the Parks and Recreation Commission is responsible for the Fourth of July activities, Parks and Recreation Commission input on this matter should be obtained.

City Administrator Johnson reported that, due to new federal regulations, the company responsible for the fireworks show would not legally be able to produce the fireworks show on the grounds. He was asked to obtain these new regulations in writing from the fireworks company, for consideration at the April meeting.

No action on the proposal was taken.

4. Calendar of Events

The calendar was in the meeting packet. Diane Wais reviewed the calendar.

IV. Monthly Reports:

1. Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund

The monthly report was in the meeting packet.

Festival Grounds Manager Bjorklund reviewed the report. Tractor pull officials are planning to expand entertainment. Discussion on booking wrestling show(s) is ongoing.

2. Food Vendor Rep. Caylor - No report, because Food Vendor Committee did not meet.

Food Vendor Rep. Caylor reported that the Food Vendor Group will probably resume monthly meetings, likely starting in April. The group has been working on making purchases as a group, in order to save money.

V. Public Comment Period

Fair Association Rep. Becker presented verbal updates on subjects related to the fair.

VI. Establish date, time & location of next meeting

Thursday, April 4th, 2019 at 6:00 P.M. in the Bierman Building Conference Room.

VII. Adjournment

Motion (Becker/Van Lleshout) to adjourn. Carried. Adjourned at 6:50 P.M.