

Country Fair Committee Minutes
May 21, 2008 Meeting

Present: Lisa Mills, Campbell Barrett, Dale Clouse, Becky Blanchard, John Warehime, Joey Hennes, Larry Henderson, Andrea Holland, Lori Zeiser, Kris Handley, Colleen Terrazas

1. **May 5, 2008 Minutes**

There being no objections, the May 5, 2008 minutes stand approved.

2. **Report from Lisa Mills, Country Fair Coordinator**

- ◆ **Committee Sustainability.** This Committee is made up of people who have full time jobs - which means they have only so much time and energy to dedicate to this volunteer effort. At the moment the County Extension Office is funding the Country Fair Coordinator position which may not happen in the future. The Country Fair should not compete with Mountain FM in obtaining entertainment and cannot afford to do so. The Country Fair cannot sustain seeking sponsorships for funding entertainment for the Country Fair Stage. That being said, we will continue to try to provide entertainment that is appropriate, exciting and interesting without expense and not in competition with Mountain FM.
- ◆ **Country Fair Entertainment Ideas:** get the word out that we can provide the opportunity for individuals and groups to showcase their talent. We can ask the square dancers, Irish dancers, and youth Blue Grass group to return. Interested parties should call Lisa Mills. Since the entertainment is provided for free, Lisa will find out if it is acceptable for a donation can to be set out during performances.
- ◆ Andrea injected that she feels daytime entertainment is needed.
- ◆ Joey added that the Country Fair entertainment needs to focus on rural lifestyle, youth and community. It is all about the community getting together, for fun, entertainment and education - for free.
- ◆ Lisa feels there is pressure to have something going on at all times. We need to decide where to focus the most energy. It was decided that the groups are volunteering, therefore, they should decide what time is most convenient for them.

3. **Mission Statement**

Lisa and Joey will continue working on a mission statement that is simple, concise and to the point that stresses tradition and heritage.

4. **Archway**

BMC West is donating a large portion of materials needed to build the second archway into the Country Fair. The Western Montana Fair will be billed \$393.18, which was approved by Scot Meader, Fair Manager. Joey asked for the BMC logo so she can advertise the donation.

5. **Petting Zoo Banner**
The most asked question last year was “where is the petting zoo”? If we had a very visible banner, perhaps people could find it better without asking.
6. **Volunteer Roles**
Campbell informed the group that in the event that Lisa cannot help out with County Fair Coordinator responsibilities during fair week, we have no one else lined up to do that job. Volunteers are needed.
7. **Space Needs**
Anyone wishing space within the Country Fair must go through this committee. New Holland has expressed an interest. We have not heard from the Charlie Russell Riders.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, June 18, 6:00 pm, County Extension Office.

Minutes submitted by Colleen Terrazas