



## Shannonville Agricultural Society MEETING MINUTES

Date: Sept. 14, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: The Barn (Jarrell  
Building)

DRAFT

1. Call to Order at: 7:05 pm
2. Roll Call: Heather Lang, Doreen McCormick, David Stapley, Paul Gartland, Pete LaLonde, Helen McCambridge, George May, Pat Murphy, Peter Wasyluk, Carol Wasyluk, Don McFarlane,
3. Adoption of Agenda: M/S: David, Pat - carried
4. Minutes of Last Meeting: M/S: Pat, George - carried
5. Treasurer's Report: M/S: George, Heather -carried  
We still have money in the bank, but the Fair itself lost \$10K. The Demo Derby was a big financial loser as it cost a couple of thousand more than the total gate receipts for Saturday.
6. Correspondence:
  - 6.1: None
9. Old Items of Business & Items carried from the last meeting minutes:

### 9.1: Activities Review of 2022 Fair Activities

1. 4-H Shows – Both Shows went well, we cleared the barn for them, and they cleaned up in an exceptional fashion. We were able to provide the speaker system. Principal contacts included Diane Jarrell and Jim Bates.  
Other thoughts...  
All groups seemed to be experiencing manpower shortages as two of our student volunteers assisted the 4-H installing signs and moving large bales of straw.
2. Horse Pullers – All went well on a hot Sunday afternoon. The pullers group pretty well ran the show. No volunteers were required, however George had to arrange Joe Whalen with a backhoe and George worked the entire event using his tractor to load the sled. Could have used some water (long garden hose from Jarrell bldg ?).  
  
Other thoughts included...  
They want us to pay for judges. Horses chewed the top railing of the fence. Pull was okay without ponies. More bleachers to the north side. Chuck McCormick owns the boat & weights. We need to fix some of the weights. Should start earlier in the day. Need two tractors. Tents or pop-up tents may help with the hot sun.
3. Demo Derby – Generally Adam Switzer was a bit of a disappointment given that he was to look after everything. Liability Insurance was a last-minute delivery. We had to arrange the water truck and there but no water put down. We had to provide the MC announcer and our man Richard Crouse did a great job.

Other thoughts....

Need pit area cleaned up for more space. It was noted that Ingram ran the Mohawk Fair Derby. We were advised of many safety issues. Recommended that we use snow fence around the concrete barriers. Pit passes were an issue. Need to improve parking for all. Need to improve guard rails. Solid agreement that we need a new Demo Derby person and Heather will be shopping around.

4. Tractor Pull – All went well. We had the renewed Elsie’s Booth in place. The track was well prepared in advance and tarps installed in case of rain. Lights with generators arrived and worked well. The sled had numerous breakdowns causing a long delay in starting the Pulls. The crowd were annoyed with the delay.  
Other thoughts....  
We need to increase the entry fees. We need to rent 5 portable lights instead of 3 and they could also be used at the Demo Derby. We need to have toilet facilities located in the Tractor Pull area for Friday Night.
5. Horse Show – Originally the Horse Show was to be managed and run by Melrose Meadows Riders and they got the headlining in the Fair Book and website. Heather ended up booking all the entries and managed the show as the principal announcer. We also had some of our student volunteers managing the ring gate.
6. Maple the Cow – Maple the Milking Cow was a big hit, although a little out of site tucked in a corner in the barn. Sunday she was located right in the doorway and more visible. The 4-H teams thought she was an excellent contribution given that spectators are no longer allowed to touch an animal.  
Other thoughts....  
Should see if we could place her on a wheeled platform and move her outside during the daytime as an added attraction.
7. Children’s Fun Park – Hitched Game’s - Well received, easy setup. Need to repeat.
  - Mini Putt – Our equipment that fit well beside the Hitched Game and seemed popular. Maybe dress it up a bit with signs, score cards, putter racks, etc.
  - Party Ponies – They were booked for Sunday, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and was certainly well received. They were located immediately north of the Rec Centre next to the Hitched Games. It was very hot and only one small tree for shade. Could consider using the Cover All next year as it was totally unused. That would not be next to the Children’s Activity Centre though.  
Other thought...  
Maybe expand to include a Saturday show. Maybe find a principal sponsor to cover the cost.
  - Picture Boards – The picture Boards were well distributed and very popular. Our volunteer students had filled sandbags to secure them so none of them were blown over. The sandbags on hand for next year.
  - Fair Train – The train was super popular with kids and adults alike. An ATV was used this year although a lawnmower works as well. The bearings went on one of the #2 wheel on Sunday and has since been replaced so all systems go for next year.  
Other thoughts....  
We might consider assigning a crew of student volunteers to drive the train. We should consider finding a train sponsor and could use Car #1 to contain the sponsor ad.

- Inflatables – With insurance issues having the inflatables was a last-minute delivery. It meant that the service provider also had to provide the trained personal for each inflatable. Last year we provided a volunteer. It was a positive addition to our Children’s Activity Centre. Note that they did deflate by 1:30 pm Sunday and were taillights down the road by 2:20 pm.  
Other thoughts...  
We need to fine-tune their start and finish times, so they are there when the kids are there. Maybe another sponsorship opportunity.
  - Face Painting –booked at a reduced cost for Sat. from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. There was such a big demand and line-up, we negotiated an extra hour going to 5:00 pm. Good addition to the Children’s Activity Centre.  
Other thoughts....  
Another opportunity for a specific sponsor to cover total cost.
  - Old Fashion Adult & Children’s Game’s – Was attended and the games took place. Should have a PA system or blow horn at the site to announce the games and draw children from the other games.
8. Native Women’s Group “The Gate Keepers” – All went well. One of our student volunteers helped manage the south gate.  
Other thoughts.....  
We need to be clear with our Gate Keepers in what, when and where our Gate’s need to be manned.  
(sorry Carol)
9. Rec Centre Exhibits / Competitions / Silent Auction – Well received and lots of exhibits.  
Other thoughts....  
Helen was prime. Could have big sign outside Rec Hall for Exhibits and Silent Auction. Should have more promotion for silent auction as fair events happen. The Silent Auction is free money. Suggested that maybe have kids judge kids stuff. Hopefully the ATM could be there for more than just Sat.
10. Snow Fencing Requirements – A mixed bag of snow fencing was found and installed where needed. It would really help if the Twp were to reinstall their fencing near the volley-ball nets and include a couple of walk-throughs. Maybe with a concerted effort teaming with the Twp, we could have efficient gates that could be close for fair and other events. The main entrance gates to the Rec. Complex are quite embarrassing.
11. Volunteers – We had a total of 5 Student Volunteers working on their Community Contribution hours. Combined they contributed 108.5 man hours to this years Fair. The Neighbours App & FaceBook requests drew most of them. Two of them, Mackenzie Wilson and Aiden Devocht provided 72% of all student hours and they did receive special recognition from SAS.
12. OPP – Security – Worked okay with 2 officers late in the evening. No alcohol signs were posted which is a requirement.

13. Tent – We installed two large tents this year and now we know everything is there and works. We might want to select a more strategic spot for the smaller one. Two side x side was overkill.
14. Fair Road Signs – Most of our existing road signs were date updated and installed throughout the Twp. Signs are now in the barn and some in the shed. Date changes will be required.
15. Opening Ceremonies – We had an audience at the Tractor Pull. Missed having our new MP. The politicians were a little far away from the crowd.  
Other thoughts...  
We might want to explore having the Opening Ceremony as part of the Fri. night or Sat. 4-H Show.
16. The Fair Book – 400 copies of the Fair Book were printed and we basically included all the ads from the 2019 book without any active selling. Some wanted to pay and a few new ones were added. Looking around at other fairs, we might be better off printing a small card type flyer listing the fair schedule of activities. Several thousand copies can be printed for less than half the cost of the book. Minimizes manpower selling numerous ads. Might want to look for specific event sponsors, (the Train, Face Painting, inflatables, etc.)

## 10. New Business

### 10.1: 2023 Shannonville World's Fair – thought's & ideas...

- Need to consider increasing and/or modifying gate fees
- Need Fall clean up around storage shed
- Need more food vendors, Thai Guy mentioned
- Maybe sell water if manpower available
- Need to review actual fair hours for the gate
- Need to lay some pipe for student volunteers
- Need to submit funding request to the Township and seek improvements to their fencing
- Should consider some entertainment using stage and tent/coverall (music, dancers, cloggers, talent show, etc.).
- Maybe consider 2 day event.
- Confirm with Twp what lights can be on at the same time
- Invite Twp with their Touch a Truck event.
- Have a gate handout showing where everything is, including specific event sponsors
- Consider Napanee Party Rentals for inflatables
- Get Club sponsors, 4-H, Lions, Church, etc.
- More small road signs
- Get farm tractor dealer to sponsor all tractor needs
- House to House advertising
- Add carnival type games, coin throws, roaming clown, 3 on 3 volleyball
- Improve PA systems
- More vendors, maybe utilizing our big tent
- Car / Equipment Show
- Have cattle drop offs not blocking driveways

- Have Tractor Pull Fri night with separate entrance, increase fees, improve pit area, don't overwater track, install wire fencing, more jersey barriers, rebuild track height for water runoff

10.2: Bird Auction Sept. 18. It was agreed that we would not provide a canteen service for this event. Heather to advise the group.

10.3: Pancake Breakfast: Given the fair losses, it was agreed that we get back to holding our successful Pancake Breakfast's. It was agreed that our next Pancake breakfast be held on Sunday Oct. 16, 2022. Details to be worked out at our next meeting on the 12'th. Noted that we have lots of pancake mix on hand.

11. Next Meeting: Date Oct. 12, 2022 Time: 7:00 pm, Location: Rec. Hall (maybe)

12. Meeting Adjournment at: 8:45 pm