



## FAIR BOARD MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, May 19, 2020  
 TIME: 5:30 pm  
 LOCATION: Zoom Tele-Conference

- ATTENDEES:
- Ann Marie Moran
  - Michael Everts
  - K.C. McLaughlin
  - Tawnya Dykstra
  - Jackie Foote
  - Molly Taylor
  - Scott MacFarlane (Commission Liaison)

AGENDA: (subject to change at the discretion of the Board)

Time	Topic	Presenter
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**Topic: Fairgrounds Board Meeting May 19 2020**  
**Time: May 19, 2020 05:30 PM Mountain Time (US and Canada)**

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81724084260?pwd=dm5xZXZjSUZlZW5m96c0lsV3NGUT09>

Meeting ID: 817 2408 4260

Password: 614133

Dial in: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 817 2408 4260

Password: 614133

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|---------|---|--|
| 5:30 PM | <p><b>1.0 Welcome</b><br/> <b>Meeting called to order at 5:34pm</b><br/> <b>Meeting attended by Ann Marie Moran, Michael Everts, Tawnya Dykstra, Jackie Foote, Molly Taylor</b><br/> <b>Dennis advised the board that:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>the Pledge would be waived due to the meeting format</b></li> <li>• <b>that Homebase Partners asked that the board make a recommendation regarding his request to lease a portion of the Tamarack Lot for a hotel valet service long term</b></li> <li>• <b>that as this was Jackie Foote's first meeting he would request she provide some background on herself</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Jackie presented her background and interest in serving on the board.</b></p> <p>1.1 Pledge of Allegiance</p> <p>1.2 Review &amp; Approval of Minutes for 10.15.19, 11.19.19, 11.25.19, 1.21.20, 4.21.20</p> <p><b>Ann Marie motioned for approval of all, Molly second. Motion passed.</b></p> <p><b>2.0 Call for Public Comment No public comment</b></p> <p><b>3.0 Presentation No Presentation</b></p> <p><b>4.0 Gallatin County Commission Report None</b></p> <p><b>5.0 4H Report</b></p> <p><b>Introduced herself to board as 4H Agent, 647 youth 114 volunteers, working virtual programming. Working on smaller group programming.</b></p> <p><b>6.0 Manager Report</b></p> <p>6.1 Fair Update – Cancellation Discussion</p> | <p>Scott MacFarlane</p> <p>Ja'Nae Veca</p> <p>Dennis Voeller</p> |
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Manager advised the board that it has been determined that a 45 day cancellation notice had been accepted as the appropriate notice of cancellation. Manager shared the county health officer's comments regarding the fair's ability to take place. Manager shared that the county will move to Phase II June 1 per press release from governor's office an hour before, how the fair would handle distancing requirements if necessary, how that would affect the bottom line. Dennis advised the board of occupancy rates from a local hotel – tripled in the last week but off 45% to date from the previous year.

Commissioner MacFarlane joined the meeting.

Manager shared that the fair could reduce food stands, commercial booths to accommodate distancing however those adjustments affect bottom line. Manager advised that we could rent additional hand wash stations, disinfectant stations and would do that if allowed take place to accommodate distancing if required. The question of whether the fair taking place is the right thing is still the primary concern.

Manager advised the board that the office had taken complaints regarding the Jordan Circus using exotic animals in their shows and that the fairgrounds had allowed them to book. Manager advised the board that he believed the show had been cancelled but that it hadn't been confirmed.

Manager advised the board that Home Base Partners requested a recommendation regarding the long term lease of the east most portion of the Tamarack Lot – currently unused.

Manager advised the board that the Pathways Project was underway with the peripheral portions mostly completed. Manager asked for comments.

Tawyna commented that the numbers speak for themselves, indicated that it would take years to recover.

Molly asked when we might hear from legal. Dennis referred the question to Commissioner MacFarlane.

Commissioner agreed that there wasn't legal request in que at this time. He indicated that he didn't think they needed the legal department input for this decision.

Michael asked if it was possible to do a mini-fair...one or two days with some key elements. Dennis responded that reduced programming impacts revenue but not at a comparable rate as the expenses.

Molly asked if the public would be allowed to visit the 4H, Dennis responded that if in Phase II, public attendance would be counter to directive. Jackie commented that if we had vendors we wouldn't have control over what the workers may be doing might be a concern and that the public may be hesitant. Dennis indicated that we would have to meet some distancing and sanitizing criteria to reassure the public...that would affect capacity.

Ann Marie commented that we could win big. Dennis agreed and reminded the board that at last month's meeting there was a comment about not being the only fair happening or not happening. Dennis commented that we will not see the success that we had expected but that we may have a civic obligation to put on a fair if we can do it safely. Tawyna commented that she would like us to not adhere to a civic obligation if it was going to impact the fair for several years. Michael asked if we were aware of any virtual programming options with regards to 4H. Dennis indicated that he would refer that question to Ja'Nae for that answer.

Ja'Nae indicated that they were reviewing multiple options regarding a virtual fair and had were considering pursuing one of them. Amanda Hartman, Marketing & Sponsor, indicated that some of the fairs had done virtual market sales – success varied. Feedback from public about a virtual fair was not good but that the livestock and static portions would work in a virtual world.

No other comments.

No other comments.

## 7.0 Business Items

7.1 Re-organization of the board – chair, vice chair Dennis called for nominations for Chair.

Ann Marie nominated Jackie Foote. No other nominations. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous Aye

Dennis called for nomination for Vice Chair. Molly volunteered. No other nominations. Roll Call Vote: Unanimous Aye

7.2 Recommendation to the commission on the 2020 Big Sky Country State Fair

Ann Marie made a motion to recommend to the county commission to cancel the 2020 Big Sky Country State Fair. Tawyna seconded. No Discussion. Motion: Passed Unanimous

7.3 Confirm next board meeting – June 16 2020

7.4 Other: Call for a motion for recommendation from the board to county commission

to allow the fairgrounds to lease a portion of the Tamarack Lot in the amount of approximately ¾ acre in the amount of a previously discussed amount. Ann Marie asked if this lease would be re-negotiated

annually – Dennis said no, it would likely be a 10 year lease for perpetuity, similar to GIF and American Legion Baseball. Ann Marie asked if this lease would impact any other use – Dennis responded that on the Masterplan it was indicated as parking, as it was currently unused this would put it into use. Ann Marie asked if this lease was necessary for the permission to build the hotel – Dennis said no, he had other sites. Molly asked if this was the party who had indicated an interest in purchasing the fairgrounds- Dennis said yes, and indicated that Andy Holloran had asked about pursuing that at this meeting. Dennis indicate to him that it would be better as a future topic. Molly asked if the fairgrounds was sold to another entity would he or the county be able to get out of that agreement. Dennis answered that any sale would have to address the interests of Home Base Partners, GIF and Baseball. Michael asked if the space could be moved for an event or another use. Dennis indicated that it could possibly but the fair would be probably be responsible to replace it with the same amenities. Commissioner MacFarlane indicated that it would probably be debated in public meeting. Tawnya made a motion to recommend to the county commission to lease a portion of the Tamarack Lot on a long term basis for a valet service as presented. Michael seconded. Motion: Passed Unanimously

## **8.0 Adjournment Meeting adjourned 6:27pm**