

Rutherford BARN (Building Agricultural Relationships Now)
Board Meeting - April 10, 2019, 10:30 am, Cooperative Extension
Meeting Minutes – Prepared by Stephanie Rzonca via audio recording

Members Present: Wendy Shumaker, Amy Bridges, Tiffany Rigell, and Brandon Higgins

Members Absent: Steve Govus, Bob Young, Bill Coxe, Danielle Jones, and Stephanie Rzonca

Others Present: Hannah Bundy, Rebecca

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Brandon Higgins called the meeting to order and pointed out that there was not a quorum at the meeting so no action could be taken.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

No questions on the minutes at this time. Meeting minutes from February will be approved at the next meeting of the board.

3. OFFICER REPORTS

Treasurer's report:

Ms. Wendy Shumaker delivered the treasurer's report. So far booth rent income has been \$2334. Table rent income is \$35 and T-Shirt sales have been \$51. Total income \$2420. Expenditures include banking fees and registration fees with the IRS. So that brings the profit/loss total to \$2048.42. Ms. Shumaker obtained a quote for porta potty fees and she stated she had enough funds to get through the season. Supplies that have been purchased or donated for the market include first aid supplies and sanitary supplies.

501(c)3 status should be final by August 2019, depending on IRS workload.

Other reports:

Comments on opening day. 21 vendors were there for opening day. Only 2 unoccupied spaces of the reserved. Great customer turnout.

Music was a great asset. Ms. Shumaker recommended we look into a speaker system one day in the future. Ms. Shumaker said that Pie Safe and the availability of drinks and snacks was a huge help, and she stated that she would love another vendor who could do snacks and food. Mr. Higgins stated that he sent messages to food trucks for future markets.

Update on new market design.

Ms. Amy Bridges gave an update. RHI legacy awarded the Town of Forest City a grant to fund the design of a new Farmers Market Pavilion structure. The new location would be over in the proposed Park Square Trailhead, between Oak Street

and Park Square. It would give a lot more exposure to the farmers market and also help the trailhead of the thermal belt rail trail. Stakeholders met with the engineers last week and gave them feedback and ideas. After they get the design, the Town will be pursuing grants for building the structure.

4. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Brandon Higgins gave an update on insurance quotations for the Rutherford BARN Board and general liability insurance. Board liability insurance is not required but advised once the organization hires employees. Quotations were obtained from Farm Bureau - \$175 for \$1M liability insurance for the year. Still waiting on board insurance quotation. Board would need to vote to move forward with insurance.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Future Market Needs

We need to be thinking about mid-week markets. Ms. Wendy Shumaker stated that we normally do a Tuesday morning market but the idea of a Thursday evening market has been tossed around. Mr. James Cowan, of Stonecutter Foundation, has been lobbying for a market in Spindale along the Rails to Trail. Mr. Brandon Higgins stated that he was approached by the Town of Rutherfordton about having an evening weekday market and closing down one of the roads to do so. Next board meeting will include a more thorough discussion on this.

Ms. Wendy Shumaker stated that marking spots was needed, and her dad has volunteered to mark the vendor spaces so that there is no confusion.

Events

Mr. Brandon Higgins stated that he talked to Tracy Davis about doing a cooking demo or two and she is more than willing. There are other chefs available as well for other cooking demos.

Ms. Amy Bridges stated that REACH has approached the Town of Forest City about showing off their robotics program and STEM education.

Earth day celebration could include Roxi the Raccoon and Ron Hoover for beekeeping education.

Discussion on music – use some of the same talent as last year, and Just the Two of Us, and maybe add some more.

Introduce Becca Allen

Ms. Wendy Shumaker introduced Becca as a new volunteer. Ms. Allen stated that she was committed to volunteer through the season.

The next meeting is planned for July 17 at 10:30 at the Cooperative Extension Office, but Mr. Higgins requested a new meeting to be scheduled for May 21 at 10:30 at the Cooperative Extension Office.

6. ADJOURN