Upper Midwest A-C Club™ Board Meeting Minutes

McLeod County Fairgrounds

Hutchinson, MN

June 8, 2019

**Updated/Revised 6/23/2019 @ 9:45am**

**Call to order:** Darrell called to order 9:10am

**Roll call:** Present: Darrell Grams, Cody Hager, Joan Paulson and Scott Overgaard, Lori Miller and Tom Foss - Lynn Bushard (late)

Absent: Joe Graunke, Craig Buss,

Others present: Bob Paulson, Arlene Bushard (late)

Both Lori and Lynn thought the meeting was at 10am, as that what was printed on the minutes from the April meeting. Agendas for meetings need to include location, date AND TIME. Reminder that agendas for meetings also need to include outstanding items from PRIOR meetings that have been tabled.

**Treasurer’s report:**  
 Checking = $202,247.04  
 Scholarship = $7,622.44  
 **Total = $209,869.48**

Darrell asked for any questions on the financials that were sent out before the meeting. No questions.

Darrell said that the Toy tooling is all paid but we still owe $60,000 on the toy itself. We have 250 toys that we have not yet collected payment on, those being the ones that vendors buy. Approximately $30,000 coming in from those toys.

Darrel said that he would like to see us earn some return on some of our cash reserves. Mid Country has a personal Money Market account – no risk. We can earn 2.15% with no penalty to pull out as long as we leave $5k in the account. Also available is a Business Money market which earns – 2% per year. Both options need to leave at least $5,000 in the account. Bob asked about paying taxes on the interest earned in this type of account– that’s not an issue because we are non-profit. Darrell explained that he talked to Michael Crowe about this and was told that it’s a great idea and there is no problem with us earning interest on our money. The club used to have interest bearing checking and for whatever reason, changed to non-interest bearing. Lori thinks we should change both club checking and scholarship checking to interest bearing.

Scott makes motion to put $100k into the Money Market account into the higher interest account – only one account, not some in each of the two options. Lori amends to add that both checking accounts be changed to interest bearing as well. Tom seconds both motions. All in favor – motion passes.

Lori makes motion to approve Treasurer’s report. Cody seconds. Motion carries.

**Secretary report:**

We need to review and approve prior minutes – January AND April both need review and approval and approval to post on the website. Discussion ensued about whether or not the financial information of the club should be posted on the website, simply in the standpoint of safety of the club and the fact that the web is a public forum. All are still in agreement that in the interest of full disclosure to the board, entire unedited minutes should be posted once approved. Scott reiterates/clarifies that the discussion at prior meetings was to post board meeting minutes to the website once approved by board.

Lori thinks it would also be good for the club to be made aware of where our funds are being directed. For example, electricity run to the vendor grounds, other show ground improvements, insurance on the fuel cell at the museum, etc. It would be good for this information to be written in the newsletter.

Prior meeting minutes. Lori stated that no one replied with any changes to prior meeting minutes so Lori made motion to approve January Board of Directors Minutes – Cody seconds. Motion carries.

Scott made motion to approve April Board of Directors Minutes with one minor change. Joan seconds – Motion carries.

Conference calls – Lori pointed out that no one replies to emails and communication is not being done throughout the year and it’s very frustrating to those who have tasks to do and deadlines to do them. Board meetings get very long due to “tabled” issues that could easily be resolved by input and response by ALL board members. For these reasons Lori feels conference calls could be very helpful. Lori can set up an account for the club with the same service we use at her work. The last call was $70. Lori paid the bill.

A discussion ensued about who is doing what and lack of responsibility and follow through on behalf of ALL board members. Darrell pointed out that we can’t have people on the board who only have one task to do during the show and do nothing throughout the remainder of the year. The workload needs to be shared equally by everyone. No one volunteered for any tasks.

We scheduled a conference call for Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 7pm. Lori will coordinate this call and send it in an email to the board with the call-in instructions. The call-in instructions can be shared to any other committee members who should attend the call.

**Membership report:**

Arlene gave update. 394 memberships. 13 past due expiring in July 2019 - 3 expirations (non-renewals) – 3 new members - 210 Memberships expiring in July 2019. We have had 39 renewals so far this year. Arlene sends friendly reminders. Arlene calls as well to get memberships renewed. 210 are due to renew in July, many renew at the show.

Discussed the membership list that Arlene sent out which did not include complete mailing addresses. The board’s understanding was that contact info was to include mailing addresses. Arlene shared that they were not included due to limitations of size to get on a printable page – which is understandable. Joan makes motion to update the list to include all contact information and have the report kept up to date and shared with the board on a quarterly basis. The board leaves it to the discretion of the membership coordinator as to the exact schedule of this update, as long as it is four times per year. Scott seconds – motion carries.

UPDATE 6/19/2019: Arlene emailed the board a complete membership list inclusive of addresses. Thank you Arlene for your hard work in getting this tedious task accomplished. We all know it was a huge undertaking. And the board thanks you, in advance, for your willingness and hard work to keep it up to date for us.

Darrell brought up the membership forms that Arlene submitted and asked the board to respond on with changes, updates & edits. Free personal ads should be changed to classified ads. Also, there is no “for sale” section on the website so that should be removed. Last, the trademark symbols need to be added to the form. Lori made motion to approve forms with these changes. Tom seconds. Motion carries.

Jim Williams reported that he now has non-profit postal rates for us for the newsletter mailings which will save the club money in postage.

Arlene would like emails from board members sent in a more professional manner with a more courteous and professional tone.

Cody motions to approve membership report – Scott seconds. All in favor – Motion carries.

**Club committee reports:**

Parking coordinator - Cody reports the Joe Stobel & the Boy Scouts will be helping with parking cars and staffing the golf cart table.

Scholarship Committee – Ken Holtz will bring the raffle lawn tractor to the show and we need to order/make a sign. Arlene has afghans to donate as well. Lori recommends setting up a display with signage of donated items and promoting the scholarship auction.

**Old business**

**2019 SHOW ITEMS**

**Show guides –** They are here. There is a plug in it for next year’s show. Bob Roda never did his article with Connie. He refused. Scott has the proof for his signage – and will print it.

**Banners –** Scott has completed the drafts for all banners. We will raffle the 220 banners to those who bring a 220.

**Signs –**Bob pointed out that we cannot tape any signs to buildings. Lori to pick up a case of saw horses and white board to make additional signs at the show. At least 10 saw horse and 20 white signs.

**Budget for future shows** – No idea what this item is. Will carry to conference call on July 2nd.

**Bus trip** – Joan reports that the bus will be $1,400 for the two days. Joan said an ad is already prepared to go in the local paper (Hutch Leader) promoting the bus trip.

Joan said Bonnie Mohr (local artist) contacted her and the bus trip will stop at her studio. Bonnie said she wanted to do something for the club and wants to paint a picture for the club. She is going to come to the show and would like to set up at the show. She will sign and donate her original painting to the club. We will set her up in the Agribition building.

Lori suggested that we should consider getting away from the label of “Ladies Activities” for obvious reasons. Possibly use ‘family activities’ or some other non-gender specific label.

**Swap meet / Vendor Pricing**

Doug Stade reported that he received a check for the spots that were discussed at the last meeting. As far as charging for spaces, we will defer this issue to whoever takes over for Doug.

**Belt Pully Dyno** – Darrell reports that we will need a roped off area around the belt.

**Show vendors**

**Food Vendors –** Do we have more than last year? Bob is still looking for one more vendor. Cedar Mills has a booth with sausages and he will contact them to see if they are interested in setting up. Music is all scheduled. Bob said he will order the tractor pull trophies soon.

UPDATE 6/9/19 – Craig reports that Dairy Princess ambassadors and Princesses will be at the Show on Saturday afternoon. Specific Time not set as of yet. Mark for further discussion regarding ice cream and such.

Joe is in charge of ordering buttons and plaques – so far no one knows where we are at in this process. Joe to report.

**Golf Carts –** Gresser told Lori they will only provide 7 carts for set up. We requested 10. Lori reports that Gresser is giving some resistance to cater to us because we only have a 3 day show as opposed to their other clients who reserve the carts for a full week. We discussed researching other companies who may be able to provide what we need. Research needs to be done.

**People Movers –** Who is going to be in charge of lining up people movers and drivers and creating a schedule? Bob wants more room for riders available for Friday night. Bob will look into getting another tractor and wagon to use. None of the board members present volunteered to coordinate people movers. Scott said he will call Terry Nowak to see if he would like to take this over coordinating this again as he has done in year’s past. The board thinks Lori should have a sign-up sheet at Tractor registration and ask for volunteers at registration.

**Future Raffle tractors** – Darrell pointed out that Dave Maddux was under the gun with another buyer to buy the D-14 he had for sale and the board had not made commitment to buy it so Darrell bought it, picked it up and delivered it home. He will make it available to the club for $5,000 with the dirt scoop that came with it. Dave sold the weights to someone else, so they are not with it. Joan makes motion to buy it for future raffle tractor and Tom seconded it. Motion carries.

**Tractor Registration** – Lori will pick up additional supplies that are needed. Tags are already ordered and we are using the left over tags from last year for golf carts. Lori wanted to discuss getting new sign posts or at the very least fixing the ones we have. They are in bad shape. What do other shows use? Let’s look at cost to fix up the sign posts. Lori will come up with some ideas and talk to Darrell Grams, Jr. and start getting some proposals.

**2020 show**

Bob reports that main street Hutch will be completely torn apart for next year’s show. We need to make sure we get that on the website before the 2020 show. Bob will see if Mary from the Chamber will get us the alternate routes that they are posting for the city so we can put it in the newsletter.

**Feature –** Cody makes motion to feature 210 in 2020 – Scott seconded. Motion carries.2020 show will feature the 210.

**Field Show Feature** – We need to determine this at future meet.

**Garden Tractor Feature** – We need to determine this at future meet.

**Mini Farm Displays?** Lori pointed out that she contacted Jeff Borth as he was the person we’ve had in each newsletter as the point of contact for the mini farm displays. He said he isn’t doing this anymore and Jared hasn’t done it for years. So, do we have anyone to spearhead this?? Board said to wait andsee if anyone comes to set up this year. If so, we will get more information then and see if anyone will be the new coordinator. Put on agenda for July meeting because then we’re at the show.

**Tractor Pull –** Cody & Craig are going to take over the tractor pull starting w/ 2020 show. That means ordering the trophies and all related tasks too. Bob said he will show them the ropes this year and then they are on their own for 2020 but Bob will continue to help.

**Possible replacement for Rich Martin and Doug Stade** – Gail Shipansky possibly to take over swappers. Rich had someone but that guy moved. Keep on agenda for July meeting to discuss with these people.

**What else has been discussed** – If we get items donated to us, maybe use something from there as a feature for future shows.

**2021 show (GOTO)**

**Start discussion**

**Feature –** Feature for 2021 show needs to go on agenda for upcoming meetings. We’d like to figure out the features in advance to give people time to prepare.

**Upcoming shows for the club to advertise at – Keep on agenda: - Remember to take Tri-Fold brochures.**

**Allis Connection Show, Amana Colonies – June 15-16, 2019.** – We didn’t have anyone at this meeting that knew of anyone going to this. Cody thought maybe Dale Heintz was going and will contact him. If he is, we need to get him show guides and/or tri-folds.

**Water Carnival, Hutchinson - June 16, 2019** – Craig was going to attend this but now has a conflict and cannot do it. Bob also has conflicts and we don’t know of anyone else that can do it. The cost $100 as an entry fee.

**Scott County Threshers, Jordan, MN - (Featuring Allis this year) – August 2 – 4, 2019** – We need someone to set up and volunteer to promote this show.

**Days of Yesterday Show, Rochester – August 10-11, 2019** - Cody has his hands full with this show so we need someone from our club to get down there to promote our show. So far, no volunteers.

**Union Grove Show, September 13-15, 2019** Darrell and Lynn both plan on attending this show and will make sure we are promoting there.

**Club shed (new)**

Craig contacted Remax about properties for sale to the south of fair grounds, $135,000 for 6 acres not developed, no power or water on site. He also contacted Terry Wendorff, property to the west of fair grounds has quonset shed willing to parcel off, waiting to hear back on cost of land. Matt W. communicated option of building and storage north of Hutch on Hwy 15 with B&B sports. All options have been discussed with benefactor - waiting for fair grounds commission to be completed with their analysis/proposal before moving forward. Keep on agenda.

**Ideas to bring people back to pavilion after field demos have been completed** – Craig told Joan he would coordinate the dairy princesses to be here to serve ice-cream, milk, etc. Bob will call Craig to follow up on whether or not this has been coordinated.

**Any other old business**

**2019 Show Toy -** Chopper toy has been shipped and is in transit. We avoided the tariff, which is great news.

**Newsletter Advertising –** Re-Open discussion from prior meetings. Who is going to do the billing for this? Lori doesn’t agree with the price of the ads and thinks they should be higher considering what we pay to advertise in other publications. We will revisit pricing of newsletter ads at a later time but in the meantime we all agree that ads will be paid IN ADVANCE for ONE YEAR – Three issues, billed once. No one volunteered for this either, so Lori will do the billing after she confirms with Craig whether or not he contacted the current advertisers.

**Newsletters** – We need to get content together for future newsletter issues and we need to STICK TO DEADLINES. This is a major frustration for everyone involved. Currently Scott is doing the lion’s share of the newsletter in addition to all of his other tasks. We need more people involved. We cannot have another 23 page newsletter like the Spring issue when every other issue in the past has been 32 pages. We need someone to start putting content together. Work more with Jody at Sky Printing. Joan suggested writing an expo in each issue of a current club member. Need an editor for our newsletter or someone to gather content and write articles. Discuss further on July conference call.

**Reels of film.** Scott explained that a gentleman contacted us/him to say he has rolls of film that he is willing to loan to the club for them to convert them to digital format. These films are all genuine Allis corporate promotional films. Scott reported that CostCo will convert 800 feet of film to DVD or digital for approx. $150. The club agrees that these films are invaluable and need to be converted to preserve them. Board all agreed that even if it cost us $5,000 it would be worth it to preserve them. We could then look at making DVD movies with them and possibly selling the DVDs to recoup some of the cost. Board asked Scott to do further research on total footage of what he has to get a more concise pricing. Lori will also see if this is something that her contact at Thomas Repro does. Keep on agenda.

**Building -** Bob reportsthat the County is questioning why they are letting the fairground build buildings that they can’t store their stuff in. They just don’t get the concept of what we are trying to do. He explained that they had the same issue when they were proposing the existing building. Randy is trying to see if they can put a building up by the loading dock. Everything is still up in the air. Government moves slowly. Randy asked if we would still be interested in adding on to the existing shed. This would be an addition to the west. Keep on agenda.

**Existing building rent** – Discussion about Gary Agrimson and Arland Lepper storing some of their equipment and paying for said storage even though the equipment stored there is to used for the show every year. Darrell and Bob question why they are paying rent if the equipment is for show use. Darrell said he has discussed this with Gary and Arland and they will not hear of not paying rent. Joe Graunke also has equipment stored and in years past “bartered” seed and such for his storage fee. That will be no more. He will pay his fee and get reimbursed for seed. The club has eliminated all bartering and trading of services and bills simply for transparency in the club’s books.

**New Business**

**Donation to Club** – Scott communicated that he and Gary Agrimson met with a gentleman from Leonard MN that wants to donate 6 tractors and 6 implements and other miscellaneous items to the Club. Scott presented pictures of the potential donation items.  The gentlemen would simply like a 501(3)c donation letter for his donation. The items he would be donating would need to be store inside a building. Scott doesn’t have a lot of other details. But we discussed that in order for us to accept it we would need to find a building to store the stuff in until we decide what to do with it. The board is in agreement that this is a tremendous opportunity for us. Lynn makes motion to proceed with negotiations to accept this donation. Tom seconds. Motion carries. We will need to explore where to store the items donated. Keep on agenda.

**Future toy:** Darrell asked for recommendations for future show toy. He recommends maybe a dual apron wagon. Maybe building 1,000 to 1,100 wagons because not everyone that bought a chopper bought a blower and vice versa, and this wagon would be a fantastic addition to both of those toys. He and Rich both feel that many people would want two of these if they have both of the toys. Has anyone else made a dual apron wagon? Calhoun made one at one time. Lindsay made one but it wasn’t dual apron. Rich is working on getting something going.

**Amending By-laws.** – Discussion of amending the by-laws to not include “too many Grams”. Tom said he sees no problem that needs addressing. The membership will vote for board members as they see fit. We need to get people on the board who are willing to work, it shouldn’t matter their last name. Bob said the only amendment he sees to be made is to set term limits. Lori feels that if we have someone on the board who is pulling his/her weight and contributing and doing a good job, it would be a shame to throw them out due to a term limit. Another amendment would possibly be that if you are ever “removed” from the board that you are not allowed to re-run. Lori pointed out that any amendment to the by-laws would need membership approval, so the soonest anything could be done would be fall banquet. Darrell recommends PRESENTING proposed amendments IN WRITING to members at Fall Banquet and in Fall Newsletter so they can review before voting on them at the Spring Meeting. Keep on the agenda for further discussion.

**Any other new business** – Bob proposes getting quotes for a new door on the shed and any other maintenance that is currently needed. Lori will see if she can find name of her shed door installer, who is local to Hutch area.

Bob is going to get a new 12 x 12 tent as our existing one got bent in the wind

Bob again communicated that we need an additional people mover for ride through town. He will communicate with the police chief and get route into the Hutch Leader and share with Lori so she can put on the website.

**Upcoming Meeting Dates**

**PHONE CONFERENCE is scheduled for 7/2/19 at 7:00 pm**Next Board meeting – Thursday, July 25, 2019 – Board meeting - 1pm at Fairgrounds  
Saturday, September 7, 2019 – Board meeting – Fairgrounds  
Saturday, November 9, 2019 – Board & Membership Meeting - Fairgrounds

**Adjourn meeting –** 12:50pm Lori motions to adjourn meeting – Scott seconds