

G.O.S.A. MINUTES JANUARY 24, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: President Kurt Otterbacher, First Vice President Doug Guinsler, Secretary-Treasurer Suzanne Guinsler, Trustees: Jo Ellen Albanese, Tony Albanese, Stan Connell, Bud Downs, David Drake, Mick Orosz, Dick Pilati, Kevin Pope, Bill Sterling and Mike Tedrick

GUESTS PRESENT: Michael Albanese, Bill Prowant, Sheila Rinehart, Amanda Sines, and Carolyn Towner

President Kurt Otterbacher called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken. The minutes of the December meeting were approved as written with a motion made by David Drake and seconded by Tony Albanese. Motion carried.

President Kurt Otterbacher recognized the guests in attendance.

The new requirement of the license applicant having a background check within 30 days prior to obtaining a permit to open within the City of Columbus was reported to the board by Michael Albanese.

The financial report for December was presented and approved with a motion made by Dick Pilati and seconded by David Drake. Motion carried. Bills owed by the organization were presented and approved for payment with a motion made by Dick Pilati and seconded by Jo Ellen Albanese. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

A brief orientation was held for both newly elected and existing board members. President Kurt Otterbacher reminded all board members of the requirements of selling tickets for both the Fall Round Up and Extravaganza Reverse Raffle. Kurt also reminded board members to keep the overall best interest of the organization and industry as a whole in mind when issues arise.

President Kurt Otterbacher asked all board members to be thinking of goals for the organization for 2008 and to bring ideas to the next meeting.

The need for revision and an overall review of the Constitution and By-Laws of the organization was suggested and discussed. It was mentioned that the Past Presidents Advisory Board would be responsible for assisting with this project.

NEW BUSINESS:

The sessions and events held at the recent convention were re-capped and evaluated. After discussion was held on the attendance and participation in the sessions conducted by our organization, it was decided that the following sessions would be repeated for the 2009 convention: "Recycle at the Fair" and "If Our Roles Were Reversed"-Districts 3, 4, & 6. A lengthy discussion was held on ideas for additional sessions. It was decided that it would be beneficial to both fair managers and our members to hold a session relating to health and sanitation issues. Mike Tedrick volunteered to present a slide show on food safety. A Person in Charge training class will also be held for our members to become certified since this is likely to become a requirement in the near future. The possibility of sponsoring a Serv-Safe class and test was also discussed. More information will be gathered on the requirements of conducting the Serv-Safe test so that further planning can take place. It was suggested that this class be conducted during a separate event rather than as a part of the convention since it requires a large amount of time for the class and testing.

Discussion was also held on possible ways to increase the presence of our membership at the convention by encouraging members to participate in events held at the convention. The possibility of expanding the reception following the annual meeting was discussed. The Extravaganza event was also discussed with positive feedback received from the improvements made in increasing our organization's presence at the event. A few additional suggested improvements to enhance our visibility were reviewed.

President Kurt Otterbacher reviewed the committee assignments for 2008. Kurt also mentioned that a review of Secretary-Treasurer Suzanne Guinsler would be conducted prior to the next meeting. Feedback was requested from board members.

Those present were reminded to be considering nominees for awards to be presented at the O.F.M.A. Spring District meetings.

The issue of privilege fees being changed from a flat rate to a percentage base at the Clark Co. Fair in Springfield was discussed. It was decided that no direct board action would be taken on this issue. However, board members that attend the Clark Co. Fair will meet with the fair board regarding the fee change.

Lobbyist Carolyn Towner reported on the status of the changes in games rules including doing away with build ups. She reported that the changes had not been submitted yet and that she met with Director of Agriculture Boggs to discuss the proposed changes. Games Committee Chairman Dick Pilati reported on the results of the poll he conducted to determine the feelings of the membership toward doing away with build ups. He reported that the majority of the game owning members were in favor of keeping build ups. Dick asked those present to assist him in finding ideas for alternatives to eliminating build ups to submit to the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

Trustee Kevin Pope mentioned that members Ray Mowry and Sam Hamilton were interested in having a golf outing for the organization similar to those that had been held in past years. Saturday, October 4, 2008 was set as a tentative date for the event. More information will be discussed at future meetings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Membership Committee-** The following new members were presented for approval: Judy Adams-Spousal, Karla Dalessandro, Kyle Kissel, Rick Rubin, Triple “R” Stables, Becki Bidlack-Spousal, Hebert’s Louisiana Cajun Kitchen, Joe Burt-Spousal, and Lori Brake-Spousal. A motion was made by David Drake and seconded by Dick Pilati to approve all new members presented. Motion carried.
- B. Yearbook Committee-**Chairman Stan Connell reported that the deadlines for renewing membership dues and yearbook advertising would be adhered to in order to have the yearbook published earlier than in recent years. He reported that he had begun calling members who had not yet paid their dues. Carolyn Towner mentioned that she had contacted both the Governor and Director of Agriculture for letters for the yearbook.
- C. Roundup Committee-**Chairman Tony Albanese reported that the prize amounts and ticket prices would remain the same for the Round Up for this year.
- D. Newsletter Committee-**Chairman Jo Elen Albanese reported that the next newsletter was in process and would be out shortly with a second to follow. Jo Ellen reported to the board that there was a problem with compatibility of the versions of Microsoft programs used by newsletter contributors and board members. She suggested that the organization purchase an upgrade of Microsoft Office to resolve the compatibility issues. A motion to purchase an upgrade was made by Mick Orosz and seconded by Kevin Pope. Motion carried.
- E. Ride Safety Committee-**An article recently printed in the Columbus Dispatch regarding inflatables was shared and discussed. Bill Prowant reported that few incidents occurred in 2007. He also reported on changes of the board members of the Ride Safety Advisory Council.
- F. Scholarship Committee-**Former chairman Doug Guinsler thanked the board for their support specifically in providing funding for additional scholarships in the past few years. Current chairman Dick Pilati reported that he would be working on getting updates from past recipients and soliciting donations from them in support of the scholarship program.

- G. Games Committee-**Report was given earlier in the meeting.
- H. Health & Sanitation Committee-**Mike Tedrick mentioned that he would be willing to assist members with any health inspection clarifications needed throughout the season. He also reported that hoods are not needed for mobile units and that this is a common misconception among fire departments that conduct inspections.
- I. Website Committee-**The number of recent hits to our website were reported. Board members were reminded to submit suggestions and ideas on content to chairman Jeff Otterbacher.
- J. Convention Committee-**Report was given earlier in the meeting.
- K. Sponsorship Committee-**Chairman Bill Sterling emphasized the need to start obtaining sponsors now for events to be held next year. Updated forms will be available at the next meeting so that sponsors can be contacted throughout the season.
- L. Nominating & Awards Committee-**In the absence of Chairman Andy Pocock, his written report submitted prior to the meeting was shared with those present. It was reported that the awards presented at the Annual Meeting were very well received and that a nomination form for the Spring Awards would be published in the next two Newsletters.
- M. Policies & Procedures Committee-**Committee Chairpersons were reminded to submit information for the Policies and Procedures Handbook as soon as possible.

With no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by David Drake and seconded by Dick Pilati. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.