

10/11/2022 - Minutes

1. 4:00 P.M. Call To Order

Meeting called to order by Chairman Steve Morgan at 4:03 pm

A. Attendance:

Those attending - Doug Greenway, Craig Stucky, Jeff Hanson, Steve Morgan, Jean Koehler, Jeff Smith, Gio Lanier, Tiffany Battdorf. Absent: Jordan Gau, Stratton Havlik, Carol Cersosimo, John Foster, Mayor Everson, Stephanie Ellwein.

2. Approval Of Agenda

3. Approval Of Minutes

4. Agenda Items

A. Directors Report

Doug Reported on past and upcoming events. Those included the State and National Kids Pedal Pulls on September 5th and 24th with 215 kids and 1000 spectators at the state pull, 1500 fans with 503 pullers from 16 states at the National Pull, that was followed by a 4-day rental and two performances of the Raise Em Rank Bull Riding event, with 2200 people attending. The central electric banquet was held on September 26th with 700, Kiwanis 1/2 marathon and 5 & 10K races were held with support from the Corn Palace. The MHS Cheer/Dance competition was held on the 8th with 1200 in attendance. Upcoming events are the Pheasant Banquet on the 14th and the Flu Pod on the 18th. The Corn Palace floor will be shut down for refinishing October 19th - 28th.

B. Box Office/Concessions Report - Craig Stuckey

Craig reported on excellent concessions sales this fall with sales totals higher than 2021 given that visitors are done from 2021, that is encouraging. He also reported a high volume of popcorn balls being made and sold with over 3000 the past month going out for resale at other locations, which has helped with concessions sales.

C. Corn Palace Mural Update - Jeff Hanson

Lead Decorator was in attendance to discuss the quantity and quality of the corn available for the Corn Murals.

The southern portion of our county where the corn is grown for the Corn Palace, received substantially less rainfall this summer which impacted the corn yields. Our grower has reported a 80-90% loss of our corn crop due to drought conditions. We know the green corn did not tassel at all which means it could not pollinate the ears to produce seed, so no green corn. The black corn would normally yield 12-15 bins/tubs of corn. We expect only (3) this year. One of which must be kept for seed for next year.

We expect similar yields from the other colors as well. Given this information the board has decided to forgo changing the theme for 2023. We will keep the "Under the Big Top Theme" through 2023, then hope for a normal crop year in 2023 and decorate for 2024. They have asked us to make the following changes which Jeff and his crew will begin immediately.

- 1. Remove and replace the "USA" above our balcony with new corn designs. Those have been in place 3-years and need an update.*
- 2. Replace the 2022 year with 2023 on the front marquee*
- 3. Repair/replace any missing corn from the 2022 murals, it is normal for some corn to fall off during*

the year.

4. Remove mural #9 "the tent in the woods" and replace with the 2022 mural which is a big top circus tent with a clown. If for some reason we do not have enough product to complete that mural, it will remain as a "learning tool" for our visitors as they can see the "paint by number" process.

The 2023 theme "Famous South Dakotans" and the designs will be put up next fall and remain in place for 2024. Provided we get the rainfall and favorable weather required. The Board took a tour of the south side murals to look at what will be replaced and the condition of the murals which is quite good at this point.

5. **PUBLIC INPUT: If You Need To Address The Corn Palace Events & Entertainment Board On An Item That Was Not On The Agenda, Excluding Personnel Items, Please Come Forward To The Podium And State Your Name And Your Concern. Presentations Are Limited To Three Minutes. Items Will Be Considered But No Action Will Be Taken At This Time.**
6. **Executive Session : Motion To Enter Into Executive Session In Accordance With SDCL 1-25-2 (5) To Discuss Marketing And Or Pricing Strategies Of A Publicly Owned-Competitive Business**
7. **Adjourn**
8. **Attendance:**
9. **Directors Report**
10. **Box Office/Concessions Report - Craig Stuckey**