



Fairgrounds Advisory Board Minutes

Monday, November 17, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 5:03pm with the following Fairgrounds Advisory Board members in attendance:

Board Members Present: Monique Brigham, Gery Cardenas, Robert Desmarais, Dorothy Elsner, Gin Learned. *Not Present:* Hank Davies, Kristen Keltz

Staff Members and Representatives: Aric Gaither, Frances Negranza

A motion was made to approve the October 2025 minutes and seconded. The motion was approved and passed unanimously.

Board Discussion:

Bylaws

Board discussed bylaw amendments regarding adding a Vice Chair and ability to form Sub-committees. After some discussion, it was agreed to move forward with adding a Vice Chair, but not move forward with adding sub-committees.

A motion was made to accept the changes to the bylaws of adding a Vice Chair and to remove the addition of sub-committees. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved and passed unanimously.

Fair Staff will relay changes to the county, and the Fair Board will elect a Vice Chair once bylaws are updated and approved by the county.

Joint Meeting

Based on availability of both the Advisory Board and Foundation there are two dates in January that are most popular. Fair staff will send one final poll for either Jan 5 or 9. Rick Donovan from the Fair Foundation Board has volunteered to be the facilitator of the meeting.

Fair Staff Report

Skagit Farm Circle - Frances shared successes of the second annual Skagit Farm Circle Event – a free agriculture education event to 3rd grade classrooms to learn about agriculture. Over 500 students visited the Fairgrounds on November 13-14 to learn about different topics such as Dairy, Potatoes, Water Conservation, Entomology, Wildlife on Farms and Washington Exports.

Sponsorship – Staff shared how the board can assist in Fair Sponsorships by making introductions and sharing opportunities within their network. Fair staff will create a supply list and inventory of available sponsorship opportunities that is in addition to the standard Sponsor Brochure. Advisory Board made decision to compile a list of potential sponsors by the first of December to share with Fair Staff.

Economic Impact Report - Reviewed economic impact report, discussed how to use as a tool in telling the story of the economic and community impact of the Fairgrounds.

Adjourn at 6:28pm